

**Safety Targeted Action Plan**

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# Safety Targeted Action Plan

## Introduction

Under *Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021-2031* (the Strategy), governments have established Targeted Action Plans (TAPs) to make headway in achieving outcomes in specific areas of the Strategy.

The Safety TAP sets out the key actions to strengthen system design and supports to enable people with disability to receive high quality and safe services. Governments have taken and are taking action to address these issues and will deliver actions in this TAP to build on this work. These actions are for 2021-22 to 2023-24, noting these are working plans and will be updated with additional actions as appropriate.

Other documents that are linked or relevant to this TAP include:

* State and Territory Disability Plans
* National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children 2010-2022
* National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children 2021-2031
* National Agreement on Closing the Gap
* National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse 2021-2030
* National Principles for Child Safe Organisations
* United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)
* National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Quality and Safeguarding Framework.

## Case for Change

Current situation

While all people can experience violence and abuse, the nature, extent, frequency and impact of violence is not evenly distributed across population groups and communities.

Research shows that people with disability are at greater risk of harm, which can include abuse, violence and neglect. Risk is a threat or hazard which cannot be predicted to occur with certainty. Abuse is the violation of a person’s human or civil rights and may include physical, sexual and psychological or emotional abuse.

The Centre of Research Excellence in Disability and Health’s 2021 research report on the nature and extent of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation against people with disability in Australia identified that:

* Since the age of 15, 64 per cent of people with disability (2,375,997 people) reported that they had experienced physical violence, sexual violence, intimate partner violence, emotional abuse and/or stalking compared to 45 per cent of people without disability.
* In the last 12 months, people with disability are at 1.8 times the risk of all types of violence in comparison to people without disability.
* Young people (aged 18-29) with disability in particular experience high rates of violence,
with 25 per cent of young people with disability (165,835 young people) reporting that they had experienced violence in the last 12 months, compared to 20 per cent of those aged 30-44 and
11 per cent of those aged 45-65 with disability.[[1]](#endnote-1)

The report also found that the nature and extent of violence that people with disability may experience varies by disability type. For example, people with cognitive and psychological disability reported higher rates of all types of violence compared to people with other types of disability over a twelve-month period. The report noted that the intersection of disability with other social characteristics and circumstances, such as economic status, gender, indigeneity and culture can affect the nature and extent of violence that people with disability may experience. For example, women with psychological and cognitive impairments have very high rates of all types of violence, particularly physical violence, sexual violence, partner violence and emotional abuse. Moreover, people with disability who reported living in financial hardship were three times as likely to experience violence than people without disability who report no financial hardship.

Further, individuals who experience, or are at risk of, violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, face significant barriers to accessing and engaging with service systems designed to support them including those that take corrective action to address abuse and neglect. These barriers largely exist because these service systems often rely on individuals to seek out information, communicate and advocate for their needs, make informed decisions, and navigate within and across systems, to deliver services and supports effectively.

The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, which commenced in 2019, has also provided information to support action on safety. Its Interim Report identified a number of overarching and interconnected themes important to ensuring the safety of people with disability.

Amongst these, tackling negative attitudes towards disability has been noted as directly impacting how an individual is treated and what is viewed as acceptable by society. Increased advocacy and representation has been identified as important to promoting safety and a more inclusive society, and segregation and exclusion has been noted as reinforcing negative perceptions, producing stigma and discrimination, which can undermine safety.

Inappropriate use of restrictive practices and the lack of a uniform regulatory framework for restrictive practices across jurisdictions and settings was also flagged by the Disability Royal Commission as having a particular impact on the safety of individuals.

Supporting people with disability to exercise choice and control in all aspects of their lives, as well as removing barriers and providing appropriate access to services and supports including transport, healthcare, and education have been seen by the Disability Royal Commission as fundamental to ensuring the safety of individuals.

The Australian, state and territory governments are committed to preventing people with disability from experiencing harm through well designed and integrated service systems, improved supports for those at risk of harm and appropriate pathways for action if things go wrong. Reducing the risk of harm and responding effectively when it occurs is key to upholding the rights of people with disability and meeting Australia’s obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). People with disability access a range of Australian, state and territory government services including mainstream supports such as health, housing, education, employment services, domestic, family and sexual violence services, child protection, justice, and transport systems and specialist disability supports such as the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). These services can be delivered across a range of settings, such as a person’s local community, or within their own home.

Regulators in all service systems play an important role in setting and enforcing the standards for the safety of people with disability. The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission has oversight of the provision of specialist disability services to NDIS participants and operates in accordance with the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework agreed to by all Australian governments. For people with disability participating in the NDIS, that Framework explicitly incorporated links with other NDIS related policies (such as Information Linkages and Capacity Building), universal protections (such as Police, Fair Trading, Consumer protection bodies) and other national protective policies.

Each jurisdiction has various regulators providing oversight of mainstream systems (such as education, health and justice) which are accessed by all people with disability, including those participating in the NDIS. All regulators have a responsibility to identify issues in relation to the interface of service systems and work together to ensure seamless best practice quality and safeguards across service systems for all their citizens, including those that live with disability.

## Involvement of people with disability

The views of people with disability have informed the decision to create a TAP focused on improving safety outcomes for people with disability. The Strategy’s Stage 2 consultations, which informed the TAP, included:

* A public submission process in response to a discussion paper on the Strategy.
* A series of focus groups to hear from people with disability, especially harder to reach cohorts that were not fully engaged in Stage 1 consultations on the Strategy.
* Workshops with Disability Representative Organisations.
* Cross-collaboration workshops on specific topics with people with lived experience of disability and representatives from key sectors.

## Key Outcomes and Objectives

The Safety TAP is designed to drive progress under the Safety, Rights and Justice Outcome Area of the Strategy. This Outcome Area aims to ensure the rights of people with disability are promoted, upheld and protected, and people with disability feel safe and enjoy equality before the law.

This TAP has the following objectives:

1. Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm.

2. Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm.

3. Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm.

4. Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems.

5. Build individual capacity and effective natural safeguards (i.e. informal supports and protections such as connection with family and community) of people with disability.

Implementation of the proposed actions will need to ensure mainstream and specialist services are designed and operate to prevent harm and respond appropriately to people with disability. A key part of this is ensuring the effective interface of mainstream services with key specialist disability services, such as the NDIS, to ensure there are no gaps and that people with disability can access independent advocacy, when needed.

Actions will be implemented with an intersectional and diversity lens that values the views and lived experiences of people with disability. This recognises that a person or group of people can be affected by multiple forms of discrimination and disadvantage. This can occur due to a person’s race, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, impairment, class, religion, age, social origin, and other identity markers. This means that activities taken in line with this TAP should incorporate tailored approaches designed to enable and include people and groups who face intersectional barriers. Actions should also consider how to meet the needs of people in rural and remote locations.

