Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

Impact statements

March 2026

Restrictive practices in place for a person with a disability may have unintended consequences that affect the freedoms and rights of other people who share the same living, working or social activity environments. If this happens, then the impact needs to be mitigated.

Where such a restriction occurs, the Implementing Provider needs to develop a mitigation plan for each person who may be inadvertently impacted by the restraint. The mitigation plan should describe:

- the restriction
- the impact of the restriction on the person sharing the environment
- how the restriction can be mitigated for the person sharing the environment.

It is important to collaborate with the person with disability being impacted, when developing a mitigation plan, as well as other key supports, to reflect the needs and preferences of that person.

Example:

Thomas is living in a house with Ben and Chris, with the support of a provider. Thomas has a behaviour support plan that includes the restrictive practice of having external doors always locked. The restrictive practice, identified as an environmental restraint, was approved by a Quality Assurance Panel for a period of twelve months.

There are no risks for Ben that would require this restriction. He should be able come and go from the house when he wants to. He is unduly impacted by this restrictive practice implemented for Thomas. An impact statement for Ben was documented by the implementing provider that outlines the mitigation strategy of providing Ben with his own door key that he can use whenever he wishes to come and go from the house.

Chris is also unduly impacted by the locked door restriction, and using a key to unlock the external doors is difficult for Chris to manage on his own. When support staff are

unavailable to help him to unlock the door, this poses a restriction that needs a plan of how this can be mitigated effectively. After collaboration with Chris and support staff, it was decided modifying the door for swipe card access would allow Chris freedom of movement into and out of the house. This was documented in a mitigation plan.

Contact information

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