

**He arotake i te ture mō ngā  
huarahi whakataua a ngā pakeke**

**Review of adult decision-making  
capacity law**



**Key topics information sheet**

**Published: April 2024**

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# What is this review?



Te Aka Matua o te Ture – Law Commission is an organisation that:



- does **reviews** of the law
- uses what it finds out in the reviews to tell the Government how to make the law better.



A **review** is when we:

- look carefully at a part of the law
- talk to people who know a lot of things to do with that part of the law
- ask people what they think
- write a report about what we have found out.





The Government does not tell the Law Commission:

- how to do their work
- what to say should happen.



In this Easy Read document when we say **we / our** this means the **Law Commission**.



The Government asked us to do a review about when adults can make their own decisions.

## What is this review about?



Some people find it hard to make decisions about their own lives.



In this document we will call people who find it hard to make decisions about their own lives **people with affected decision making**.



People with affected decision making include some people who have:

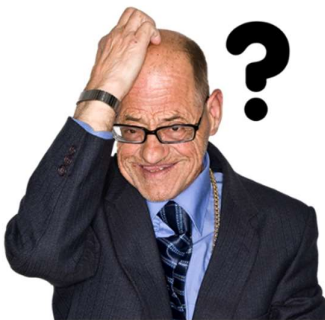
- brain injuries
- **dementia**
- learning disabilities.





People with affected decision making include some people who have:

- experiences of mental distress
- other conditions or disabilities that affect how they make decisions.



**Dementia** is a health condition where people can find it hard to:

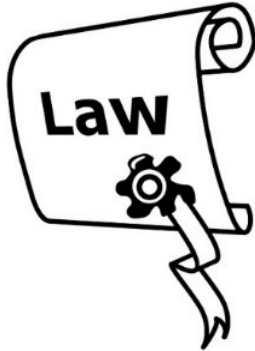
- remember things
- understand things.



In this review we are looking at what the law should do when people have affected decision making.

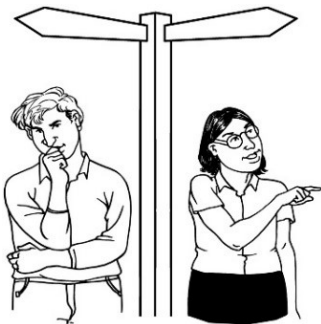


Lots of people think the law needs to change.



1 of the laws we are looking at is called the **Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988**.

In this document we will call the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 the **PPPR Act**.



The PPPR Act says different things that can happen if a person has affected decision making.

We think there should be a new law instead of the PPPR Act.

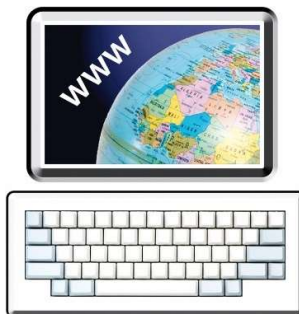


The new law should be more to do with what the person with affected decision making wants.



There is an Easy Read document that says what things are part of our review.

This document is called the:



**Terms of Reference**

You can find this document on our **website** at:

**[huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz](http://huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz)**



## Key topics



As part of this review the Law Commission wrote a document called the **Preliminary Issues Paper**.



The **Preliminary Issues Paper** asked people what problems they have with the law as it is now.



You can find an Easy Read translation of a **summary** of the Preliminary Issues Paper on our website at:

[huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz](http://huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz)



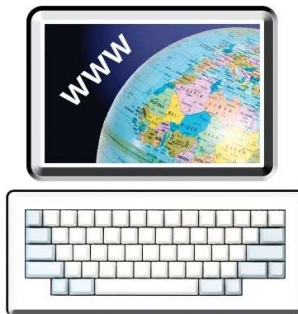
A **summary** is a shorter document that includes the most important information.

We used what people told us about the Preliminary Issues Paper to write the **Second Issues Paper**.



The **Second Issues Paper**:

- explains problems with the law we have now
- asks people to tell us how the law could be made better.



You can find the Second Issues Paper on our website at:

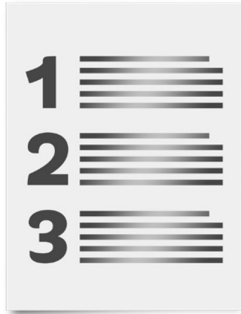
**[huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz](http://huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz)**



The Second Issues Paper is not in Easy Read.



We have also written 4 documents called **key topic documents**.



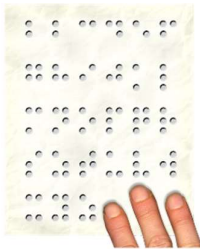
These **key topic documents**:

- talk about some of the most important things in the Second Issues Paper
- ask some questions so you can tell us what you think.



