

Australian Capital Territory

# Official Visitor (Mental Health) Appointment 2019 (No 1)

**Disallowable instrument DI2019-179**

made under the

**Official Visitor Act 2012, s 10(1)(e) (Appointment)**

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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Section 10(1)(e) of the *Official Visitor Act 2012* (OV Act) authorises the Minister to appoint at least one official visitor for the purposes of the *Mental Health Act 2015*. The function of official visitors (OVs) is to work to protect human rights in different environments. OVs operate in ‘closed’ environments of youth and adult corrections and mental health and in ‘open’ environments including disability and homelessness services.

This instrument appoints Jane Grace and Shannon Pickles for the purposes of the *Mental Health Act 2015*. The Minister for Mental Health has recommended the appointments of Jane Grace and Shannon Pickles as persons who are experienced and well-qualified.

As required under s10(2) of the OV Act, the appointing Minister has consulted with the operational Minister (being the Minister Mental Health) and is satisfied on reasonable grounds that Jane Grace and Shannon Pickles have suitable qualifications or experience to exercise the functions of official visitor for the purposes of the *Mental Health Act 2015*.

Jane Grace and Shannon Pickles are not excluded from appointment by being a public employee or holding a relevant interest as defined under s10(3) of the OV Act.

Neither of the proposed appointees is a public servant as defined under the *Legislation Act 2001*.