

Update from the Commissioner

Welcome to our November newsletter.

Like most of you across the disability sector, I was eager to see what would come out of the final report from the Disability Royal Commission. Among the many recommendations, I was particularly pleased to read the recommendation for a national registration scheme. Victoria has had voluntary disability worker registration since 2021 and the Registration Board and I are proud that we are the first in the country to have such a scheme in place, and heartened that the importance of registration is being recognised at this level. You can read more about my response to the Royal Commission [here](#).

We have continued to meet with people and organisations across the breadth of the disability sector, and both my colleagues at the Commission and I have felt the invaluable benefits of direct conversations with different parts of the sector. I have been fortunate to speak at a number of forums recently, such as the Belong disability network. I also recently visited the Amaze office to sit down for a great chat with their CEO Jim Mullan (more information on that below). Other members of the Commission team have been meeting with different groups including the Knox Disability Partnerships Network, and we value the insights these interactions give us in guiding our work.

You may have also seen on our social media channels that we recently ran a series of roundtable discussions with representatives from different organisations across different sector groups and representatives from the Registration Board. The conversation, collaboration, and overall passion that was abundant during these meetings was invigorating and has given the Board, myself and the Commission, excellent takeaways on how we can continue to strengthen the disability workforce in Victoria, and increase overall safety and quality for people with disability. Much of the information we presented to these groups is now published in our Annual Report (see below).

Annual Report 2022-23

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission and the Disability Worker Registration Board of Victoria are proud to present their Annual Report 2022-23.

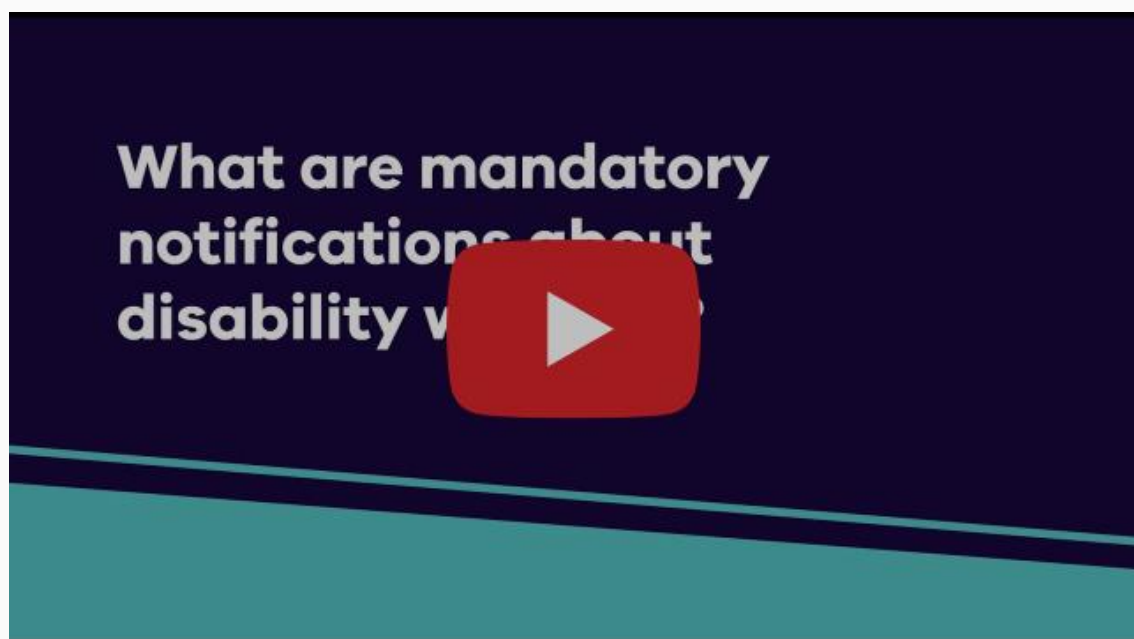
This report provides an update on the key achievements and milestones of both the Commission and Board and the work being done to build a safer, stronger disability sector in Victoria.

We are also pleased to present a summary of highlights, 2022-23 At a Glance! This version is a great way to quickly and easily see our key achievements over the past financial year.

To view the Annual Report and the At a Glance summary please use the below links:

- [Annual Report 2022-23 PDF](#)
- [Annual Report 2022-23 Accessible](#)
- [At a Glance 22-23 PDF](#)
- [At a Glance 22-23 Accessible](#)

New notifications video



Mandatory notifications. Protecting people with disability from harm.

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission is proud to launch a new video about mandatory notifications.

Under the Disability Service Safeguards Act 2018 (Vic), disability workers and employers are required by law to notify the Victorian Disability Worker Commission if they believe a worker may be putting the safety of a person with disability at risk. This is known as a 'mandatory notification' which alerts us to any potential risks to disability service users, so we can better prevent and protect people with disability from harm.

Our new notifications video tells you more about the types of misconduct you need to notify us about and the process. We're here to make sure every worker is a safe worker, and notifications are an important part of that.

[Learn more about mandatory notifications.](#)

Amaze webinar

Recently, Commissioner Dan Stubbs was part of a webinar hosted by [Amaze](#) CEO Jim Mullan, that discussed how the Victorian Disability Worker Commission is working to improve the quality and safety of care for Autistic people and their families.

Dan spoke about the role of the VDWC and why we're here, and how we're working to raise standards across the disability sector in Victoria. Dan and Jim also had a conversation about the recent findings and report from the Disability Royal Commission and the safeguards we're putting in place to protect the most vulnerable.

It was also great to receive questions from the audience and hear directly from the Autistic community.

If you weren't able to join live, you can watch the webinar recording [here](#).



Amaze CEO Jim Mullan with Commissioner Dan Stubbs.

Disability sector engagement

As mentioned earlier, we recently ran a series of roundtable discussions with involvement from representatives from the Registration Board and representatives from different organisations across different sector groups. This included government bodies and regulators from disability and related sectors, disability advocates, disability service providers and disability peak organisations.

These discussions have provided valuable insights into how we can work together to further minimise harm and neglect and what more needs to be done to support workforce knowledge and practice .

Our engagement with these organisations will help to further strengthen our safeguards, raise standards across the sector and improve outcomes for people with disability.

Education sessions

Our team can conduct information sessions on the work of the Commission both in-person and virtually, and tailor the material to the needs of your organisation. If you are interested in finding out more or arranging a session, please reach out to education@vdbc.vic.gov.au

Become a registered disability worker

Have you been thinking about becoming registered as a disability worker? If you're unsure about why registration is so important for people with disability and the wider sector, [hear from some of our registered workers here.](#)

Learn more about registration at vdbc.vic.gov.au/registration

Proud to be a



**Registered Victorian
disability worker**

Keep in touch

If our e-newsletter was forwarded to you and you'd like to subscribe please go to: vdbc.vic.gov.au/subscribe

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch

via our website [Contact us](#) page, send an email to info@vdwc.vic.gov.au or call us on 1800 497 132.

For more information visit vdwc.vic.gov.au