



Australian Government

# Recommendations about supporting First Nations people with disability

The Australian Government response to  
the Disability Royal Commission

Easy Read version



## How to use this document



The Australian Government wrote this document.

When you read the word 'we', it means the Australian Government.



We wrote this document in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

**Bold**  
Not bold

We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 23.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other document on our website.

**[www.dss.gov.au/DRC-Aus-Gov-Response](http://www.dss.gov.au/DRC-Aus-Gov-Response)**



You can ask for help to read this document.

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you.



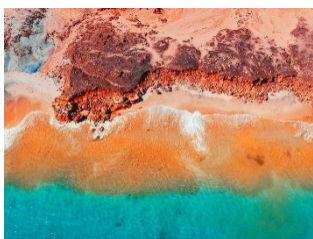
This document is quite long.

You don't need to read it all at once.

You can take your time.



We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of the land we live on – Australia.



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

- land
- waters.

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# About the Disability Royal Commission



We created a **royal commission** to find out how to make our community safer for people with disability.



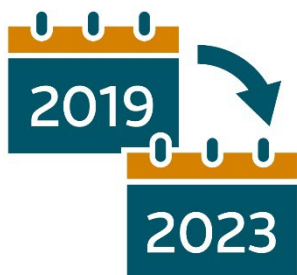
A royal commission is an official way of looking into a big problem.

It helps us work out what:

- has gone wrong
- we need to improve.



We call it the Disability Royal Commission.



The Disability Royal Commission ran from 2019 to 2023.

## About the recommendations



The Disability Royal Commission shared ideas about what governments and services should change.

These ideas are called **recommendations**.



This document explains our response to Part 9 of the Disability Royal Commission's final report.



This document explains our response to recommendations about supporting First Nations people with disability.

This includes recommendations to support cultural safety.

Your **culture** is:



- your way of life
- how you think or act now because of how you grew up
- your beliefs
- what is important to you.



**Cultural safety** is when we:

- respect people's culture
- understand how to support people
- help people feel like they belong.

## Our response to the recommendations

On the following pages, we explain the recommendations we:



- agree with



- mostly agree with.

### First Nations people with disability in remote areas



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to support family members of First Nations people with disability who live in **remote areas**.



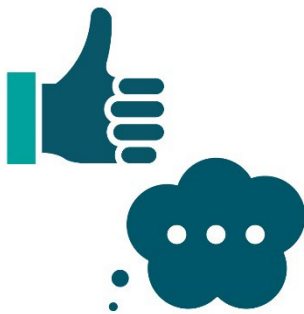
Remote areas are places that are far away from cities or towns.





The recommendation says these family members should receive **funding** to provide supports.

Funding is money from the government that pays for services and supports.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation about the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

We call it the NDIS.



The recommendation says there should be more NDIS programs to support First Nations people with disability who live in remote areas.



We agree with this recommendation.



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to support more First Nations people to have jobs in remote areas.



The recommendation says governments should make a plan to create more job opportunities.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.

## Services that focus on cultural safety



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to create rules for services to support cultural safety.



The rules would explain how to deliver services:

- that focus on cultural safety
- for First Nations people with disability.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.

## Organisations run by First Nations people



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to give more funding to certain organisations.

These are organisations:



- run by First Nations people



- that support First Nations people.



This funding would help these organisations to support First Nations people with disability.

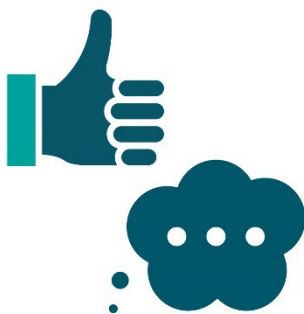


We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.

## Support to return to Country



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to support First Nations people with disability to return to their Country.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.

## Laws that affect First Nations people with disability



The National Disability Insurance Agency runs the NDIS.

We call it the NDIA.



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to change the law about leaders in the NDIA.

1



The law should make sure the NDIA has at least one First Nations person as a leader.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to change a law that explains how the NDIS works.