## Monitoring and Reporting

A high-level progress report on the implementation of TAPs will be developed and published annually alongside other Australia’s Disability Strategy reporting. The TAPs Progress Report will report on a financial year basis and will be published by October each year.

# Actions

## Australian Government actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
| --- |
| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1Develop a framework based on factors that create, contribute to, or reduce the risk of harm and enable proactive safeguards for NDIS participants. | 2021-24 | Output Indicators • Framework is agreed by Governments by 2024 and enables the identification of when a NDIS participant is either experiencing, or is at risk of, harm.• Literature review complete by June 2022, and informs factors of risk that create, contribute to, or reduce the risk of harm for inclusion in the development of the model.• Governments agree to a data dictionary by end 2022 to ensure consistent terminology and enable data sharing and analysis between systems.• Risk analysis model developed and agreed by NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, National Disability Insurance Agency and Department of Social Services by the end of 2023.• Data sharing protocols between the Australian Government and state and territory governments are agreed and in place by 2024.• Options on data collection identified and reported to Community and Families Secretaries Group, Disability Officials and Child Protection Officials for enhancing Australian governments’ data collection for children with disability in out of home care by 2022. |
| 1.2Strengthen the identification and monitoring of NDIS participants at risk of harm to inform safeguarding activities and regulatory action, including:• Conducting a literature review to identify factors of risk that create, contribute to, or reduce the risk of harm.• Developing a data dictionary to ensure consistent terminology and enable data sharing and analysis between systems.• Establishing a model to effectively analyse risk data, including indicators and flags for ongoing dynamic identification of people with disability at risk of harm. | 2021-24 |
| 1.3Explore the potential of the National Disability Data Asset (NDDA), and learnings and recommendations from the pilot project to support the identification of people with disability at risk of harm. | 2021-22 |
| 1.4Develop a report for Community and Families Secretaries Group, Disability Officials and Child Protection Officials on options for enhancements to data collection for children with disability in out of home care. | 2021-22 | Effectiveness Indicators• Model effectively analyses risk data to inform safeguarding activities and regulatory action for NDIS participants.• Model indicators and flags are effective and enable ongoing dynamic identification of when a NDIS participant is experiencing, or is at risk of, harm. • Effective strategies are in place by 2024 to increase reporting of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability. |
| 1.5Establish a mechanism to measure progress in reducing the risks of harm to people with disability at risk of harm. | 2022-24 |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1Undertake a review of the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework. | 2021-23 | Output Indicators • NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework review completed by end 2023.• Commonwealth legislation is amended as required to strengthen framework for care and support sector to support people with disability, including the establishment of a single worker screening check and code of conduct by July 2022. • National principles endorsed by governments and in place by 2024 for the future review and alignment of quality and safeguard legislation and policy.Effectiveness Indicators• NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework is effective and promotes proportionate protections to better protect NDIS participants at risk of harm.• Strengthened regulatory oversight of aged care, veterans’ and disability care workers and providers through development of a roadmap for future reform which will improve identification of unsuitable workers and providers, and ability to take regulatory action to prevent them operating across sectors by 2023.• Consistent and strengthened quality and safety supports in place across the care and support sector that removes unnecessary duplication and regulatory burden for quality standards, auditing and assessment processes, complaints and incident reporting, and behaviour support and restrictive practices, by 2025. |
| 2.2Improve alignment of regulation across the care and support sectors – NDIS, aged care and veterans’ care. This will include: |  |
| • Establishment of a single care and support sector worker screening check and code of conduct. | By 1 July 2022 |
| • Facilitating greater information sharing between regulators. | 2021-23 |
| • Implementing options for medium and longer-term reforms to align regulation and safeguards across disability, aged care and veterans’ care, including across quality standards, auditing and assessment processes, complaints and incident reporting and behaviour support and restrictive practices. | 2021-25 |
| 2.3Lead the development of nationally consistent principles to guide the review of quality and safeguard legislation and policy, and seek disability ministers’ agreement. Distribute agreed national principles to Australian Government departments and encourage their use to guide future reviews or development of Commonwealth legislation. | 2024 |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1Undertake stocktake of NDIS supports and protections for NDIS participants to identify gaps or opportunities to strengthen cross-system government supports and protections. | 2021-22 | Output Indicators • Stocktake of NDIS supports and protections completed by June 2022. • The roles of different intermediaries are clarified and provide stronger support for at risk people with disability to engage with government service systems by 2023.• Government systems are designed to support and improve access for people with disability.Effectiveness Indicators • Improved information sharing between the NDIS and other service systems to provide better support in delivery of care for NDIS participants by 2023.• Effective and proportionate outreach is in place for people with disability across government service systems by 2024.• Appropriate individualised advocacy services are available for people with disability by 2023.• Decision-making processes include people with disability, and decisions reflect their will, preferences and interests, by 2023.• An agreed approach to community visiting as a part of the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework by 2022. • Measures are in place to determine the effectiveness of the Objective 3 initiatives in 2024. |
| 3.2Lead the development and implementation of actions to reduce the risk of harm for people with disability by:• Improving information sharing, referrals processes and interfaces to ensure seamless transitions and dynamic identification of risk between systems including health, education, justice, domestic, family and sexual violence services, child-protection, and the NDIS.• Expanding on and considering outreach models. | 2021-23 |
| 3.3Lead priority work with state and territory governments to improve cross-system supports, including:• Supported and substitute decision making arrangements for people with disability engaging with service systems (including Nominees, Guardianship, and Administrator arrangements).• Independent individual advocacy for people with disability.• State and territory based community visitor schemes. | 2021-23 |
| 3.4Develop an approach to measure the impact of Objective 3 initiatives on the incidence of harm/adverse outcomes for all people with disability, including NDIS participants. | 2023-24 |
| 3.5Invest $9.3 million (2021-22 Budget) to develop resources that aim to reduce violence against women and girls with disability, and improve service responses when violence occurs. This action is in response to the Disability Royal Commission highlighting that women with a disability experience higher levels of all forms of violence. | 2021-22 to 2023-24 | Indicators will be tailored to each specific grant and procurement activity and could include:• Evidence-based prevention framework developed. • Web-based resources are created and published.• Sector development activities in place.• Audit of the accessibility of Domestic and Family Sexual Violence (DFSV) services completed. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1Work with states and territories to align with the agreed national principles. | 2021-23 | Output Indicators • Consistent national definitions and authorisation processes in place for the use of restrictive practices by 2023.• Best practice restrictive practice regulation implemented across the care and support sector, by 2024.• Reduction in the use of restrictive practices over time.Effectiveness and Efficiency Indicators• Education and capacity building tools effectively increase awareness and capacity of the disability sector, mainstream systems and the community to eliminate restrictive practices.• People with disability have timely access to quality specialist behaviour support services in a robust behaviour support market.  |
| 4.2Progress projects and monitor the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP): Developing the NDIS Specialist Behaviour Support Market 2020, and report to disability ministers. | 2021-23 |
| 4.3Progress alignment of regulation of restrictive practices based on best practice across the NDIS and aged care regulators.  | 2021-24 |
| 4.4Increase efforts to continue to educate and build capacity of the disability sector and community sector on behaviour support and the reduction and elimination of restrictive practices. | 2024 |

