

A new National Disability Strategy

What you told us

Easy Read report



How to use this report



This report is from the Australian Government. When you see the word 'we', it means the Australian Government.



We wrote this report in an easy to read way.
We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Not Bold
Bold

We have written some 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 38.

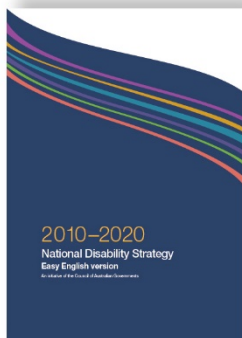


You can ask for help to read this report.
A friend, family member or support person
may be able to help you.

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What is the National Disability Strategy?



The *National Disability Strategy 2010-2020* is a plan to make life better for people with disability.

In this document, we call it 'the Strategy'.

The Strategy talks about what we can do to make Australia more:



- **inclusive**



- **accessible.**



If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.

If something is accessible, everyone can use it. This might be:



- a place or a building



- transport



- a service



- information



- a website.

Making a new Strategy



Governments across Australia are working together to create a new Strategy.



In 2020, we asked people what they think should be in the new Strategy.

We talked to:



- people with disability



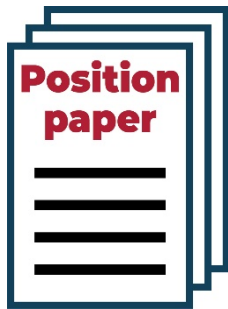
- people in the community.



They gave us important ideas about what should be in the new Strategy.



We asked people what they thought about our **position paper**.



A position paper is a summary of what might be in the new Strategy.



We also asked people what they thought about our **outcomes framework**.



Our outcomes framework helps us understand how well some things work for people with disability.



This can include things that:

- work well
- don't work well.

They are a way to keep track of how the Strategy can:



- support people with disability to reach their goals



- create an inclusive society for people with disability.



They are also a way to keep track of how the Strategy can change things over time.

We talked to people:



- in person



- online.

We wanted to know what people thought:



- should be in the new Strategy



- was important for the Strategy to do.



We also held workshops about 3 key areas.

The 3 key areas were:



- finding work and jobs for people with disability



- early support for children and families



- community **attitudes** about people with disability.



Attitudes are what you:

- think
- feel
- believe.

Who we talked to

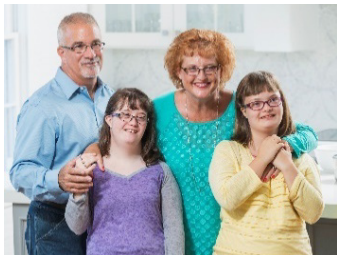
We talked to:



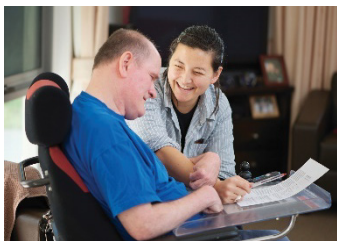
- adults with disability



- young people with disability



- families



- carers



- people from different **cultures**.

Your culture is:



- your way of life
- how you think or act because of how you grew up.

We also talked to:



- people who live in areas far away from cities or towns



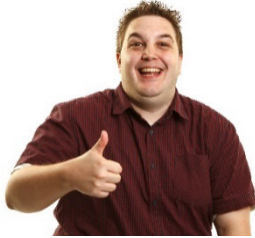
- **advocates** – people who speak up for people with disability



- service providers.

What people told us

People told us the new Strategy needs to:



- look at what works

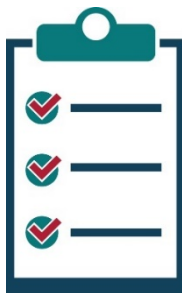


- build on what works.



People told us the new Strategy must make sure people with disability can have the same chances as people without disability.

People told us the new Strategy needs to include actions that people can:



- measure



- report on.

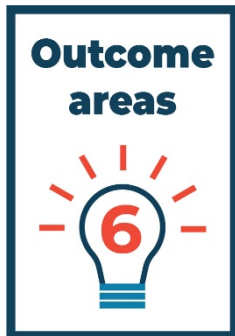


People told us the new Strategy needs to better protect the **rights** of people with disability.



Rights are rules about how everybody should be treated fairly.

Outcome areas



The Strategy has 6 ideas to make life better for people with disability.

We call these **outcome areas**.



We asked people with disability what they thought about these outcome areas.



We wanted to know how we could make them better.

1. Work, money and housing

This area is about helping people with disability get jobs and earn money so they can:



- plan for their future



- be in control of their own lives.



People told us people with disability need more chances to find jobs and work.



This includes being given a chance to start their own business.

People said the jobs must be:



- important to the person with disability



- easy to change



- supportive.



People also said that people with disability don't have enough money.



This can make it harder for people with disability to get the supports and services they need.

2. Taking part in the community



This area is about making sure our community includes people with disability.



People told us some things are better.



But people also told us that parts of the community still aren't accessible.

This includes:



- buildings



- public places



- houses



- public transport.

People told us it needs to be easier to find:



- information



- technology



- **interpreters.**



Interpreters are people who:

- speak your language
- help you understand what someone is saying.

3. People's rights for fair treatment

This area is about all Australians having the right to feel safe:



- at home



- at work



- in their community.



Some people told us more people with disability know about their rights.



But they also said there is more work to do.

People told us the Strategy needs to:



- help more people with disability understand their rights



- make it easier for people to make a **complaint**.

A complaint is when you tell someone:

- something has gone wrong
- something is broken.



- support **recommendations** from the **Disability Royal Commission**.



