# Australia’s Disability Strategy

## 2021–2031

## Our Engagement Plan

### Easy Read version

## How to use this plan

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

We wrote this plan in an easy to read way.

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 9.

This Easy Read plan is a summary of another plan. This means it only includes the most important ideas.

You can find the other plan on our website at [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads)

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

## What’s in this plan?

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## Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031

Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031 is a plan to make life better for people with disability.

In this guide we call it the Strategy.

The Strategy talks about what we can do to make Australia more **inclusive**.

If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.

If Australia is inclusive, people with disability can take part in everything that happens in Australia.

The Strategy also talks about how we must treat people with disability:

* as equals
* with respect.

The Strategy will last:

* for 10 years
* until 2031.

## Our Engagement Plan

It’s important for us to:

* connect with people with disability
* include people with disability in our work.

We call this **engagement**.

We have written a plan for how we will include people with disability in our work on the Strategy.

We call it our **Engagement Plan**.

The people with disability we work with can help us make sure the Strategy works well.

We want to include people with disability who:

* are **First Nations** peoples
* come from different **cultures** and backgrounds.

First Nations peoples are also known as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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.

## Our Strategy Advisory Council

We have a **Strategy Advisory Council (the Council)**.

The Council is a group of people who help us understand what people with disability need.

More than half of the people on the Council are people with disability.

Our goal is to make sure the Council includes:

* women with disability
* young people with disability
* First Nations peoples with disability
* people with disability from different cultures and backgrounds
* people with disability who live in places far away from cities or large towns.

### What does the Council do?

The Council gives advice to governments about the Strategy.

This means:

* the Australian Government
* state and territory governments
* local governments.

The Council:

* looks at different parts of the Strategy
* gives us ideas about how to make the Strategy work well
* tells us what they think.

The Council will look at our:

* plans
* reports
* **outcomes framewor**k.

Our outcomes framework is how we keep track of:

* what **outcomes** we get
* how we get those outcomes
* what changes over time.

Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people   
with disability.

We will include what the Council tells us in reports about how well the Strategy is going.

## Talking to the community

Each year we will hold at least 1 public:

* **forum**
* **consultation**.

A forum is an event where people get together to talk about their:

* experiences
* ideas.

A consultation is when someone asks you questions about what   
you think.

We will hold these events at different times:

* for all Australians
* in a different state and territory each year.

We will talk to the community when we **review** the Strategy.

When you review something, you check to see what:

* works well
* could change
* needs to be better.

We will review the Strategy 3 times over the next 10 years.

We will talk to the community each time, including many people   
with disability.

We will update the Strategy if we need to.

## What else are we doing?

### A website for the Strategy

We have made a website just for the Strategy.

It has all the latest information.

It tells you how you can take part in engagement activities.

Our website also has an online feedback service.

You can use this service to tell us what you think about the Strategy at any time.

You can visit the website at [www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads)

### A guide for how to do things well

We are making a guide for including people with disability in engagement activities.

People with disability:

* told us we need this guide
* will help us write this guide.

This guide will help us give people with disability the same chance to take part in engagement activities as everyone else.

## Word list

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

**Consultation**

A consultation is when someone asks you questions about what you think.

**Culture**

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.

**Engagement**

It’s important for us to:

* connect with people with disability
* include people with disability in our work.

We call this engagement.

**Engagement plan**

We have written a plan for how we will include people with disability in our work on the Strategy.

**First Nations**

First Nations peoples are also known as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

**Forum**

A forum is an event where people get together to talk about their:

* experiences
* ideas.

**Inclusive**

If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.

**Outcomes**

Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people with disability.

**Outcomes framework**

Our outcomes framework is how we keep track of:

* what outcomes we get
* how we get those outcomes
* what changes over time.

**Review**

When you review something, you check to see what:

* works well
* could change
* needs to be better.

**Strategy Advisory Council (the Council)**

The Council is a group of people who help us understand what people with disability need.

## Contact us

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The Information Access Group created this Easy Read document.   
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