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| Application for Cultural Recognition Order – Adult **This form is for use by Torres Strait Islander persons who are applying for a Cultural Recognition Order made by the Commissioner (Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa) (the Commissioner) in relation to an adult (a person aged 18 years or over).** Only the subject person may make an application for a Cultural Recognition Order if they are an adult at the time the application is made and may be made only if:1. at least 1 Birth Parent is a Torres Strait Islander and
2. the birth of the person subject to the application was registered in Queensland and
3. at least 1 Cultural Parent is a Torres Strait Islander.

Nothing prevents an application from being made if a Birth Parent or Cultural Parent is deceased, however at least 1 Birth Parent and 1 Cultural Parent must be living at the time of the application. Please note that the processing of this application does not interfere with existing Ailan Kastom child rearing practice arrangements and is limited to consider whether the making of the Cultural Recognition Order achieves the main principle of the *Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa (Torres Strait Islander Traditional Child Rearing Practice) Act 2020* – that a Cultural Recognition Order is for the wellbeing and best interests of the person.Please include the following in your applicationDocumentsWhen the person subject to the application is an adult, you must include:1. a certified copy of the subject person’s Queensland birth certificate
2. certified copies of at least two of the Proof of Identity documents set in the list of Proof of Identity documents is found in the schedule of this application:
	* 1. each of the Birth Parents
		2. each of the Cultural Parents
		3. each of the Informed Persons (both the Birth Parents and Cultural Parents may nominate the same Informed Person if they wish).

Signed StatementsThis application must include:1. Applicants statement
2. Birth Parent’s statement
3. Cultural Parent’s statement
4. Informed person’s statement.

Each statement must be (1) signed by the person making the statement and (2) witnessed by an authorised witness\*\*\*\*.Applicant’s statementA statement from the applicant must include:* + 1. how you were made aware that you were the subject of Ailan Kastom child rearing practice
		2. what information was provided to you about the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice
		3. the nature of the relationship you have with your Cultural Parent/s
		4. the nature of the relationship you have with your Birth Parent/s
		5. your consent to the Commissioner making enquiries and exchanging information with your Birth Parents, your Cultural Parents and the Informed Person for the purposes of deciding whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order and
		6. that you give your informed consent to the application.
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| Birth parents’ statementA statement from the Birth Parent/s\*\* must include:* + 1. the nature and details of the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice that occurred
		2. that the parental rights and obligations for the child were transferred under Ailan Kastom to the Cultural Parents under Ailan Kastom
		3. the name and address of a person both Birth Parents nominate as the Informed Person for the application
		4. that the Birth Parent consents to the making of inquiries of and the exchange of information with, the Informed Person for the purpose of helping the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order
		5. that the Birth Parent gives their informed consent to the application being made.

Cultural Parent/s’ statementA statement from the Cultural Parent/s must include:* + 1. the nature and details of the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice that occurred
		2. that the parental rights and obligations for the child were transferred under Ailan Kastom to the Cultural Parents under Ailan Kastom
		3. the name and address of a person both the Cultural Parents nominate as the Informed Person for the application
		4. that the Cultural Parent/s consent to the making of inquiries of and the exchange of information with, the Informed Person for the purpose of helping the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order
		5. that the Cultural Parent/s gives their informed consent to the application being made.

Informed Person/s’ statementA statement from the informed person/s\*\*\* must include:* + 1. The Informed Person’s understanding of the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice that occurred in relation to the application
		2. Whether the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice occurred in accordance with Ailan Kastom
		3. The Informed Person’s relationship, if any, to the Birth Parents, the Cultural Parents and the person the subject of the application.
 |

\*Birth Parent: is a person who is recognised at law as being a parent of the child at the time the child is born.

\*\*Cultural Parent: is a person who, in accordance with Ailan Kastom child rearing practice, agrees to accept the permanent transfer of the parental rights and responsibility for a child from the child’s Birth Parents to the person.

\*\*\*Informed Person - is a person who has knowledge and understanding of the specific Ailan Kastom child rearing practice that occurred in relation to the application and can verify that the cultural transfer of parentage in relation to the subject person occurred in accordance with Ailan Kastom.

\*\*\*\*Authorised Witness: means a barrister, solicitor, notary public, commissioner for declarations, justice of the peace or a person who has known the person making the statement for at least 1 year and who has no other involvement in this application.

