

All Tasmanian Teachers are required to hold Registration to Work with Vulnerable People in addition to the requirements of Teacher Registration.

Teachers, along with members of other professions (e.g., medical and legal) will be required to obtain **Registration to Work with Vulnerable People (RWVP)**. For members of such professions, this requirement will be **in addition** to the current requirements in place by their respective professional bodies.

## Do the processes check for the same thing?

No. The checks and ongoing monitoring conducted by the TRB have a broader focus than assessing risk to vulnerable people/children.

The TRB is required to make determinations to ensure that all individuals are:

- (a) of **Good Character**; and
- (b) **Fit to Teach**.

## What is Good Character? (S17J)

When making a determination about an individual's **Good Character**, the Board is required to consider the following factors:

- (a) **any** conviction of, or charge made against, the person; and
- (b) **any** behaviour of the person that –
  - (i) does not satisfy a standard of behaviour generally expected of a teacher; or
  - (ii) is otherwise disgraceful or improper; and
- (c) the Board may also take into account any other matter it considers relevant.

## What is Fitness to Teach? (S17K)

When making a determination about an individual's **Fitness to Teach**, the Board is required to consider the following factors:

- (a) any medical, psychiatric or psychological condition of a person;
- (b) the competence of the person as a teacher; and
- (c) any other matters that may be considered relevant.

## Are the processes duplicated?

As illustrated below, the TRB and the Department of Justice (DoJ) utilise similar information in regard to one aspect only, that is, making a determination about whether an individual may pose a risk to vulnerable people/children.

### Good Character and Fitness to Teach – Intersection with Risk of Harm Assessment



In determining Good Character, professional bodies such as the TRB consider a broader range of criminal matters than those relevant to risk of harm.

- For example, crimes related to dishonesty and offences such as 'drink driving' may not necessarily mean that an individual poses a risk of harm to students. However, these matters do impact on whether or not an individual can be assessed as being of Good Character.

Therefore, there are individuals who are eligible for RWVP who do not gain entry into, and/or remain a member of, the teaching profession.

## Why can't information be shared?

The TRB, in conjunction with the DoJ, has explored a number of options with the aim of either sharing information or streamlining specific processes.

At this point in time however, the DoJ is bound by a variety of contractual arrangements that have implications for sharing of information and is unable to do so.