| Objective 5: Build the individual capacity and effective natural safeguards (i.e. informal supports and protections such as connection with family and community) of people with disability |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 5.1Develop and implement NDIS Support for Decision Making policy, informed by consultation. | 2021-22 | Output Indicators• Education and awareness programs are in place to improve the capacity of individuals either receiving disability services or caring for a person with disability.• NDIS Support for Decision making policy developed by end 2022.• Psychosocial recovery framework developed by end 2023.• National Disability Advocacy Framework developed by 2024.Effectiveness Indicators• NDIS participants have access to appropriate support for decision-making and navigating government service systems. |
| 5.2Develop a psychosocial recovery framework to improve supports and build capacity for NDIS participants with psychosocial disabilities. | 2021-23 |
| 5.3Develop a National Disability Advocacy Framework to outline national definitions and high-level principles for disability advocacy. | 2021-24 |

## New South Wales actions[[2]](#endnote-2)

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1The NSW Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC) will continue to identify factors that contribute to an increased risk of harm for adults with disability in their family, home and community and identify factors that assist to reduce the risk of harm for adults with disability in their family, home and community through:• Maintaining the NSW Ageing & Disability Abuse Helpline 1800628221 and responding to reports about abuse, neglect and exploitation of adults with disability.• Maintaining the Official Community Visitor scheme to disability supported accommodation settings. • Promoting the activities of the ADC and raising public awareness of the incidence and community responsibilities regarding abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability.• Working with NSW Government and non-government agencies, community and business partners to better recognise risk factors of abuse and support early notification.• Producing training resources and online material including accessible and community language formats.  <https://www.ageingdisabilitycommission.nsw.gov.au/> | 2021 and ongoing – reported annually  | • Risk and protective factors are identified and inform the work of the ‘Strengthening protections for people with disability at risk of harm’ cross-government working group. • Annual reports of the ADC and the OCV scheme to NSW Parliament as required by legislation.• Number of calls, reports, actions taken on reports, and outcomes.• Number of visits, and issues raised, by OCVs.• Analysis of reports to identify trends or response gaps.  |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1The Ageing and Disability Commissioner Act (2019) provides extensive powers to the ADC to respond to reports about adults with disability who are subject to, at risk of, or living in circumstances that will result in, abuse, neglect or exploitation – including investigative powers. The ADC will amend the Act and update the Regulation to improve safeguards for adults with disability and older people, including to:• Improve information sharing with relevant agencies and other key parties to reduce risks and improve supports.• Enable a broader range of health practitioners to assist the ADC to respond to people with disability who are subject to, or at risk of, serious harm.  | 2021 and ongoing  | • Changes made to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner Act 2019 and Ageing and Disability Commissioner Regulation 2019 to improve safeguards for adults with disability and older people. • Number of reports, actions taken on reports, and outcomes. |
| 2.2Those NSW agencies that have responsibility for Acts directly impacting on the welfare of children, young people and adults with disability including: NSW Department of Communities and Justice, NSW Health, NSW Department of Education, NSW Children’s Guardian will continue to monitor their implementation and their impact. The action plans of these agencies are available here: <https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/inclusion/advisory-councils/disability/inclusion-plans/chapters/register> | Ongoing  | • Annual reporting of respective agencies. |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1The NSW Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC) is continuing to develop, implement and improve information sharing and referral arrangements with NSW and Commonwealth regulatory and service agencies in relation to adults with disability and older people who are subject to, or at risk of, abuse, neglect and exploitation.• The ADC is establishing a community of practice with other state-based adult safeguarding agencies to identify opportunities to strengthen approaches to safeguarding adults who are subject to, or at risk of, harm. • The ADC is strengthening information sharing and referral/complaint arrangements between the NSW Official Community Visitor scheme and key NSW and Commonwealth regulatory and service agencies in relation to people with disability living in residential care in NSW. | Ongoing  | • ADC information sharing and referral arrangements established and monitored. • An adult safeguarding community of practice is established and operational. • OCV information sharing and referral/complaint arrangements are established and monitored to enable improved access to, and use of, systems by people with disability living in residential care in NSW. |
| 3.2Information resources: NSW Health will work with the University of NSW to develop and translate a series of information resources about NSW mental health services for people with intellectual disability to support their rights the responsibilities of the agency and how to make complaints and access advocacy supports. | June 2022 | • Release of resources to NSW Health services.• Translation of resources into at least two community languages.  |
| 3.3NSW Health have implemented a state-wide policy directive, Responding to Needs of People with Disability During Hospitalisation, detailing guiding principles for strengthening supports for people with disability in NSW public hospitals. | Ongoing | • All local health districts are required to develop mechanisms to determine if there is a difference in outcomes for people with disability when compared to the general population. |
| 3.4NSW Health has established the statewide Intellectual Disability Health Service (IDHS) to support the delivery of coordinated clinical services for people with intellectual disability and complex needs. | Ongoing | • Evaluation of IDHS.• IDHS data recorded in NSW Health electronic records for performance monitoring and system-wide analyses. |
| 3.5NSW Health established a COVID-19 Disability Community of Practice to identify and escalate issues affecting how people with disability engage with service systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. | 2020-21 | • Monthly Community of Practice meetings held. |
| 3.6NSW Health Violence, Abuse and Neglect (VAN) services will undertake a state-wide [VAN Redesign Program](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/parvan/Pages/van-redesign-program.aspx) to enhance the capacity of the public health system to provide 24-hour, trauma-informed and trauma-specific integrated psychosocial, medical and forensic responses to sexual assault, child physical abuse and neglect, and domestic and family violence and service responses to children and young people. The service will incorporate adjustments to ensure accessibility, to account for specific barriers and support the safety needs of people with disability. | 2019-25 | • Evaluation of the implementation is planned for 2021. |
| 3.7The NSW Health Sexual Assault and New Street Disability Access Strategy has been developed by ECAV in partnership with the Ministry of Health, UNSW and Flinders University as part of the NSW response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The Strategy will increase the accessibility of sexual assault services for people with disability. Implementation will be guided by a Disability and Sexual Violence Standards Committee and Co-Design Advisory Committee made up of people with lived expertise. The policy sets minimum standards for ensuring that NSW Health Sexual Assault Services are safe and accessible for people with disability. The *Responding to Sexual Assault (adult and child) Policy and Procedures* <https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/Pages/doc.aspx?dn=PD2020_006> | 2021 to 2025 | • An Evaluation framework has been developed to measure implementation and outcomes. |
| 3.8NSW Government is developing a NSW Framework for the prevention and response to children and young people with problematic and harmful sexual behaviours. It will be supported by an implementation plan with priority actions for NSW Government across four domains: primary prevention, targeted prevention, early intervention and tertiary responses. | 2021 | • Currently being developed. |
| 3.9Strengthening domestic and family violence supports for people with disability. Aims to build the capacity of the disability sector to respond to domestic and family violence (DFV).The Strengthening domestic and family violence supports for people with disability is a two part project that fosters collaboration between the disability and DFV sectors and addresses gaps in knowledge and capacity. This project will principally focus on the development of training materials and delivery to:• Help disability support workers recognise and address the issues of clients who have experienced or are experiencing DFV.• The DFV sector to foster better understanding and address the obstacles people with disability face when accessing DFV services. | June 2022 | • Production of training material and delivery of training. |
| 3.10 NSW Government will renew its commitment to disability advocacy through the Disability Advocacy Futures Program (DAFP). The DAFP is based on the recommendations of the Ageing and Disability Commissioner’s advocacy review. The program will:• Ensure that all people with disability in NSW have access to disability advocacy to support their ability to engage with NSW Government funded and delivered services. • Deliver statewide local individual advocacy services.• Deliver statewide specialist individual and systemic advocacy services for First Nations and CALD people. | 2022 | • Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) will monitor the program’s projects, with broader financial and performance based monitoring under the DCJ Funded Contract Management Framework. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1NSW Department of Education will implement the Restrictive Practices Framework to reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in NSW public schools. | 2021-2022 | • Consistent definitions around restrictive practices and clear planning and reporting processes for schools. • Reduction in the use of restrictive practices over time.  |
| 4.2NSW will guide the implementation and oversight of strategies to reduce and eliminate restrictive practices.The use of Restrictive Practices in NSW will be monitored in relation to implementation, review and evaluation for the purposes of safeguarding and timely reduction and removal. Continue the rigorous NSW Authorisation arrangements with the aim of reducing and eventually eliminating restrictive practices over time by requiring:• A behaviour support plan by a suitably qualified practitioner.• Informed consent by the participant or their guardian.• Approval by an appropriately conducted RPA Panel.  | Ongoing | • Ongoing reporting on numbers of restrictive practice authorisations. |
| 4.3NSW Health has published and implemented PD2020\_004 Seclusion and Restraint in NSW Health Settings. This provides a principles-based approach for the use of seclusion and restraint in NSW Health settings and outlines the approach, where safe and possible, to eliminating the use of seclusion and restraint. All Local Health Districts and Specialty Health Networks have developed local seclusion and restraint action plans in partnership with consumers and carers. | Ongoing | • Reporting by LHDs against their seclusion and constraint action plans. |
| 4.4Monitoring the use of seclusion in NSW Health facilities.NSW Health has set key performance indicators for Local Health Districts and Specialty Health Networks to report on KPIs publicly by the Bureau of Health Information.  | Ongoing | Mental Health Seclusion Indicators: • Occurrence (per 1000 bed days): <5.1.• Duration (average hours): <4.0.• Frequency (%): <4.1%. |
| 4.5Legislation reformNational alignment of state-based authorisation arrangements for restrictive practices with agreed principles.NSW will determine an approach to comply with the 10 principles for national consistent authorisation of restrictive practices.Government sector agencies that use or propose to use restrictive practices on persons with disability must take into account the objects and guiding principles of the Persons with Disability (Regulated Restrictive Practices) Bill 2021. | 2021-2023 | • Reporting to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner (ADC).• Availability of training and support materials to support the sector implement legislation changes.• Reduction in the use of restrictive practices authorisation requests over time. |