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# **Part 1** – Application details

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| ApplicantDETAILS TO BE Exactly as on the current birth certificate |
| **First name**  |  |
| **Last name**  |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Place of birth**  |  |
| **Sex** | [ ]  Male [ ]  Female |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Desired first name** (To be on Cultural Recognition Order and new birth certificate) |  |
| **Desired last name** (To be on Cultural Recognition Order & new birth certificate) |  |
| Birth Parent 1 |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Cultural identity:Are you a Torres Strait Islander person?**  | At least one Birth Parent must be Torres Strait Islander for the subject person to be eligible for a Cultural Recognition Order.Yes [ ] No [ ]  |
| Birth Parent 2 |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Cultural identity:Are you a Torres Strait Islander person?**  | At least one Birth Parent must be Torres Strait Islander for the subject person to be eligible for a Cultural Recognition Order.Yes [ ] No ☐ |
| CULTURAL Parent 1 |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Cultural identity:****Are you a Torres Strait Islander person?**  | At least one Birth Parent must be Torres Strait Islander for the subject person to be eligible for a Cultural Recognition Order.Yes [ ] No ☐ |
| CULTURAL Parent 2 |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Cultural identity:Are you a Torres Strait Islander person?**  | At least one Birth Parent must be Torres Strait Islander for the subject person to be eligible for a Cultural Recognition Order.Yes [ ] No ☐ |
| informed person Birth parents |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| informed person Cultural Parents |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone** |  |
| **Email** |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Details of any parties with impaired capacity that require assistance in providing their views and wishes** |
| * Insert details if applicable

       |

# **Part 2** – Statement by the Applicant

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| **Details regarding how you were made aware that you were the subject of Ailan Kastom child rearing practice** |
| * Insert details

       |
| **Details about the information you were provided with about the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice** |
| * Insert details

       |
| **Details about the nature of the relationship you have with your Cultural Parents (for example, how do you refer to your Cultural Parents?)** |
| * Insert details

       |
| **Details about the nature of the relationship you have with your Birth Parents (for example, how do you refer to your Birth Parents?)** |
| * Insert details

       |

## Additional information (Optional)

|  |
| --- |
| **Additional information or documents**You may provide information additional information to the Commissioner that you think will assist the Commissioner in deciding your application |
| * List additional information or documents

       |
| **Disclosure of relationships and interests**Details of any other information you consider relevant to this application (for example any familial or financial interest you may have with the Commissioner) |
| * List other relevant information

       |

## Declaration

|  |
| --- |
| **Applicant’s consent and statement to this application** |
| **I, (full name),**  |  |  | **declare and state that:** |
| [ ]  I consent to the application being made, freely and fully informed.[ ]  I am aware that I may obtain independent legal advice in relation to the impact and effect of this application and the making of a Cultural Recognition Order in relation to me as the subject person.[ ]  I understand that the making of the Cultural Recognition Order is permanent and will impact on my legal rights.[ ]  The information set out in Part 1 of this application is true and correct.[ ]  I consent to the person/s listed in Part 1 of this application to be nominated as the Informed Person/s for this application.[ ]  I consent to the Commissioner making inquiries of and the exchange of information with, the Birth Parents, Cultural Parents and Informed Persons listed in this application for the purpose of helping the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order.[ ]  I understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false and/or misleading information to the Commissioner in this application and may lead to the discharge of any Cultural Recognition Order made. |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |
| **Certificate of Witness** (completed by an Authorised Witness under the Regulation) |
| **Name of witness** |  |
| **Qualification** |  |
| **Other details** (how you know the applicant) |  |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |

# **Part 3** – Statement by Birth Parents

|  |
| --- |
| **Details regarding the nature of the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice that occurred** |
| * Insert details

       |

## Additional information

|  |
| --- |
| **Additional information or documents**You may provide information additional information to the Commissioner that you think will assist the Commissioner in deciding your application |
| * List additional information or documents

       |
| **Disclosure of relationships and interests**Details of any other information you consider relevant to this application (for example any familial or financial interest you may have with the Commissioner) |
| * List other relevant information