The recommendation says to change this law to make sure people with disability get support to take part in their culture.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.

## A First Nations Disability Forum



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation for governments to create a First Nations Disability Forum.

In this document, we just call it the **forum**.



A forum is where a group of people share and talk about ideas.

The recommendation says the forum should include:



- First Nations people with disability
- organisations that support First Nations people with disability
- organisations that speak up for First Nations people with disability.



The recommendation also says governments should work with the forum to make decisions that affect First Nations peoples.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.

## A stronger disability sector



The Disability Royal Commission shared a recommendation to make the **disability sector** stronger.

The disability sector includes:

- people with disability
- service providers
- support workers
- organisations that speak up for people with disability.





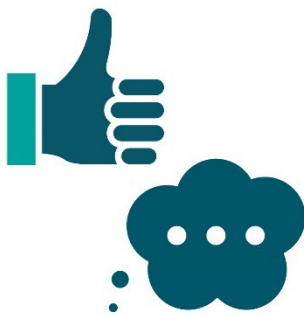


The recommendation says the forum should support the Disability Sector Strengthening Plan.

In this document we just say the DSSP.



The DSSP is a plan to make sure people have the right skills to support First Nations people with disability.



We mostly agree with the goals in this recommendation.

## What we will pay for



We will pay to improve or create:

- programs
- supports
- services.



The NDIA already pays **\$11.8 million** each year to create more programs that support First Nations people with disability in remote areas.



We will pay **\$7.6 million** to find new ways to bring disability services to communities.



We will pay **\$27 million** to test new ways to provide health services in remote areas.



We will pay **\$10.2 million** to create better ways to find, use and pay for supports.



This includes **\$2.5 million** to find a better way to set prices for NDIS supports.

## Important actions and plans



Governments have already agreed to start working together on some important actions and plans with the disability community.



These actions and plans will support the recommendations about supporting First Nations people with disability.



The NDIA is working on ways to better support First Nations people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



This includes making sure the NDIS:

- focuses more on cultural safety
- is more **accessible**.



When services and information are accessible, they are easy to:

- find and use
- understand.



We will work with First Nations communities to create better ways to deliver NDIS supports.



This includes NDIS supports for First Nations people with disability in remote areas.



The NDIA is working with First Nations peoples to create a plan called the NDIS First Nations Strategy.

It will work to improve the way First Nations people with disability get NDIS support.



We will work with First Nations people to make sure they have a say on the decisions that affect their lives.



We will work with the forum in 2024 to support the Disability Sector Strengthening Plan.

## Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.

### **Accessible**



When services and information are accessible, they are easy to:

- find and use
- understand.

### **Cultural safety**



Cultural safety is when we:

- respect people's culture
- understand how to support people
- help people feel like they belong.

### **Culture**

Your culture is:



- your way of life
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## Disability sector

The disability sector includes:



- people with disability
- service providers
- support workers
- organisations that speak up for people with disability.



## Forum

A forum is where a group of people share and talk about ideas.



## Funding

Funding is money from the government that pays for services and supports.





## Recommendations

The Disability Royal Commission shared ideas about what governments and services should change.

These ideas are called recommendations.



## Remote areas

Remote areas are places that are far away from cities or towns.



## Royal commission

A royal commission is an official way of looking into a big problem.

It helps us work out what:

- has gone wrong
- we need to improve.

## Contact us



You can send us an email.

**[DRCResponseConsultation@dss.gov.au](mailto:DRCResponseConsultation@dss.gov.au)**



You can write to us.

**GPO Box 9820**

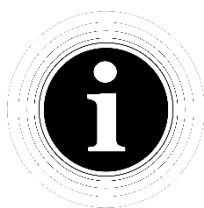
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You can visit our website.

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Quote job number 5881-I.

**Helen Butcher** created the art on the front cover of this document.

She is an artist. Her picture is called 'Belonging'.

It is about inclusion.

She made this art for the Australian Government Response to the Disability Royal Commission.

We thank Helen for sharing her art with us.