| Objective 5: Build individual capacity and effective natural safeguards (i.e. informal supports and protections such as connection with family and community) of people with disability |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 5.1Increasing community-based abuse prevention CollaborativesThe ADC aims to increase the number of disability abuse prevention Collaboratives, including in regional areas. The Collaboratives raise awareness and provide practical strategies and assistance to local communities and agencies to better prevent abuse and identify those at risk in the community. Of the 18 Collaboratives in NSW, only one is currently focused on people with disability. In consultation with Local Government NSW, the ADC will work with local councils, community groups and stakeholders to increase the number of disability abuse prevention Collaboratives in NSW.  | 2021 to 2023 | • Number of disability abuse prevention Collaboratives.• Number of LGAs in which Collaboratives are established. |

## Victoria actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1Introduce a Child Protection Bill to provide the foundations to progress future reform of the child and family service system and to advance self-determination, aligning with the Roadmap for Reform which is the Victorian Government’s blueprint for transforming the child and family system from crisis response to earlier intervention and prevention; and Wungurilwil Gapgapduir: Aboriginal Children and Families Agreement, through measures that enhance the system’s management of risk for all children at risk including those children with disability. | 2022 | • Implementation of the Children Youth and Families (Child Protection) Bill 2021 subject to its passage through Parliament.  |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
| --- |
| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1Amend the *Disability Act 2006 (Vic)* to strengthen inclusion of people with disability and ensure that the Disability Act is responsive to Victoria’s changing role in direct service delivery, oversight and safeguarding.  | 2022 | • Amendments completed to the *Disability Act 2006 (Vic).* |
| 2.2Participate in the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework Review. | 2022 | • An interim report will be due by February 2022, with the final report to be delivered by the end of 2022. |
| 2.3Social Services Regulation Reform completed.  | 2021-2023 | • Legislation to enable the establishment of a new Social Services Regulator in 2022.• New regulatory framework commenced in 2023. |
| 2.4Continued implementation of the Disability Worker Regulation Scheme, including a voluntary worker registration scheme and mandatory obligations that apply to all unregistered disability workers. | Ongoing roll out | • Registration scheme implemented. |
| 2.5 Continued delivery of the NDIS worker screening check in Victoria. | Ongoing roll out | • Number of workers screened. |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1 Strengthen Victorian Disability Advocacy Program through additional funding for advocacy organisations to assist and support individuals to access and navigate service systems including NDIS, education, housing, legal support, child protection. | 2021-22 and ongoing | • Number of clients supported. |
| 3.2 Disability Liaison Officer (DLO) - Support people with disability to navigate the health system and receive appropriate care and treatment. Dedicated Disability Liaison Officers work across 22 health services to directly support people with disability to access health services as well as addressing broader systemic issues around health services accessibility. | 2021-22 | • Number of clients supported. |
| 3.3 Disability Family Violence Crisis Response Initiative - This initiative provides brokerage funding for people with disability escaping family violence and funds the Disability Family Violence Crisis Response Coordinator position. | 2019 and ongoing | • Number of clients supported, and brokerage funding acquitted. |
| 3.4 Establish the Disability Advice and Response Team (DART) in the Children’s Court of Victoria to provide on-the-spot disability advice prior to and during hearings, as well as assist with screening for disability and identify pathways to service responses to address the young person’s disability needs. One of the DART worker positions will be an Aboriginal identified position, and will operate in the Children’s Koori Court, including attending weekly Koori Family Hearing Days. (The 2021-22 budget included $3.9 million output over 4 years to establish DART and $1 million output ongoing). | 2022 and ongoing | • Young people with disability are diverted away from the justice system and into community-based services.• Increased access by Aboriginal young people with disability to disability supports that acknowledge and respond to their cultural needs, as well as their criminogenic needs.• Increased number of people with lived experience of having a disability and being in the Victorian justice system have a safe place to provide advice and direction on policy and service design. |
| 3.5 Improve outcomes for people with disability who are in contact with the Victorian Justice system via quarterly Disability Justice Operational Forums. These Forums provide a collaborative environment for Victorian and NDIS stakeholders working at the operational level of the justice interface to learn together, share resources, and identify opportunities to consider the voice of lived experience in policy and service design. | 2021 and ongoing | • Resources and services developed within the Victorian Justice better meet the access needs of people with disability. |
| 3.6 Senior and Specialist Disability Advisors provide secondary consultation and expert advice to youth justice custodial and community-based staff and care teams. This work is designed to improve youth justice supervision and link these young people to services, including the NDIS.  | 2021 - 2023 | • Youth justice staff are supported to employ effective strategies to support young people with a disability. • Young people with disability experience improved access to and use of service systems. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1 Implement initiatives to strengthen disability support services for people in custody and improve custodial staff understanding of behaviours and responses:• Embed the Disability and Complex Needs Service at the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre (women’s prison). The 2021–22 State Budget includes $1.2 million over three years to extend the service until June 2024.• Implement the system-wide Prison Disability Support Initiative (PDSI). Funding of $2.46m allocated in the 2020–21 State Budget has enabled the establishment of the PDSI across all prisons to June 2022. | July 2021 – June 2024July 2021 – June 2022 | • Increased confidence in responding to people in prison with a disability, particularly cognitive impairment. |

