



# WHANGANUI WELFARE GUARDIAN TRUST

c/o P O Box 351, Whanganui, 4541, Email: wgtwhanganui@gmail.com

## VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

*Thank you for your interest in applying to be a volunteer Welfare Guardian with the Whanganui Welfare Guardian Trust.*

Before completing this application form, please read page 3 to ensure you are comfortable with the role you are about to volunteer for. For more information, visit the Welfare Guardianship website at [www.welfareguardians.nz](http://www.welfareguardians.nz) or contact the Trust's Co-ordinator at wgtwhanganui@gmail.com.

**Application Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Dr) First Names Surname

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone: Daytime** \_\_\_\_\_ **Evening** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Languages Spoken:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ethnicity:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Iwi/Island Group if Applicable:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(If retired please put previous occupation)

### Reasons for wanting to be a voluntary Welfare Guardian:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Have you ever been a Welfare Guardian or held an Enduring Power of Attorney?** Yes No

**If Yes, please briefly describe:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**The Whanganui Welfare Guardian Trust requires all its members to pass a police safety check. Do you consent to having a police safety check?** Yes No

*(If you are, please complete the attached Police Check Authority Form and include a copy of your ID document verified by one of the specified Trusted Referees.)*

**Have you attended any relevant training courses or seminars? If so, please state what it was and when you attended:**

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**Do you have access to a computer that will allow you to record your decisions in the Whanganui Welfare Guardian Trust's web-based database?**

Yes No

**Are you willing to undertake initial training, as well as a refresher course each year?**

Yes No

*(If not, the Trust may be able to offer assistance to access our database)*

**Please supply the names and contact details of two appropriate people (not family) that we can contact to provide a reference for you.**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

**I acknowledge with my signature, the right of the Whanganui Welfare Guardian Trust to:**

1. Contact the referees I have named above;
2. Submit the Police Check authority form to the NZ Police for a safety check;
3. Keep this information on file.
4. I also confirm that I have never been bankrupt and I am not under a Mental Health Order;

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please tick and attach Police Check Form and ID Document*

Please note: In accordance with the Privacy Act 2020, the contents of this form are confidential to the Whanganui Welfare Guardian Trust.



# Whanganui Welfare Guardian Trust

C/- PO Box 351, Whanganui 4541, Email: [wgtwhanganui@gmail.com](mailto:wgtwhanganui@gmail.com)

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## Overview

The Whanganui Welfare Guardian Trust is a charitable trust established to recruit, approve, and train volunteers to apply to be court-appointed Welfare Guardians for persons who have been assessed as being unable to make, or communicate decisions relating to their welfare. Common reasons that a Welfare Guardian (WG) is appointed are because the Subject Person has dementia or long-term brain damage.

Approved volunteers are required when the subject person lacks any suitable local relatives or friends willing to apply to become their WG.

The WG is appointed by the Family Court and works in consultation with as far as practical the Subject Person, relevant professionals or competent individuals involved in the care of that person.

Welfare Guardians have **no authority** over the property or assets of the person they are appointed for, their powers are legally limited to care and welfare decisions.

Once appointed by the Family Court, the WG is the only person legally able to make decisions about the day-to-day care and welfare of their Subject Person. These may include decisions about non-urgent medical treatments, accommodation, and any day-to-day matters that the person would normally make for themselves but, who the Court has ruled, lack the capacity to do so.

The Trust consists of a Board who bring various fields of expertise in social work, aged care representation, family court processes and health and disability issues. They will train and support volunteers.

## Criteria for becoming a Welfare Guardian:

The applicant must be aged 20 years or older and be capable of carrying out a welfare guardian's duties; they must act in the Subject Person's best interests, have no conflict of interest, and provide a written consent to their appointment. Suggested aptitudes include empathy, honesty competent verbal and written communication, computer literacy/access to email, own means of transport preferable, physically active, availability sometimes at short notice.

An applicant submits a volunteer application form including the names of two referees, either by email to: [wgtwhanganui@gmail.com](mailto:wgtwhanganui@gmail.com), or posted to P O Box 351, Whanganui 4541. A clear NZ Police check is required and the selection process includes an interview by members of the trust.

Approved Volunteers will undergo training to ensure the legislative and practical requirements of guardianship are fulfilled. Volunteers will be fully supported by the Trust members and ongoing refresher training will be provided. Training will be tailored to the needs of volunteers, depending on their past experience and will cover the essential legal and medical information needed to perform the task. Training will be held at a mutually accepted time and location.

Trustee members will match a volunteer with a request for a WG for a Subject Person.

The extent of involvement will vary according to the needs of the Subject Person. It is likely that on first being appointed there may be a higher commitment (fulfilling the needs that were identified when asking for a Welfare Guardian).

Generally, this is a 3-year appointment, that may have periods where no assistance is required by the Subject Person, however the commencement period is likely to be more intense in terms of a time commitment.

## Further Information

Please refer to the website for additional information <http://welfareguardians.nz>.

If you have any questions or would like to become a trained volunteer please contact us by email at [wgtwhanganui@gmail.com](mailto:wgtwhanganui@gmail.com) or by phone on 0273913866.

*Form reviewed November 2021*