

2010–2020
National Disability Strategy

Report to the Council of Australian Governments **2012**

Laying the Groundwork 2011–2014

Summary Document

Easy Read version



How to use this document



This information is written in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



Some words are written in **bold**. We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 22.



This document is a summary of a longer report.

Please contact us if you would like the full version of the report.



This information is also available in an audio format.

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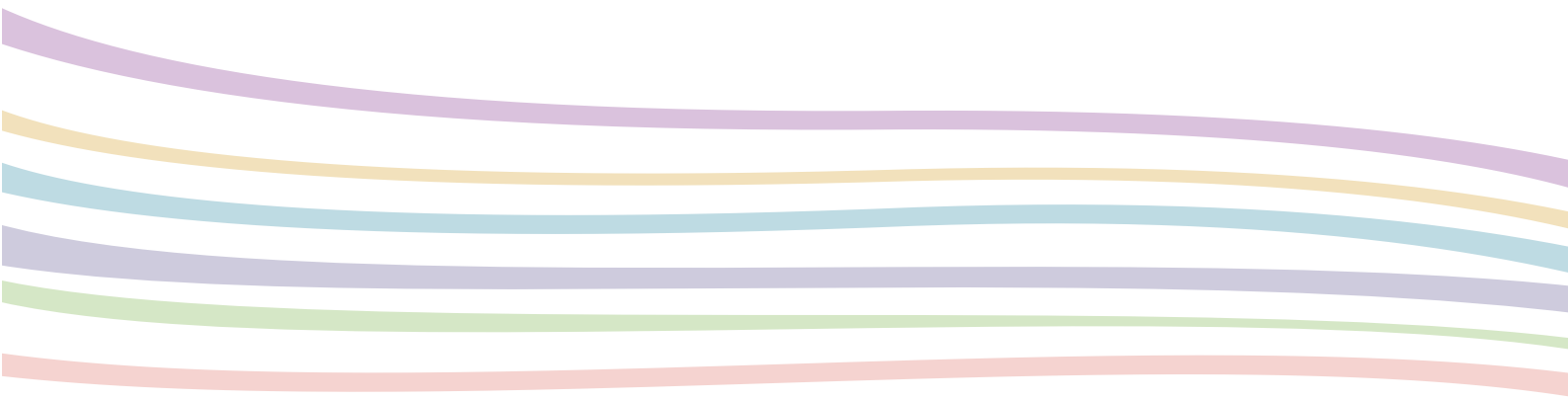


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What this document is about



This document is about how the National Disability Strategy is working.



The National Disability Strategy is our plan for improving the lives of people with disability.



The National Disability Strategy is for 10 years – from 2010 to 2020.

There are 3 plans for the work we will do:



This document is about the work we are doing in the first plan:

Laying the Groundwork 2011 – 2014.

Working together

The *National Disability Strategy* is for all governments in Australia, including:



- the Australian Government



- state and territory governments



- local governments – your local council.



For the first time, all of the different governments in Australia are working together for people with disability.



This document explains the work that all the different governments are doing.

What we are doing



We are improving the lives of people with disability, and their families and carers.



We are listening to what people with disability have to say.



We are helping people with disability lead the life they want to live.



We are making sure that support meets the needs of people with disability.



We want to encourage people working in different areas of government to think about people with disability when they are making plans.

This includes areas like health, education and transport.



We are collecting more information about people with disability.

This way, we will know more about what people need from us.



State and territory governments are developing their own disability plans. We want to make sure these plans fit in with the National Disability Strategy.



We are including people with disability as we make plans.



All governments are working together as described on page 5.

The 6 main areas we are working in

To do this, we are working in the following 6 areas:

- taking part in the **community**
- rights and fair treatment
- work, money and housing
- getting support
- learning and skills
- health and wellbeing.



People from the different governments around Australia talked to people with disability.

Together, we worked out what these 6 areas should be.



The 6 areas are also based on the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*.

This is a document that is used in many countries around the world.

It says that people with disability must be treated fairly.

These 6 areas are explained in more detail on the following pages.

1. Taking part in the community



We are helping people with disability to take part in activities that they enjoy.

What we are doing

Governments around Australia are improving **access** for people with disability to places and buildings, including:



- swimming pools
- libraries
- parks
- sporting arenas.

Access means being able to enter a place, such as a building.

Here are some examples of the work governments are doing:



The Australian Government is giving local councils up to \$100,000 to improve access.