| Objective 5: Build individual capacity and effective natural safeguards (i.e. informal supports and protections such as connection with family and community) of people with disability |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 5.1 Strengthen Victorian Disability Advocacy Program funding for organisations to undertake self, individual and systemic advocacy. VDAP also supports the Self Advocacy Resource Unit (SARU) to support Victorian self advocacy groups of people with intellectual disability, acquired brain injury and complex communication support needs. | 2020-21 and ongoing | • Number of clients supported. |

## Queensland actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1 Complete implementation of *Queensland’s plan to respond to domestic and family violence against people with disability* (the Plan), including the delivery of a Queensland-wide community awareness campaign to raise awareness about the impacts of domestic and family violence against people with disability and their human rights. | 30 June 2022 | • Number of signature and supporting initiatives reported as ‘completed’ across the four focus areas.• Increased awareness in the community about the impacts of domestic and family violence against people with disability and their human rights.• Evidence that people with disability are aware of risk factors and types of DFV.• Reported level of awareness by people with disability, their carers, and families in terms of supports available to them. |
| 1.2 Review of departmental policy and procedure for identifying and referring concerns when a person with disability may be at risk of harm to ensure they are evidence based and that service delivery staff are supported to recognise, prevent and minimise abuse, neglect and exploitation, and are subject to mandatory worker screening. | 2022 - 2024 | • Appropriate referrals are made and action taken whenever risk of harm is identified. |
| 1.3 Ensure that all disability and seniors related funded services have appropriate policies and procedures for identifying and actioning risk of harm to people with disability. | 2022 - 2024 | • Agreements with funded services require appropriate policies and procedures and providers’ compliance is monitored through regular reporting. |
| 1.4 Deliver NDIS worker screening and state disability worker screening to ensure that only suitable people are cleared to work and/or volunteer with people with disability. | 2022 - 2024 | • Worker screening systems exclude unsuitable people from working or volunteering with people with disability. |
| 1.5 Implement new and continuing initiatives under the whole-of-Government *Prevent. Support. Believe. Queensland’s Framework to address Sexual Violence - Action Plan 2021-22,* including strategies to prevent sexual violence through strengthening the capacity of workplaces and institutions to prevent sexual violence, and implementing targeted prevention and early intervention activities tailored for and designed by specific population groups (Priority 1: Prevention).  | December 2022 and ongoing | • Implementation of relevant new and continuing actions under the TAP, including: - Identifying training that could be offered to frontline, program and policy staff across Government to improve understanding of sexual violence. - Promoting sexual violence prevention resources and training for carers and disability support providers, particularly those providing care in congregate settings. • Workplaces are better equipped to prevent and respond to people with disability impacted by sexual violence: - Evidence of workforce training (e.g., training sessions or materials) on risk factors and targeted, trauma-informed responses.  |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1 Participating in the review of the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework. | 2021 - 2022 | • A refreshed framework considers the need for proportionate and appropriate regulation. |
| 2.2 Continuing to work with the Commonwealth to explore opportunities to streamline regulatory approaches across care sectors. | 2021 - 2023 | • Identifiable reduction in the level of duplicate regulation. |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1 Measure and report on progress against the outcomes in Queensland’s plan to respond to domestic and family violence against people with disability (the plan). | 30 June 2022 | • Supports to people with disability impacted by domestic and family violence are improved, in particular to women with disability.• Reported level of agreement that there are improvements in supports to people with disability impacted by DFV, in particular women.• Victims and their families are safe and supported.• Evidence of workforce training (e.g., training sessions or materials), including:- For the disability workforce to respond to people impacted by DFV.- For the DFV workforce to respond to people with disability. |
| 3.2 House people with disability who are in crisis and transition them into longer term housing with on-site or mobile support. | 2021 - 2025 | • Number of people with disability in crisis accommodation.• Number of people with disability transitioned from crisis accommodation to longer term housing.• Number of people with disability assisted with on-site support.• Number of people with disability assisted with mobile support. |
| 3.3 Explore options for safer admissions to custody, including early identification of individual person needs, and collaborate with key stakeholders to improve coordination of supports for NDIS participants exiting custody. | 30 June 2022 | • Safety initiatives options explored and where deemed feasible implemented. |
| 3.4 Develop a Disability and Mental Illness Strategy to ensure prisoners and offenders with disability/mental illness are identified early, treated with dignity and respect, and have access to the supports and services they need. | 31 March 2022 | • Strategy endorsed and published. |
| 3.5 Deliver the Research Partnerships Projects to better understand the reasons for under-utilisation of NDIS funding by Queensland participants, particularly those who are hard to reach, disconnected from mainstream services and may experience multiple layers of disadvantage. | 2021 - 2022 | • Research outcomes provide evidence for future advocacy and action to address plan under- utilisation and improve access to disability supports in regional Queensland. |
| 3.6 Enhance the ability of police to respond to and support the needs of vulnerable people within the community, including those with a disability, with a focus on promoting victim-centric and trauma informed policing practices, case management and identification of support options. | 2021 - 2023 | • Establishment of additional Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Units in Queensland.• Training and awareness products delivered to frontline police which include perspectives of persons with disability.• Number of referrals made using the Police Referral System to connect people with a disability to external support providers to address the underlying causes of their offending or engagement with QPS. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1 Review current legislation and policy in relation to the use and minimisation of restrictive practices in Queensland hospital and health facilities, and ensure Queensland Health has systems to:• Minimise and, where possible, eliminate the use of restrictive practices.• Govern the use of restrictive practices in accordance with legislation.• Report use of restrictive practices to the governing body. | 2022 - 2024 | • Training programmes and resources developed and promoted on alternative strategies to using restrictive practices.• Policy and best practice guidelines developed to minimise the use of restrictive practices in healthcare settings. |
| 4.2 Complete a review of Queensland’s positive behaviour support and restrictive practices authorisation framework with a view to achieving the further reduction and elimination of the use of restrictive practices. | 2022 - 2024 | • Reviewed is completed and recommendations considered by Government. |

