

Official Visitor (Housing Assistance) Appointment 2026 (No 1)

Disallowable instrument DI2026-191

made under the

Official Visitor Act 2012, s. 10(1)(d)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Section 10(1)(d) of the *Official Visitor Act 2012* (OV Act) authorises the Minister to appoint at least one official visitor for the purposes of the *Housing Assistance Act 2007*.

Official visitors work to protect the rights and interests of entitled persons in visitable places under the *Children and Young People Act 2008*, the *Corrections Management Act 2007*, the *Disability Services Act 1991*, the *Housing Assistance Act 2007* and the *Mental Health Act 2015*.

This instrument appoints Ms Vanessa Perry as an official visitor for the purposes of the *Housing Assistance Act 2007*.

Caitlin Tough MLA is the Minister responsible for the OV Act (as appointing Minister) and Suzanne Orr MLA is responsible for the *Housing Assistance Act 2007* (as operational Minister). Section 10(2) of the OV Act requires the appointing Minister to consult with the operational Minister. The operational Minister has agreed to the appointment and is satisfied that Ms Perry has suitable qualifications and experience to exercise the functions of an official visitor for the purposes of the *Housing Assistance Act 2007*.

Ms Perry is not excluded from appointment as she is not a public servant as defined under the *Legislation Act 2001* and she does not have an actual or perceived conflict of interest that would prevent her from properly carrying out the functions of an official visitor for the purposes of the *Housing Assistance Act 2007* as per section 10(3) of the OV Act.