Have you been asked to be an independent person to help child or members of their

family take part in making decisions with Child Safety?

When Child Safety is working with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander family to make important

decisions about a child, the child and family have the right to have anindependent person to help them when taking part in decision-making.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families know the strengths and challenges that exist in

their own families and communities.

As an independent person, you can help them have a stronger voice and feel supported so that they can have their say in

decisions.

This might include decisions about an investigation and assessment, safety planning or case planning.

As an independent person you'll be helping Child Safety understand the child and

the family's culture and community.

To be the child's and family's independent person, you must be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who represents

the child's community or language group, or someone who is important to the

family and is able to speak about Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

culture in relation to the child and family.

You don't need a Blue Card to be an independent person.

If you agree to be an independent person, Child Safety, along with the child and family, will make arrangements so that you can assist them when a decision is being made.

You will also be given information you need about the decision-making process so that you can help the child and

when taking part.

Remember being an independent person helps children and families' voices to be heard.

More information about supporting a child or family as an independent person is available at www.qld.gov.au/independentperson