| Objective 5: Build individual capacity and effective natural safeguards (i.e. informal supports and protections such as connection with family and community) of people with disability |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 5.1 Enhancing *specialist individual* advocacy services – First Nations people with disability and People with disability from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds.Fund the Queensland Disability Advocacy Program Specialist Individual Advocacy services to ensure First Nations people with disability and people with disability from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds receive advocacy supports that uphold their rights and interests and to increase the control they have over their lives, through representation and building the person’s capacity for self-advocacy.  | Jan 2022 -June 2023 | • First Nations people with disability and people with disability from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds experience improved interactions with mainstream service systems measured through regular service reporting. |

## Western Australia actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1 Creating safe communities Provide ongoing opportunities for people with disability and disability service providers to provide feedback and input on access and inclusion issues faced by the WA Police Force and the Road Safety Commission. | Ongoing  | • Feedback opportunities. |
| 1.2 Presenting the views of people with disability during the Royal Commission Support disability advocacy organisations and peak disability bodies to continue to engage with Western Australians with disability regarding their safeguarding concerns and experiences, for presentation to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. | Ongoing | • Number of presentations to the Royal Commission. |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1 Quality and safeguarding Implement the authorisation of restrictive practices processes to encourage the reduction/elimination of the use of restrictive practices. | Ongoing | • Progress of implementation. |
| 2.2 Safe services for all Implement pre-employment worker screening through the commencement of the NDIS Worker Screening Check requirement to ensure people with disability receive services in safe environments. | Ongoing | • Implementation of pre-employment screens. |
| 2.3 All together for one Identify legislative reform required to improve outcomes for people with disability, including but not limited to the Disability Services Act 1993, and provide advice to government to better support the rights of people with disability. | By 2023 | • Reform areas identified. |
| 2.4 Improving the Guardianship and Administration Act 1990 (WA) Finalise amendments arising from the 2015 Statutory Review of the Guardianship and Administrative Act 1990 (WA) aimed at strengthening safeguards for adults with a decision-making disability and improving the overall operation of the Act. | To be determined by Government priorities | • Number of amendments. |

| Objective 3: Strengthen supports for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm to engage more effectively with government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1 Accessible refuge accommodation and support Women with disability to be supported as needed by two new accessible family and domestic violence refuges. The services provide a safe, supportive space for women and their families escaping domestic violence: and provide information on a range of issues such as housing, income, family court matters, and restraining orders. | Ongoing | • Implementation of program. |
| 3.2 Positive Behaviour Support Practitioners Increase the number of qualified Positive Behaviour Support Practitioners available in WA to develop positive behaviour plans, to support people with complex needs. | Ongoing | • Number of qualified practitioners. |
| 3.3 Support for victims of crime Investigate opportunities to better identify and support victims of crime who have a disability. | By 2023 | • Number of victims of crime identifying as having a disability supported by the Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime.• Identification of specific opportunities implemented. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1 Keep people with disability safe Protect the safety if a person with disability or other members of the community by encouraging the reduction and elimination of restrictive practices and enable the authorisation of restrictive practices, where there are no other options available. | Ongoing | • Program implemented. |
| 4.2 Learning, wellbeing and positive behaviour Further build the capacity of schools to create safe and supportive leaning environments that focus on student learning, wellbeing and positive behaviour support in order to minimise, or eliminate, restrictive practices. | Ongoing | • Capacity support provided. |

