

Australia's Disability Strategy

2021-2031

Action Plan – Managing emergencies

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 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 35.



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



This plan is quite long.

It includes a lot of information.



You don't need to read it all at once.



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.

Getting the outcomes we want



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



We must all work together to get the outcomes in the Strategy.

This includes:



- people with disability
- governments
- the community
- businesses
- organisations
- services.

If we all work together, we can make our community:



- **accessible**



- inclusive.

If something is accessible, everyone can use it.



This might be:

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

Who is the Strategy for?

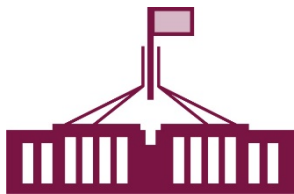


The Strategy is for people with disability.



The Strategy is for all levels of government in Australia.

This means:



- the Australian Government



- state and territory governments



- local governments.



The Strategy is also for the Australian community.

This includes:



- people



- businesses



- organisations



- services.

Our action plans



The Strategy has ideas about how to make life better for people with disability in 7 main areas.

We call these **outcome areas**.



We will do this through Targeted Action Plans (TAPs).

We just call them action plans.



Our action plans talk about what we will do to help get the outcomes.



We talk to people with disability about what should be in our action plans.



We use their ideas to write our action plans.



This action plan is about the Health and wellbeing outcome area.



This action plan is about managing **emergencies**.

An emergency is something dangerous that:



- we don't expect to happen



- can put your health at risk.



We use **emergency services** when an emergency happens.

They do their best to:



- make people safe



- fix the dangers and risks caused by the emergency.



Emergency services must include people with disability when they plan what to do in an emergency.

Managing emergencies

The outcome we want



We want people with disability to:

- be healthy
- enjoy the life they live.

Our goals



Our Managing emergencies action plan has 2 goals.



1. Include more people with disability when we:

- plan for emergencies
- look at risks.

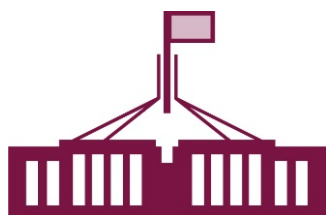
2. Support the health of people with disability:



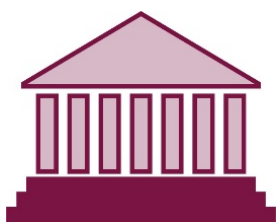
- before an emergency
- during an emergency
- after an emergency.

Actions

Our action plan talks about what:



- the Australian Government will do



- state and territory governments will do.

The Australian Government



The Australian Government will work with other organisations to make new information about emergencies.



This information will be:

- accessible
- inclusive.



The **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** provides supports and services to many people with disability around Australia.



The NDIS will work with state and territory governments to give helpful information to people who take part in the NDIS.

The NDIS will also work with state and territory governments to:



- work out what can be done better in emergencies



- help plan for managing emergencies



- share helpful information.



The Department of Health (DoH) will look at how the Australian Government are managing **COVID-19** for people with disability.



COVID-19 is a virus that has affected many people around the world.



DoH will also look at better ways the Australian Government can:

- plan for emergencies
- manage emergencies.



The Australian Government will work with state and territory governments to make sure they can look after the **disability sector** in emergencies.



The disability sector includes:

- people with disability
- people who support people with disability
- support workers
- people who speak up for people with disability.



The Australian Government will know and understand people who work in the disability sector are an important service.

The Australian Government and state and territory governments will contact people with disability if there's an emergency.



They might use:

- an automatic call
- a text message.

When the Australian Government changes how they contact people in an emergency, they will:



- talk to people with disability



- include their ideas about how to contact people with disability.

The Australian Government will get more information about:



- how emergencies affect people with disability

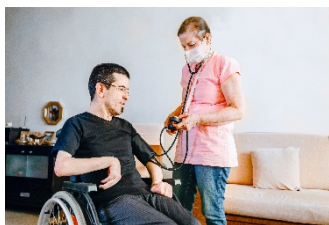


- what support people with disability have after an emergency.