Recommendations are ideas about changes that can be made.



The Disability Royal Commission is looking into problems that people with disability face.

4. Getting support

This area is about making sure people with disability get the support they need:



- at home



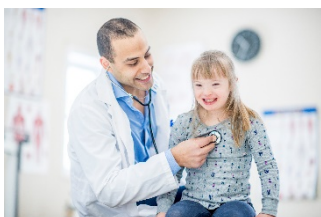
- in the community.



People said the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** could be better.



The NDIS provides services and support to people with disability.



People also said **mainstream services** must be more accessible.



Mainstream services are services for everybody in the community to use.

They include:



- health



- transport



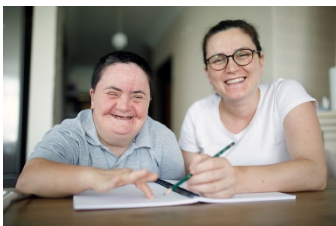
- education.

5. Learning and skills

This area is about people with disability having the same rights as other Australians to:



- go to school



- learn.



People said that schools need to be more inclusive.



This means children with disability can learn in the same schools as children without disability.

6. Health and wellbeing

This area is about people with disability being able to:



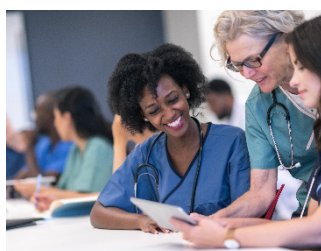
- find and use good services for their health and wellbeing



- have choice and control over the services they use.

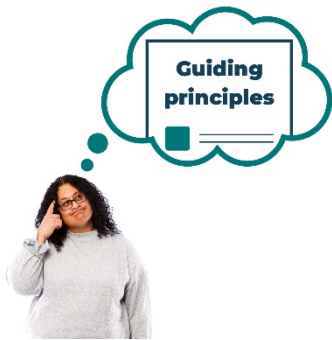


People said healthcare services still don't understand the best way to care for people with disability.



People said that healthcare workers need more training so they can care for people with disability in the best way.

Guiding principles



We asked people what they thought about our **guiding principles**.



Guiding principles are important ideas we want to put in the new Strategy.

1. Human rights



People told us the new Strategy needs to focus on **human rights**.



Human rights are rules about how everybody should be treated:

- fairly
- equally.

2. Inclusion



People told us the new Strategy needs to help communities in Australia be more inclusive for people with disability.

This includes places like:



- schools



- **workplaces**

Workplaces are any place you work, such as:



- an office



- a factory



- a shop.



This also includes using **universal design**.



Universal design means we think about what everybody needs when we plan or start new projects and services.



We should work with people with disability on any plans we make.

3. Diversity



Diversity is what makes people different from each other.

People can:



- come from different places



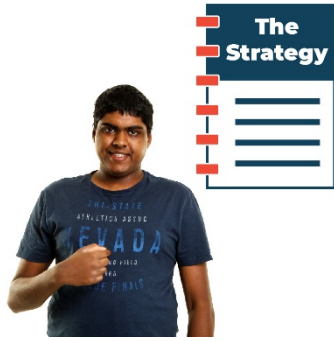
- speak different languages



- have different abilities



- live their lives in different ways.



People told us that people with disability from diverse backgrounds should be included in the new Strategy.

This includes:



- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples



- people from different cultures



- **LGBTIQ+** people.



LGBTIQ+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and questioning.

4. Accessibility



People told us information needs to be more accessible for people with disability.

This includes information about:



- the NDIS



- disability services.

Information should be available in:



- languages other than English



- Easy Read.

Community attitudes



Community attitudes can stop people with disability from reaching their goals.



People told us the new Strategy needs to focus on changing community attitudes.



People also said we need to teach the community about different types of disability.

People said community attitudes can change when more people with disability are seen in:



- the community



- schools



- the media



- workplaces.

Making sure everyone follows the new Strategy



People told us they want to make sure governments follow the new Strategy.



They said governments need to report on how they reach the Strategy's goals.

Governments also need to make sure their reports are:



- easy to find



- accessible.



People said other organisations should also check to make sure governments follow the new Strategy.

Including people with disability in the new Strategy



We want to make sure everyone can use the new Strategy.



Governments and organisations need to work closely with people with disability.



Especially when they make plans or choices about things that will affect their lives.

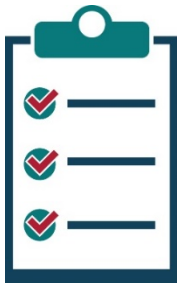


People said we need a plan to make sure people with disability are included in the new Strategy.

This includes:

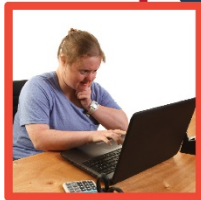


- making the new Strategy



- checking how it's going.

Word list



Accessible

If something is accessible, everyone can use it. This might be:

- a place or a building
- transport
- a service
- information
- a website.



Advocates

Advocates are people who speak up for people with disability.



Attitudes

Attitudes are what you:

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Complaint

A complaint is when you tell someone:

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Disability Royal Commission

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Mainstream services

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National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

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Outcome areas

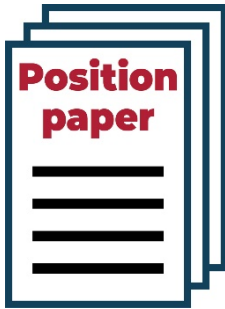
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Outcomes framework

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Position paper

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Recommendations

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Rights

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Universal design

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Workplaces



Workplaces are any place you work, such as:

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