## South Australia actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1 Undertake research and drive approaches that specifically respond to and target women’s complex needs in both custody and community, including working closely with mental health/health providers, migrant services and disability providers. | Ongoing | • Research is facilitated, which responds to women’s complex custody needs. |
| 1.2 Support the Attorney-General’s Department to deliver high quality and coordinated engagement with the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, including providing consistent, accurate and relevant information. | 2023 | • Disability Royal Commission Working Group established with impacted government entities. |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1 Review and enhance employee and volunteer disability awareness and other training with a focus on reinforcing the rights of people with disability in all interactions with SAPOL. | 2024 | • Training reviewed and enhanced.• Number of employees undertaking training.• Number of volunteers undertaking training. |
| 2.2 Undertake a review of the operation of the *Disability Inclusion Act 2018.* | 2022 | • Review completed. |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1 Improve liveability of our housing by ensuring SAHT Universal Design Criteria is applied to at least 75% of new social housing construction. | Ongoing | • Number of new properties developed to SAHT Universal Housing design criteria per annum. |
| 3.2 Support people to remain in their public housing home by undertaking disability modifications (where the housing is suitable for modification) for people living with a disability. | Ongoing | • Number of modifications completed. |
| 3.3 Develop strategies to connect households supported by the SA Housing Authority to available supports such as NDIS and My Aged Care so that those at risk of harm can continue to live safely, independently and connect with their community. | Ongoing | • Options developed to identify tenants in need of support.  Number of Housing SA tenants living with disability referred to disability or aged care services for assessment. |
| 3.4 Develop Disability Impact Guidelines for SA Housing staff to use when undertaking major policy and program reviews. | 2022 | • Disability Impact Guidelines developed and implemented. |
| 3.5 Investigate options to develop information sheets in Easy Read format to accompany key Housing SA information (e.g. Tenancy Agreement Information). | 2022 | • Key information sheets developed in Easy Read format. |
| 3.6 Continue to progress Stages 2 and 3 of the Canine Court Companion (CCC) project, which aims to reduce the stress and anxiety of vulnerable victims and prosecution witnesses at legal assessments and criminal justice proceedings, with Stage 2 including support in court waiting areas and Stage 3 including support in court rooms and CCTV suits. | 2023 | • Number of appointments attended by the canine companion. • Number of victims and witnesses supported. |
| 3.7 Capital works projects ensure consideration of the following, with regards to future projects:• Ramps, disability accessible showers in a safe area.• Building design factors in legislative requirements but also unique features for the prisoner cohort, via consultation with allied health experts (i.e., Occupational Therapists). | Ongoing | • New capital works/buildings consider disability needs of the prisoner cohort.  |
| 3.8 Provide accessible information on SAPOL’s websites. | Ongoing | • Accessibility Review and Implementation Plan developed.• Improvements made in line with the Accessibility Review and Implementation Plan. |
| 3.9 Develop new community engagement programs, and enhance existing programs delivered by SAPOL to ensure they safely and effectively engage people with disability, including those at risk of harm. | Ongoing | • New or existing programs and activities involve people with disability. |
| 3.10 Identify and plan for use of technology solutions that improve communication pathways for people with disability at risk of harm to contact and interact safely with SAPOL services.  | 2022 | • Technology solutions identified.• Technology solutions implemented.  |
| 3.11 Actively work to increase women’s knowledge about their rights by creating accessible information for women with disability about domestic, family and sexual violence, as well as maintaining up to date online resources about support services for women with disabilities and their families. | Ongoing | • Updates to Office for Women website. |
| 3.12 Implement relevant actions in the Young People Connected, Communities Protected: South Australia’s Youth Justice State Plan 2020-23 to ensure children and young people in the youth justice system who have a disability can access the services they require. | 2022 | • Enhanced staff training implemented. • Increased accessibility of education at Kurlana Tapa Youth Justice Centre. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1 Development and implementation of Restraint and Seclusion in Education and Care Settings procedure by SA Department for Education. | 2022 | • Monitoring and review of compliance. |
| 4.2 Establish the legislative framework for authorising restrictive practices by NDIS service providers for NDIS participants that provides stronger safeguards and accountability. | 2022 | • Commencement of restrictive practices legislation. |
| 4.3 Release best-practice guidelines that sets out how the authorising scheme will operate to reduce the use of restrictive practices. | 2022 | • Development and provision of practice guidance.  |
| 4.4 Effectively manage increased requirements relating to the NDIS and the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission including the authorisation and administration of restrictive practices for people under guardianship. | 2022 | • Information Sharing Schedule developed between OPA and the NDIA. • 100% of OPA clients identified as eligible for NDIS have transitioned with an activated plan. • 100% of restrictive practices used for NDIS / OPA clients are authorised. |

| Objective 5: Build individual capacity and effective natural safeguards (i.e. informal supports and protections such as connection with family and community) of people with disability |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 5.1 Improve accessibility for people living with disability to connect with existing safeguarding agencies in South Australia. | 2022 | • Commenced development of a new safeguarding app for people with disability. |
| 5.2 Reduce the barriers faced by young people living with disability and support active participation in decision making. | 2022 | • DHS’ Disability Engagement Group will involve representation from young people with disability. |
| 5.3 South Australia’s Department for Correctional Services will work collaboratively with the NDIA to support eligible prisoners to have a successful release and reintegration in community.  | Ongoing | • Implementation of a scalable model that addresses the need for proactive NDIS referrals for prisoners and offenders with disability, to assist with tailored case planning. |

## Tasmania actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1 Participation in national activities that will contribute to the achievement of this objective. | 2023-2024 | • Actions are identified as appropriate for the Tasmanian context. |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1 Reviewing the Tasmanian *Disability Services Act 2011* and harmonising the state legislation with NDIS regulation and definitions will contribute to achieving this objective.Establishment of the Disability Commissioner will contribute to achieving this objective. | 2021-20232021-2022 | • Legislation enacted.• Appointment of the inaugural Disability Commissioner. |
| 2.2 Participation in national activities that will contribute to the achievement of this objective. | 2023-2024 | • Actions are identified as appropriate for the Tasmanian context. |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1 Reviewing the Tasmanian *Disability Services Act 2011* and establishment of the Disability Commissioner will contribute to the achievement of this objective. | 2021-2023 | • Legislation enacted.• Appointment of the inaugural Disability Commissioner. |
| 3.2 Participation in national activities that will contribute to the achievement of this objective.  | 2023-2024 | • Actions are identified as appropriate for the Tasmanian context. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1 Harmonising state legislation with NDIS regulation and definitions of restrictive practices will contribute to achieving this outcome.Establishment of the Disability Commissioner will contribute to achieving this objective. | 2021-20232021-2022 | • Legislation enacted.• Appointment of the inaugural Disability Commissioner. |
| 4.2 Participation in national activities that will contribute to the achievement of this objective.  | 2023-2024 | • Actions are identified as appropriate for the Tasmanian context. |
| 4.3 Develop and implement a contemporary restrictive practice policy aimed at the reduction and/-or elimination of restrictive practices across the Tasmanian Health Service system. | 2021-2023 | • Policy developed and implemented. |

