# National Disability Strategy 2010–2020

## Continuing the National Disability Strategy

### Easy Read version

## How to use this document

The Australian Government wrote this document. When you see the word ‘we’, it means the Australian Government.

We wrote this document in an easy to read way.

This Easy Read document is a summary of another document.

You can find the other document on our website at <https://www.dss.gov.au/disability-and-carers-supporting-people-with-disability/resources>

You can ask for help to read this document. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

## What is the National Disability Strategy?

The National Disability Strategy 2010–2020 is a plan to improve the lives of people with disability.

We call it ‘the Strategy’.

The Strategy is an important document.

It is used by all levels of government, including:

* the federal government for all of Australia
* the states and territory governments
* local councils.

For the past 10 years, all of these levels of government have used the Strategy to help them make plans and policies.

Policies are:

* government plans for how to do things
* where rules come from.

The Strategy is based on ideas that are in the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.*

We call it the UN Convention.

The UN Convention is an international agreement.

It applies all around the world.

The UN Convention sets out the rights of people with disability.

It explains how people with disability should be treated fairly.

## A new strategy

The Strategy will stop at the end of 2020.

We are working on a new strategy at the moment.

We want to know what people think should be in the new strategy.

In 2019, around 3,000 people told us what they thought, including:

* people with disability
* their families and carers
* advocates – people who speak up for people with disability
* service providers.

People gave us lots of important ideas to think about for the   
new strategy.

They said people with disability need to be included every time decisions are made about them.

They used the words:

‘Nothing about us, without us.’

We want to keep working with people with disability and their families as we write the new strategy.

## What will happen next?

Coronavirus (COVID-19) had a big impact on life in Australia.

This has caused some delays to our work.

We now plan to publish the new strategy in the middle of 2021.

Until then, all governments will follow the:

* current Strategy
* UN Convention.

This means that all governments will continue to:

* run existing activities
* develop new activities.

And all governments will keep working together to improve the lives of people with disability.

The governments of Australia have agreed to continue the current Strategy until the new strategy is published.

The agreement was signed by:

* Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston, Minister for Families and Social Services for the Australian Government
* The Hon. Gareth Ward MP, Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services for New South Wales
* The Hon. Luke Donnellan MP, Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers for Victoria
* The Hon. Craig Crawford MP, Minister for Seniors and Disability Services for Queensland
* The Hon. Stephen Dawson MLC, Minister for Disability Services for Western Australia
* The Hon. Michelle Lensink MLC, Minister for Human Services for South Australia
* The Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP, Minister for Disability Services and Community Development for Tasmania
* Emma Davidson MLA, Minister for Disability for the Australian Capital Territory
* The Hon. Kate Worden MLA, Minister for Disabilities for the Northern Territory
* Councillor Linda Scott, President of the Australian Local Government Association.

## Contact us

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