**PUBLIC STATEMENT**

Monday 19 August 2024

 **Commission takes legal action to enforce compliance with Interim Prohibition Orders and protect people with disability**

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission has charged a disability worker with contravening an Interim Prohibition Order under section 263 of the Disability Service Safeguards Act 2018 (the Act).

It is alleged that Anh Quoc Vuong provided disability services to a person with disability while subject to an Interim Prohibition Order that prohibited them from providing any disability services in Victoria.

A contravention of section 263 of the Act is a criminal offence punishable by a fine of up to $47,421.60 (240 penalty units) or two years imprisonment, or both.

A court is yet to consider the charges. The matter is listed for mention in the Magistrates’ Court of Victoria at Broadmeadows on 4 November 2024.

The Commission will not comment on the allegations while the matter is before the court.

**Background**

Victoria’s Disability Service Safeguards Act helps safeguard people with disability who access disability services by setting rules of conduct for all Victorian disability workers. The Victorian Disability Worker Commission receives complaints about the professional conduct of disability workers and investigates and responds to unsafe conduct.

The Victorian Disability Worker Commissioner can make prohibition orders that prohibit a disability worker from providing disability services, where there is a serious risk to the life, health, safety or welfare of a person or the public.

Failing to comply with a prohibition order is an offence under the Disability Service Safeguards Act.

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission takes suspected breaches of prohibition orders seriously and will take action to protect the public. Decisions to take legal action are made in line with its Regulatory Approach.

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission maintains a public register of Interim Prohibition Orders and Prohibition Orders here. To receive an alert when there is an update to the public register, subscribe here.

Enquiries can be made to info@vdwc.vic.gov.au