The Australian Government is making faster internet available. This will improve the way people use online services.



The Victorian Government is developing information for sporting clubs.

This will help make sure people with disability can take part in activities at more clubs.



The Western Australian Government is helping people in wheelchairs to enjoy the beach.

Some local governments are putting down beach matting.

They will also make beach wheelchairs available.



The Tasmanian Government is supporting artists with disability.

They are encouraging people to create good quality arts and disability programs.

2. Rights and fair treatment



We are protecting the rights of people with disabilities. We are making sure everyone is treated fairly.

What we are doing

Here are some examples of the work governments are doing:



The South Australian Government is helping people with disability who need to go to **court**.

Court is a place where decisions are made about the **law**. The law is the set of rules we all must follow.



The Western Australian Government is helping people with disability who speak languages other than English.

They are making sure people know that these services are available.



In the Australian Capital Territory, we are teaching school children:

- the important part people with disability play in our community
- how to treat people with disability with care, understanding and respect.



The Australian Government is making the laws against **discrimination** easier to understand.

Discrimination is when someone is treated unfairly because of who they are or what they look like.

3. Work, money and housing



We are helping people with disability who want to work.



We are supporting people with disability who can't work.



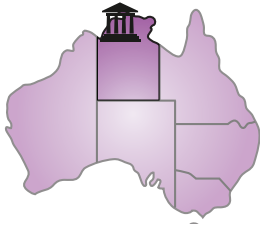
We are helping people with disability to find and stay in housing that they like.

What we are doing

Here are some examples of the work governments are doing:



The New South Wales Government is encouraging employers to give jobs to people with disability.



The Northern Territory Government is encouraging people with disability to work for them. They are also giving more support to people with disability who work for them.



The Australian Capital Territory Government is going to double the number of people with disability who work for them.



The Australian Government is providing money to help some businesses grow.

These businesses can be run by people with disability, or for people with disability.



The Tasmanian Government is helping people with disability to improve their reading and writing skills.

Improving these skills will help people to get jobs.

4. Getting support



Some people with disability need support in everyday life. We are working to meet people's needs.

What we are doing

Here are some examples of the work governments are doing:



The Australian Government is working with the state and territory governments on a **National Disability Insurance Scheme**.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is a new way of providing care and support to people with disability in Australia.



In the Northern Territory, the government is offering health care to children and young people who live in remote places.



The Queensland Government is giving young people with high needs and their families more opportunities to take a break.



The Victorian Government is working on new types of supported accommodation for people with disability.

5. Learning and skills



We are making sure that people with disability have the same opportunities as everyone else to learn and develop new skills.

What we are doing

Here are some examples of the work governments are doing:



The Tasmanian Government is supporting people with disability to study teaching at university.



The Australian Government is giving more training to school teachers to help them meet the needs of students with disability.



The Australian Government is supporting young children to learn and grow.

This support is called the Early Years Learning Framework. It is for children from birth until they start school.



The South Australian Government is helping young people with disability learn new skills when they finish school.



The Queensland Government is helping young people with disability make plans for when they finish school.

6. Health and wellbeing



We are providing health care services to meet everyone's needs.

What we are doing

Here are some examples of the work governments are doing:



The Victorian Government is finding out if people with an intellectual disability are healthy and well.

This information will help them to improve people's health.



The Australian Government is making sure people with intellectual disability can spend longer with their doctors.

This will give doctors more time to work out if their patients need any extra help.



The South Australian Government is giving extra support to people with disability when they leave hospital.



The Western Australian Government is listening to what children have to say about being in hospital.

This information is part of the planning for a new children's hospital.



The New South Wales Government is improving health care for people with intellectual disabilities.

Making sure the Strategy is working well



We want to make sure that the *National Disability Strategy* is working well.



Every 2 years, we will write a report to explain how things are going.

The first report will be in 2014.

Word list



Access

Access means being able to enter a place, such as a building, or to be able to use a service, such as health care.



Community

Your community is the place where you live. It's not just your home. It is outside your home as well. It includes the people who live in your area.



Court

Court is a place where decisions are made about laws. It is also a place where decisions are made about people who might have broken a law.



Discrimination

Discrimination is treating someone unfairly because of who they are or what they look like.



Law

The law is the set of rules we must all follow.



National Disability Insurance Scheme

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is a new way of providing care and support to people with disability in Australia.



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