

Disability Advocacy Work Plan 2023 to 2025

February 2025





Australian Government

All governments worked together on this.

When you see the word **we** it means

- Australian Government
- State and territory governments.



We wrote this in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

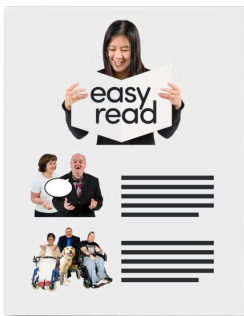
Bold

We have some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

Not bold

These are important words.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

This means it has the most important ideas.



You can go to our website to look at the document.

www.dss.gov.au/national-disability-advocacy-framework

You can ask for help to read this document.



You can ask

- A friend
- Family members
- A support person.



We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the **Traditional Owners** of the land we live on.



They were the **first people** to live on and use the

- Land
- Waters.

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About our Work Plan



We wrote the National Disability Advocacy Framework 2023 to 2025.

We call it the Framework for short.



The Framework is about disability **advocacy**.

Advocacy is when someone supports you to speak up for your **rights**.



Rights are **rules** about treating everyone

- Fair
- Equal.



Disability advocacy supports people with disability to take part in

- Decisions about them



- The community



- Services and support.



The Framework also has information about disability advocacy services.



Disability advocacy services

- Support you
- Help you to have your say
- Give you information and advice.



The Framework will help the government work together to make advocacy services better.

That is

- Australian Government
- State and territory governments.



To help us reach our **goals** in the Framework we made the **Disability Advocacy Work Plan 2023 to 2025**.

We call it the Work Plan for short.



Goals are things you want to do.

The Work Plan says how we will reach the goals in the Framework.



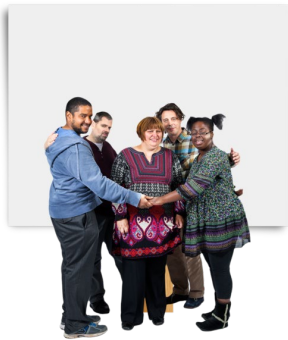
Governments can choose what parts of the Work Plan they want to work on.

What we want Australia to be in the future



We want people with disability to find and use disability advocacy services that

- Supports them



- Protects them



- Helps them take part in the community



- Makes sure everyone respects their rights.

Why we created the Framework and Work Plan



There are some **gaps** in what we know about disability advocacy in Australia.

Gaps are the difference between

- What currently happens
- What should happen.



Some of the gaps are

There is no way to check

- Who needs advocacy services but can **not** find them.



- The places that should have advocacy services.



- How much **funding** different advocacy services get.

Funding is money from the government to pay for supports and services.



Governments give funding to disability advocacy services

- In different ways
- For different reasons.

How will the Work Plan help



The Framework and the Work Plan are part of how the governments will work together.

They are doing this to make disability advocacy better.

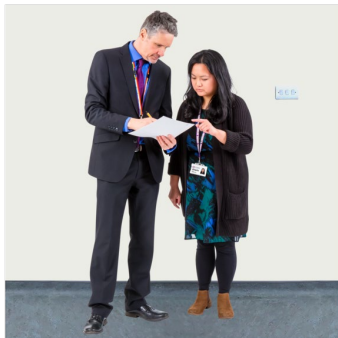


We will think about what each local area needs when we use the Framework and Work Plan.



Governments will be able to work together more in the future.

This will make good change across Australia.



We will check the Framework and Work Plan often to make sure they are up to date.

Work areas



Our Work Plan has areas we want to focus on.

We call them our work areas.



We have 6 work areas.

They support the Framework.



Our work areas will help us collect evidence about disability advocacy in Australia.

The evidence will help us make disability advocacy better.

Work area 1

Checking how well we reach our goals



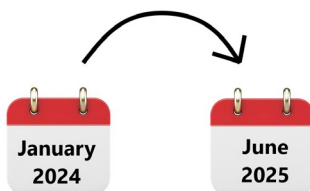
The framework has goals we want to reach.



We want to find a way to know how well we are reaching our goals.



We also want to collect data so we can tell people about how well we are reaching our goals.



We will work on this area between

- January 2024
- June 2025.

Work area 2

Check how we collect data



People and organisations deliver disability advocacy in different ways across Australia.



They also have different ways to collect data about disability advocacy.



We want to check how everyone collects data.

We want everyone to agree on 1 way that everyone can collect data.



The data might tell us who

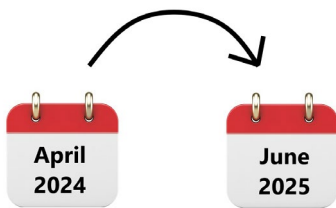
- Uses disability advocacy services



- Would like to use disability advocacy services.



This will help make sure we are working together to make disability advocacy better across Australia.



We will work on this area between

- April 2024
- June 2025.

Work area 3

Make a map of disability advocacy services



We want to make a map of disability advocacy services in Australia.

