

STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

22 October 2021

Comments requested on draft version 3 of DBCT Arbitration Guideline

We published a guideline on arbitration of disputes in relation to the DBCT service in July, to accompany the 2021 DBCT access undertaking. We have now prepared a draft version 3 with additional material that is intended to promote speedy resolution of disputes. The changes include:

- stronger emphasis on the role of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), including mediation, in achieving negotiated outcomes
- advice on how to lodge a dispute
- templates of documents the QCA will expect parties to complete before and during the dispute resolution process.

We have also made other minor changes to improve presentation and clarity of the document. All the changes are tracked in the draft version 3 published along with this notice.

We welcome comments from stakeholders on the intended changes. We will have regard to those comments when preparing a final version 3 of the guideline.

The submissions page (attached) will assist stakeholders in preparing their comments. Submissions on the draft version 3 of the guideline are due by **12 November 2021**.

Please submit your comments at www.qca.org.au/submissions.

Submissions

Closing date for submissions: 12 November 2021

Public involvement is an important element of the decision-making processes of the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA). Therefore, submissions are invited from interested parties concerning the draft version 3 of the Guideline on Arbitration of disputes in relation to the DBCT service.

Submissions, comments or inquiries regarding this paper should be directed to:

Queensland Competition Authority

GPO Box 2257

Brisbane Q 4001

Tel (07) 3222 0532

www.qca.org.au/submissions

Confidentiality

In the interests of transparency and to promote informed discussion and consultation, the QCA intends to make all submissions publicly available. However, if a person making a submission believes that information in the submission is confidential, that person should claim confidentiality in respect of the document (or the relevant part of the document) at the time the submission is given to the QCA and state the basis for the confidentiality claim.

The assessment of confidentiality claims will be made by the QCA in accordance with the *Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997*, including an assessment of whether disclosure of the information would damage the person's commercial activities and considerations of the public interest.

Claims for confidentiality should be clearly noted on the front page of the submission. The relevant sections of the submission should also be marked as confidential, so that the remainder of the document can be made publicly available. It would also be appreciated if two versions of the submission (i.e. a complete version and another excising confidential information) could be provided.

A confidentiality claim template is available on request. We encourage stakeholders to use this template when making confidentiality claims. The confidentiality claim template provides guidance on the type of information that would assist our assessment of claims for confidentiality.

Public access to submissions

Subject to any confidentiality constraints, submissions will be available for public inspection at our Brisbane office, or on our website at www.qca.org.au. If you experience any difficulty gaining access to documents, please contact us on (07) 3222 0555.