The key topic documents are in:

- Easy Read
- other alternate formats.

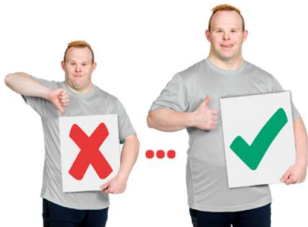
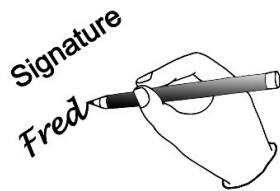


You can find them on our website at:

**[huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz](http://huarahi-whakatau.lawcom.govt.nz)**



The key topic documents are called:

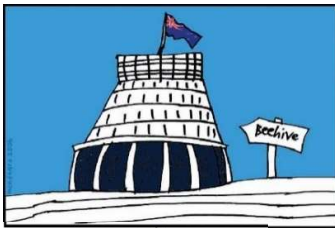


- Key topic 1: Court-appointed representatives
- Key topic 2: Decision-making support
- Key topic 3: Enduring powers of attorney
- Key topic 4: Practical improvements and court processes.

# How to tell us what you think



We want to hear what you think.



We will use what you tell us to make our report to the Government about what the law should be.



Telling us what you think is called **making a submission.**



In the key topic documents there are questions about different things we will think about in the review.



When you make your submission you can answer:

- all the questions
- just the questions you want to.



You can make a submission:

- on your own
- as part of a group.



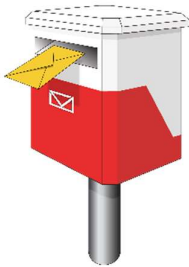
You need to get your submission to us by:

**5 pm Friday 21 June 2024.**



You can make a submission by emailing us at:

**huarahi.whakatau@lawcom.govt.nz**



You can also **post** your submission to:

**Review of Adult Decision-Making Capacity Law**

**Law Commission**

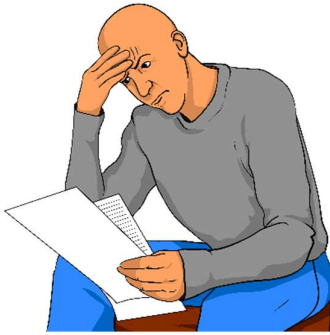
**PO Box 2590**

**Wellington 6140**



If you cannot make a submission in these ways please get in touch with us.

## If you need support



Some people might find it makes them sad to:

- think about the things in the review
- make a submission.



You can ask someone to support you to make a submission.



If you are upset you can also contact:

**1737: Need to Talk**





At 1737: Need to Talk you can talk to a counsellor by:

- calling: **1737**
- texting: **1737**



1737: Need to Talk is open all day / night.



If the 1737 number does not work from your phone you can call this number:

**0800 1737 1737**



You can find out more about 1737: Need to Talk on this **website**:

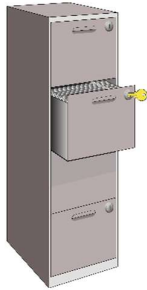
**[www.1737.org.nz](http://www.1737.org.nz)**

# How we will use your information



If you send us a submission we will:

- think about what you said in your submission when we do the review
- keep the submission as part of our records.



If you send us a submission we may also:

- put the submission on our website
- talk about the things in your submission in things we write
- think about your submission when doing other reviews.





Your submission may have personal information like your name.

You have the right to:

- see what personal information we have about you
- ask us to change any personal information that is wrong.



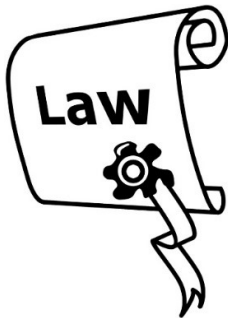
You can ask us not to tell anyone:

- your name
- other information that means people can tell who you are.





If someone asks us for information under the **Official Information Act** we have to follow the rules about releasing it.



The **Official Information Act** is a law that lets people see information the Government has.



If the information someone is asking for includes personal information like your name then we will talk to you.

Another law we follow when using your information is the Privacy Act.



If you have questions about what we do with your submission / information you can **email**:

**[huarahi.whakatau@lawcom.govt.nz](mailto:huarahi.whakatau@lawcom.govt.nz)**

## How to get in touch with us



You can get in touch with us by:

- email at:

**huarahi.whakatau@lawcom.govt.nz**

- phone on:

**0800 832 526**



If you find it hard to use the phone the **New Zealand Relay** service is for people who are:

- Deaf / hard of hearing
- deafblind
- speech impaired / find it hard to talk.





You can find out more about the New Zealand Relay service at:

**[www.nzrelay.co.nz](http://www.nzrelay.co.nz)**



This information has been written by Te Aka Matua o te Ture | Law Commission.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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