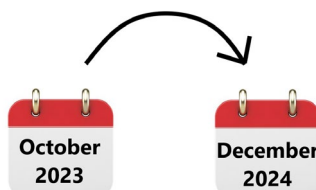


We want our map to include

- Where people can find and use advocacy services
- Where the gaps are
- What types of people use advocacy services.



We will work on this area between



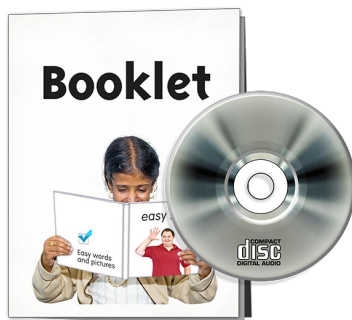
- October 2023
- December 2024.

Work area 4

Make shared resources for advocacy services



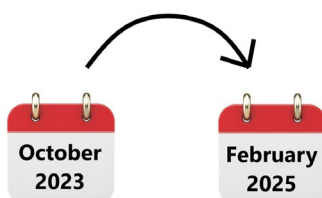
We want to support people who deliver advocacy services.



We can do this by sharing resources that we know work well.



We also want to support people to share information about disability advocacy.

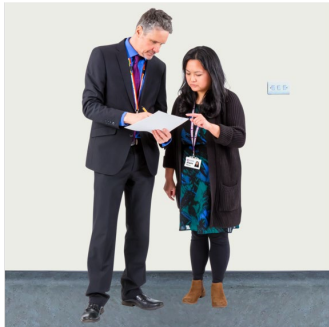


We will work on this area between

- October 2023
- February 2025.

Work area 5

Check how funding works



We want to check how governments fund disability advocacy.



We will collect information from other work areas.

We will use it to think about how funding could work better.



We will work together to

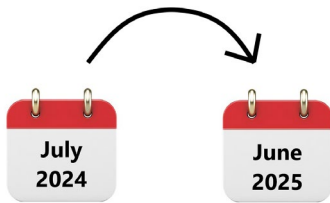
- Think of ways for funding to last for a long time



- Make it easier for disability advocacy services to know when they can get funding.



This will help more people with disability to be able to get the advocacy services they need.



We will work on this area between

- July 2024
- June 2025.

Work area 6

Support culturally safe advocacy



Culturally safe means respecting peoples

- Rights
- Cultures
- Traditions.

This helps people feel safe to be themselves.



We want to make sure First Nations people with disability can

- Find
- Use

Culturally safe disability advocacy services.

We do this by

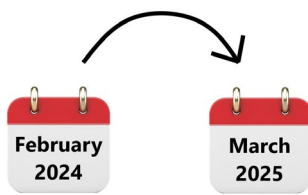


- Training people who deliver advocacy services
- Giving them what they need to do a good job.



This will help First Nations people to

- Become leaders
- Speak up for people with disability.



We will work on this area between

- February 2024
- March 2025.

Checking the Framework and Work Plan



The **Disability Reform Ministerial Council** will check the Framework and the Work Plan.

We call them the DRMC for short.



The DRMC has disability **ministers** from across Australia on it.

A minister is a leader in an area of the government.



The DRMC agreed to the Framework and Work Plan on 21 April 2023.



The government will give reports to the DRMC about how they are reaching the goals in the

- Framework
- Work Plan.

They will give reports to the DRMC every year.



The Framework will finish at the end of 2025.



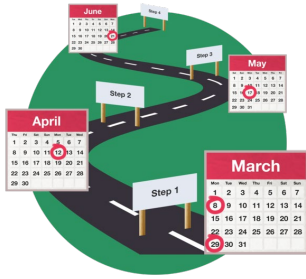
We will check the Framework and Work Plan over 2025.

We will find out how well they worked.



We will use information from other government

- Programs
- **Strategies.**



Strategies are plans with steps to reach goals for something.



This includes information about how well Australia's Disability Strategy worked.

We call it ADS for short.



The Framework and Work Plan will work with other government

- Plans
- **Policies.**

Policies are plans for how to do things.

Updating the Framework and Work Plan



We will keep updating the Framework and Work Plan.



In February 2025 the **DRMC** agreed to update the Work Plan.

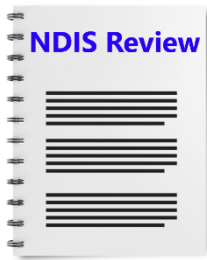


The Work Plan was updated using the **recommendations** from the **Disability Royal Commission**

We call it DRC for short.



Recommendations are ideas to do things better.



The Work Plan was updated using the recommendations from the **NDIS Review**.



A review is when you **check** what

- Works
- Needs to **change**.



We have looked at the recommendations of the NDIS Review.

Some can be supported by working on the

- Framework
- Work Plan.

Working with the community in the future



We want to work with people with disability when we do things that affect them.



This includes making

- Programs



- Policies.



We will keep working with people with disability while we use the Work Plan.

We will also work with **advisory councils**.



An advisory council is a group of people who know a lot about something.

Like the ADS Advisory Council.



We will also work with organisations that provide disability advocacy.

This includes Disability Representative Organisations.

We call them DROs for short.