       |

## Declaration

|  |
| --- |
| **First Birth Parent’s consent and statement to this application** |
| **I, (full name),**  |  |  | **declare and state that:** |
| [ ]  I consent to the application being made, freely and fully informed.[ ]  I am aware that I may obtain independent legal advice in relation to the impact and effect of this application and the making of a Cultural Recognition Order in relation to the Applicant.[ ]  I understand that the making of the Cultural Recognition Order is permanent and will impact on my legal rights.[ ]  I confirm that my rights and obligations as a Birth Parent of the Applicant were transferred to the Cultural Parents under Ailan Kastom.[ ]  The information about me set out in Part 1 and 3 of this application is true and correct.[ ]  I consent to the person/s listed in Part 1 of this application to be nominated as the Informed Person/s for this application.[ ]  I consent to the Commissioner making inquiries and exchanging information with the Informed Person for the purpose of helping the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order.[ ]  I understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false and/or misleading information to the Commissioner in this application and may lead to the discharge of any Cultural Recognition Order made. |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |
| **Certificate of Witness** (completed by an Authorised Witness under the Regulation) |
| **Name of witness** |  |
| **Qualification** |  |
| **Other details** (how you know the applicant) |  |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Second Birth Parent’s consent and statement to this application** |
| **I, (full name),**  |  |  | **declare and state that:** |
| [ ]  I consent to the application being made, freely and fully informed.[ ]  I am aware that I may obtain independent legal advice in relation to the impact and effect of this application and the making of a Cultural Recognition Order in relation to the Applicant.[ ]  I understand that the making of the Cultural Recognition Order is permanent and will impact on my legal rights.[ ]  I confirm that my rights and obligations as a Birth Parent of the Applicant were transferred to the Cultural  Parents under Ailan Kastom.[ ]  The information about me set out in Part 1 and 3 of this application is true and correct.[ ]  I consent to the person/s listed in Part 1 of this application to be nominated as the Informed Person/s for this application.[ ]  I consent to the Commissioner making inquiries and exchanging information with the Informed Person for the purpose of helping the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order.[ ]  I understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false and/or misleading information to the Commissioner in this application and may lead to the discharge of any Cultural Recognition Order made. |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |
| **Certificate of Witness** (completed by an Authorised Witness under the Regulation) |
| **Name of witness** |  |
| **Qualification** |  |
| **Other details** (how you know the applicant) |  |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |

# **Part 4** – Statement by Cultural Parents

|  |
| --- |
| **Details regarding the nature of the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice that occurred** |
| * Insert details

       |

## Additional information

|  |
| --- |
| **Additional information or documents**You may provide information additional information to the Commissioner that you think will assist the Commissioner in deciding your application |
| * List additional information or documents

       |
| **Disclosure of relationships and interests**Details of any other information you consider relevant to this application (for example any familial or financial interest you may have with the Commissioner) |
| * List other relevant information

       |

## Declaration

|  |
| --- |
| **First Cultural Parent’s consent and statement to this application** |
| **I, (full name),**  |  |  | **declare and state that:** |
| [ ]  I consent to the application being made, freely and fully informed.[ ]  I am aware that I may obtain independent legal advice in relation to the impact and effect of this application and the making of a Cultural Recognition Order in relation to the Applicant.[ ]  I understand that the making of the Cultural Recognition Order is permanent and will impact on my legal rights.[ ]  I confirm that the Birth Parents’ rights and obligations to the Applicant were transferred to me under Ailan Kastom.[ ]  The information about me set out in Part 1 and 4 of this application is true and correct.[ ]  I consent to the person/s listed in Part 1 of this application to be nominated as the Informed Person/s for this application.[ ]  I consent to the Commissioner making inquiries and exchanging information with the Informed Person for the purpose of helping the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order.[ ]  I understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false and/or misleading information to the Commissioner in this application and may lead to the discharge of any Cultural Recognition Order made. |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |
| **Certificate of Witness** (completed by an Authorised Witness under the Regulation) |
| **Name of witness** |  |
| **Qualification** |  |
| **Other details** (how you know the applicant) |  |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Second Cultural Parent’s consent and statement to this application** |
| **I, (full name),**  |  |  | **declare and state that:** |
| [ ]  I consent to the application being made, freely and fully informed.[ ]  I am aware that I may obtain independent legal advice in relation to the impact and effect of this application and the making of a Cultural Recognition Order in relation to the Applicant.[ ]  I understand that the making of the Cultural Recognition Order is permanent and will impact on my legal rights.[ ]  I confirm that Birth Parent/s’ rights and obligations to the Applicant were transferred to me under Ailan Kastom.[ ]  The information about me set out in Part 1 and 3 of this application is true and correct.[ ]  I consent to the person/s listed in Part 1 of this application to be nominated as the Informed Person/s for this application.[ ]  I consent to the Commissioner making inquiries and exchanging information with the Informed Person for the purpose of helping the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order.[ ]  I understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false and/or misleading information to the Commissioner in this application and may lead to the discharge of any Cultural Recognition Order made. |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |
| **Certificate of Witness** (completed by an Authorised Witness under the Regulation) |
| **Name of witness** |  |
| **Qualification** |  |
| **Other details** (how you know the applicant) |  |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |

# **Part 5** – Statement by Informed Person/s

An informed person is someone who has knowledge of the arrangement made between the Birth Parents and Cultural Parents about the subject person and can verify that this arrangement has occurred in accordance with Ailan Kastom child rearing practices. This person may be a relative such as a grandparent or close family friend.

|  |
| --- |
| **Details about your understanding of the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice that occurred in relation to the Applicant** |
| * Insert details

       |
| **Details about your relationship, if any, to the Birth Parents of the Applicant** |
| * Insert details

       |
| **Details about your relationship, if any, to the Cultural Parents of the Applicant** |
| * Insert details

       |
| **Details about your relationship, if any, to the Applicant** |
| * Insert details

       |

## Declaration

|  |
| --- |
| **Informed Person’s consent and statement to this application** |
| **I, (full name),**  |  |  | **declare and state that:** |
| [ ]  I consent to being nominated as the Informed Person in relation to this application.[ ]  The information set out in Part 5 of this application is true and correct.[ ]  I confirm that the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice occurred in relation to the Applicant in accordance with Ailan Kastom.[ ]  I consent to the Commissioner making inquiries and exchanging information with me for the purpose of assisting the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order and may rely on any information provided by me in making their decision.[ ]  I understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false and/or misleading information to the Commissioner in this application and may lead to the discharge of any Cultural Recognition Order made. |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |
| **Certificate of Witness** (completed by an Authorised Witness under the Regulation) |
| **Name of witness** |  |
| **Qualification** |  |
| **Other details** (how you know the applicant) |  |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Additional Informed Person’s consent and statement to this application** |
| **I, (full name),**  |  |  | **declare and state that:** |
| [ ]  I consent to being nominated as the Informed Person in relation to this application.[ ]  The information set out in Part 5 of this application is true and correct.[ ]  I confirm that the Ailan Kastom child rearing practice occurred in relation to the Applicant in accordance with Ailan Kastom.[ ]  I consent to the Commissioner making inquiries and exchanging information with me for the purpose of assisting the Commissioner decide whether to make a Cultural Recognition Order and may rely on any information provided by me in making their decision.[ ]  I understand that it is an offence to knowingly provide false and/or misleading information to the Commissioner in this application and may lead to the discharge of any Cultural Recognition Order made. |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |
| **Certificate of Witness** (completed by an Authorised Witness under the Regulation) |
| **Name of witness** |  |
| **Qualification** |  |
| **Other details** (how you know the applicant) |  |
| Signature |  | Date |  | Place |  |

# Proof of identity

|  |
| --- |
| **Schedule – Proof of Identity Documents requested in line with sections 32(5) and 34(3) of the Act** |
| * a birth certificate
* a citizenship certificate
* an Australian passport that is current or has been expired for less than 2 years
* a current overseas passport
* a current driver licence containing the person’s photograph
* a current photo identification card issued under the *Photo Identification Card Act 2008* (including a current adult proof of age card that continues in force under that Act as a photo identification card) or a corresponding card under the law of another jurisdiction
* a current document evidencing the person’s residency or visa status
* a current Medicare card, pensioner concession card, health care card or another identification card issued by the Australian government as evidence of the person’s entitlement to a benefit
* a current positive notice blue card issued under the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*
* a current credit card, debit card or other account card from a financial institution that includes an embossed name and signature.
 | * financial institution that is not more than 1 year old
* a telephone, gas or electricity account that is not more than 1 year old
* a rates notice from a local government that is not more than 1 year old
* a current student identity card containing the person’s
* photograph or signature issued by a school or another educational institution
* a Queensland Government employee identity card containing the person’s photograph
* an Australian State police officer, Federal police officer or Australian Defence Force identity card containing the person’s photograph
* a current licence issued under the *Security Providers Act 1993* to carry out the functions of a crowd controller, private investigator or security officer
* a current licence issued under the *Weapons Act 1990.*
 |

# Office Use Only

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date Application Received** |  | **Application No.** |  |
| Checklist | [ ]  Certified copy of Queensland Birth Certificate [ ]  Certified copies of at least two of the Proof of Identity documents for each:1. Birth Parent
2. Cultural Parent
3. Informed Person

[ ]  All sections of the application complete where applicable[ ]  All parties’ statements signed |

# Important Information

## Making this application

In signing this form, you are consenting to an application being made to the Commissioner (Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa) (the Commissioner) to consider and decide to make, or not to make, a Cultural Recognition Order.