## Australian Capital Territory actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1 The Disability Justice Strategy The Disability Justice Strategy is a ten-year plan which aims to ensure people with disability in the ACT have equal access to justice. It is part of the ACT Government’s vision for an inclusive society that gives everyone the chance to participate in community life and leaves no-one behind. <https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/disability_act/disability-justice-strategy> | 2019-2029 | • Annual reports on the Disability Justice Strategy will be published and available on ACT Government websites.• The achievement of the three goals of the Strategy:1 People with disability are safe and their rights are respected.2 The ACT has a disability responsive justice system.3 Change is measured and achieved. |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1 Guardianship Reform and Supported Decision Making The ACT Government has committed to review guardianship legislation to provide greater options for inclusion of supported decision making to enhance the ability of people with disability to exercise decision making autonomy, consistent with their human rights. This work will be supported by a program to create cultural shifts where supported decision is recognised as a preferred and achievable alternative to guardianship by community, service providers and the justice sector through a supported decision-making program. | 2022 | • Guardianship legislation is amended.• Supported decision-making program is implemented and evaluated. |
| 2.2 Offences Against Vulnerable People LegislationMonitor new legislation, the Crimes *(Offences Against vulnerable People) Legislation Amendment Bill 2020*, to evaluate its effectiveness at protecting people with disability. | 2022 | • Review of the Crimes (Offences Against Vulnerable People) Legislation Amendment Act 2020 occurs. |
| 2.3 Complaints about abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable CanberransContinue to implement the ACT Human Rights Commission (HRC) scheme to address complaints related to abuse, neglect or exploitation of a vulnerable person. | Ongoing | • People with disability are accessing the ACT HRC complaint scheme. |
| 2.4 Human Services Registrar - Risk-responsive oversight of services provided to people with a disability particularly those not registered with the NDISEngagement with disability service providers within a risk-responsive regulatory framework to ensure adherence of service provision to quality standards and to identify and mitigate risks to service users from provisions of poor quality or negligent service delivery early under the *Disability Services Act 1991* and associated instruments.  | Ongoing | • High levels of engagement in regulatory relationship of identified providers.• Low incidence of non-compliance notifications.• Legislation amended to cater for future ACT Government position on oversight of relevant disability service providers. |
| 2.5 Official Visitors for Disability ServicesOfficial Visitors for Disability Services (OVDS), independent Statutory Office Holders under the auspices of the Official Visitor Scheme and the Disability Services Act 1991, act as an independent part of the ACT oversight network, offering support to entitled people and providing independent advice to the Minister on systemic issues. | Ongoing | • Information sharing and referrals to and from the OVDS are maintained and achieve coverage of the disability support sector.• Quarterly report to operational Minister on activities, complaints and systemic issues. |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1 Health Justice Partnership Improve access to legal support for pregnant women and new families, including people with disability, who are at risk of domestic and family violence by embedding a lawyer in hospitals and community health settings to connect health and legal care. | 2021-2022 | • People with disability access Health Justice Partnership program. |
| 3.2 Disability Justice Strategy First Action Plan 2019-2023Support people with disability to navigate the justice system and access services through the establishment and growth of the Community of Practice of Disability Liaison Officers across the ACT justice system.Improve identification of people with disability in the justice system so reasonable adjustments can be implemented.Improve access and participation of people with disability in justice and health services through development and implementation of Disability Action and Inclusion Plans.Review options for reform and services delivery improvements for people with disability who require mental health services. | 2021-2023 | • The Community of Practice is supporting individuals with disability to navigate the justice system and identifying and addressing systemic barriers to people with disability having equal access to justice.• Trial of needs identification tool is implemented in justice agencies and evaluated.• Disability Action and Inclusion Plans are in place in key justice agencies and health settings.• A position statement outlining an agenda of activities to improve mental health services for people with disability is completed. |
| 3.3 Integrated Service Response Program (ISRP)Continue to provide coordination of support for individuals with complex needs working with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), NDIS service providers and mainstream services to resolve crises and highly complex situations for people with intensive support needs. | Ongoing | • ISRP program continue to operate and support individuals with complex needs. |
| 3.4 ACT Disability Health Strategy Improve access to health services for people with disability in the ACT through the development and implementation of a Disability Health Strategy. | 2021 - 2023 | • Disability Health Strategy is launched. |
| 3.5 Better Safety Project TrialImprove access pathways for people with disability to domestic and family violence supports through cross-sector capability building between the disability sector and domestic and family violence sector. | 2021-2022 | • Better Safety Project is implemented and evaluated. |
| 3.6 Intermediary ProgramContinue the Intermediary Program. The ACT Human Right’s Commission launched the Intermediary Program in January 2020 to assist vulnerable witnesses to communicate evidence. The program is currently actively providing trained intermediaries to assist police and courts’ engagement with vulnerable witnesses in criminal matters. The Intermediary Program has assisted children, young people and adults with disability to communicate with police, lawyers and others at court. | 2021-2022 | • Intermediary Program continues to operate. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1 Office of the Senior PractitionerThe Office of the Senior Practitioner will continue to work with ACT service providers to implement the principles, framework and enforcement of the *Senior Practitioner Act 2018* to reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices by service providers in the ACT. | Ongoing | • The Senior Practitioner will collect and report on key data on the use of restrictive practices over time. |
| 4.2 The Restrictive Practices Oversight Steering Group Continue the work of the Restrictive Practices Oversight Steering Group which aims to provide strategic policy expertise to guide the implementation of a whole-of-government approach to reducing and eliminating restrictive practices in the ACT, including implementation of the Senior Practitioner’s role under the *Senior Practitioner Act 2018*.  | Ongoing | • The Restrictive Practices Oversight Steering Group continue to operate. |

## Northern Territory actions

| Objective 1: Build capability to identify and respond to risk and protective factors resulting in a person with disability experiencing, or possibly being at risk of, harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 1.1 Identify a strength based model that enables a safe and secure environment for people with disability to identify and flag risks of harm. | 2022 | • Guidelines for a safe environment for interactions with people with disability and the service system. |
| 1.2 Develop and implement policy, guidelines, and resources to recognise the safety risk factors for people with disability. |

| Objective 2: Ensure mainstream and specialist disability services provide appropriate and proportionate protections for people with disability who experience or may be at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 2.1 Identify systems to monitor the ongoing interactions of people with disability and existing government agencies.  | 2022-2032 | • Data collection from interactions with the NDIS Worker Screening, youth justice system, corrections system, legal advocacy system, domestic violence services.  |

| Objective 3: Strengthen the design of all government service systems and the supports they provide for people with disability at risk of harm |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 3.1 Improve interagency sharing of information to support the ‘no wrong door’ approach to the government service system. | 2022-2025 | • A data sharing agreement that supports information sharing across service systems to support positive interactions, access and use for people with disability. |
| 3.2 Develop and implement a strength based Northern Territory Disability Strategy. | 2022-2025 | • Action items in the NT Disability Strategy focused on reducing the risk of harm to people with disability. |
| 3.3 Review and update the *Disability Services Act 1993.* | 2022-2025 | • Legislative changes are ratified. |

| Objective 4: Reduce and eliminate the use of restrictive practices in all government service systems |
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| Actions | Timeline | Indicator(s) |
| 4.1 Reduce restrictive practices in schools by:• Developing and implementing policy, guidelines, resources and training to reduce restrictive practices in schools.• Developing systems to monitor and reflect on restrictive practices in schools, and ensure they are only used in emergencies and as an agreed part of a students’ adjustment plan. | 2021-2024 | • Guidelines on restrictive practices in schools developed and overarching policy updated to include information on restrictive practices. • Comprehensive training provided to school staff on the resources to deliver the restrictive practices policy.• IT systems to capture and monitor use of restrictive practices are in place.• Yearly review on use of restrictive practices in schools, including reflection processes to reduce or eliminate practices. |

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## Endnotes

1. Based on data for people aged 18-64; rates are directly age standardised to the June 2018 Australian population. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The NSW Disability Inclusion Act (2014), NSW Disability Inclusion Plan and the Disability Inclusion Action Plans (DIAPs) of all NSW Government Clusters and 128 Local Councils are the primary mechanisms by which NSW will deliver on the actions of Australia’s Disability Strategy.

 As at December 2021 NSW is updating the NSW Disability Inclusion Act (2014) and finalising the next round of disability inclusion planning. Clusters are revising their DIAPs as required and Local Councils will need to publish their DIAPs by July 2022. Actions included above are either planned actions with confirmed funding, current actions or recently completed activity that will continue to impact the outcomes of the Safety TAP over the course of the TAP. Additional actions will be included as the TAP is regularly updated. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)