The Commissioner must notify the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RBDM) as soon as practicable after the making of a Cultural Recognition Order.

Once notice is received by RBDM, the transfer of parentage from the Birth Parents to the Cultural Parents and any name change for the child or adult will be registered. The details contained within the Cultural Recognition Order will be reflected in any new birth certificate issued and the original birth record will be closed.

The effect of the Cultural Recognition Order is that:

* the person’s parentage is transferred from the Birth Parents to the Cultural Parents
* the person becomes a child of the Cultural Parents
* the Cultural Parents become the parents of the person
* the person stops being a child of the Birth Parents, and
* a Birth Parent stops being a parent of the person.

This is a permanent transfer of parentage and once the order is made, can only be discharged by the Childrens Court. Due to the significance of this order the full, free and informed consent of all parties to the application is required.

## Authorised Witness

An Authorised Witness must witness all parties’ signatures to this application.

An Authorised Witness is defined in the Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa (Torres Strait Islander Traditional Child Rearing Practice) Regulation 2021 as:

* a barrister, solicitor or notary public
* commissioner for declarations
* a justice of the peace or
* a person who has known the person signing the statement for at least 1 year and who has no other involvement in this application.

## Withdrawing this application

An application may be withdrawn by an applicant at any stage before the Cultural Recognition Order is made by giving written notice to the Commissioner. Upon receipt of the notice of withdrawal by the Commissioner, the application ends.

The Commissioner must give all applicants to the application notice the application is withdrawn.

In you intend to withdraw this application or revoke your consent, please provide the written notice of your decision by email or post to the Office of the Commissioner (Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa) at PO Box 7576, Cairns, Queensland 4870 or office@ocmokk.qld.gov.au as soon as possible.

New birth certificate details

If the Commissioner decides to make a Cultural Recognition Order, information provided in this application form will be provided by the Commissioner to the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

This information will include:

* the place of birth of the subject person
* the desired name of the subject person following the making of a Cultural Recognition Order
* the place of birth of the Cultural Parents
* the occupation of the Cultural Parents
* any relevant maiden name of a Cultural Parent
* the informant of the birth

This information will be used and shared in order for the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages to issue a new birth certificate to reflect that change in parentage from the Birth Parent/s to the Cultural Parent/s.

## Legal advice

Parties to this application may wish to obtain their own independent legal advice.

You may be able to access free legal advice in relation to making an application for a Cultural Recognition Order from the following services.

* Legal Aid Queensland – website: [www.legalaid.qld.gov.au](http://www.legalaid.qld.gov.au) or phone: 1300 650 143 (Indigenous Hotline)
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service – website: [www.atsils.org.au](http://www.atsils.org.au) or
phone: 1800 012 255 (Toll free 24hrs 7 days)
* Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service – website: [www.qifvls.com.au](http://www.qifvls.com.au) or
phone 1800 887 700 (free call).

If you haven’t already, we recommend you obtain independent legal advice about this order as soon as possible.

## Proof of Identity Documentation

The Commissioner must be able to confirm the identity of the parties to an application. This is so the Commissioner can be satisfied that the required statements have been provided by the relevant parties. The Commissioner will only be able to process the application for a Cultural Recognition Order, once the Commissioner is satisfied about the identities of the relevant parties.

The Proof of Identity Documentation requirements in the Schedule to this form are requested by the Commissioner in line with section 32(5) and 34(3) of the Act.

## Privacy Notice

In accordance with the Act, the Commissioner is authorised to collect the information requested on this form to decide whether a Cultural Recognition Order is in the wellbeing and best interests of the person to whom the application relates. Your personal information will not be released, except where such release is required and permitted under the Act. For example:

* The Commissioner may need to release personal information of a Cultural Parent to Queensland Police Services for the purposes of requesting a criminal history check.
* The Commissioner may need to release personal information to the informed person in an application to undertake the necessary enquiries in determining whether a Cultural Recognition Order is made.
* Personal information may need to be shared between applicants for example if the Commissioner decides not to make a Cultural Recognition Order for reasons that relate to one particular applicant, the Commissioner may need to release that information to the other applicants in a statement of reasons why the order has not been made.

There may be other situations in which the Commissioner needs to share information with organisations such as Queensland Police Services, the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs, the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages or relevant court or tribunal as is permitted, authorised or required under the Act or any other state or federal law.

All information obtained in this application and decision-making process will be managed in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles described in the *Information Privacy Act 2009*.

Identification documents provided with an application will be used by the Commissioner to verify that relevant parties to an application are who they claim to be.