The Australian Government will think about what people with disability need when they:

- plan for emergencies
- manage emergencies.



DoH will make sure all workers in the disability sector have enough information and support for COVID-19.

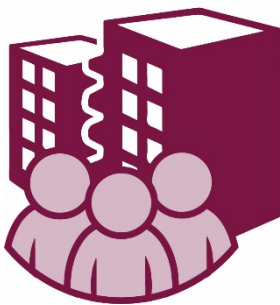
State and territory governments

New South Wales Government

The New South Wales (NSW) Government will work with:



- people with disability



- other organisations.

They will work together to:



- connect with people with disability



- learn how to support people with disability in different emergencies.



The NSW Government is working with people with disability to work out problems from COVID-19.



The NSW Government will have a **forum** about what people with disability have experienced during emergencies.



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

- experiences
- ideas.



This will help the NSW Government manage emergencies better in the future.



The NSW Government has made Resilience NSW.



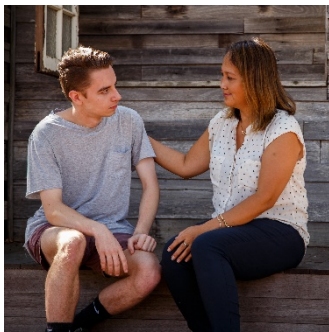
It helps support people with disability during emergencies.

Victorian Government



The Victorian Government will make sure they are ready to:

- respond to an emergency
- manage an emergency.



The Victorian Government will support people who are **vulnerable** in an emergency.



If a person is vulnerable, they might be in danger of:

- being hurt
- getting sick
- someone taking advantage of them.

2



The Victorian Government will create 2 new jobs.



These jobs will help give accessible information to people with disability in an emergency.



The Victorian Government will work with the police to look after people with disability in an emergency.



The Victorian Government will support people with disability to use health services in an emergency.

Queensland Government



The Queensland Government will use what they learnt from a **royal commission** to change how they manage emergencies.



A royal commission is how the government looks into a big problem.



The Queensland Government will make sure other organisations know how to include people with disability when they plan for emergencies.



The Queensland Government will keep supporting people with disability after hours.



The Queensland Government will make services that meet the needs of each community.

The Queensland Government will plan how to help stop people from:



- feeling lonely



- being left out of the community.



The Queensland Government will talk to people with disability when they plan for life after an emergency.

Western Australian Government



The Western Australian (WA) Government will think about what people with disability need in an emergency.



The WA Government will talk to people with disability after an emergency happens.



The WA Government will plan how to support vulnerable people in an emergency.

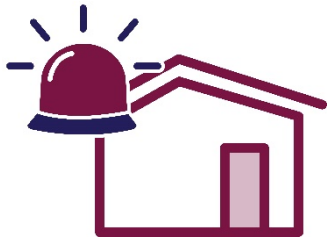


The WA Government will tell people with disability about emergencies in ways that work for them.

The WA Government will make sure people with disability can find:



- support services



- places to live during emergencies.

South Australian Government



The South Australian (SA) Government will work with:

- people with disability
- their family or carers.



They will work together to make sure people with disability can be safe if there is an emergency.



The SA Government will look at **evacuation plans** to:

- see what can be better
- make sure they are accessible.





An evacuation plan is how to get out of a place when there is:

- danger
- an emergency.



For example, how to leave a building if there is a fire.



The SA Government will communicate with people with disability better during emergencies.



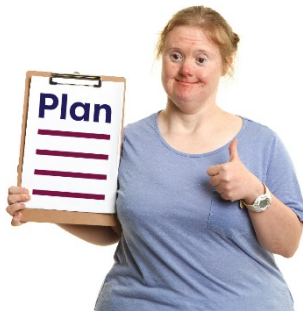
The SA Government will train its emergency service staff about how to keep people with disability safe.



The SA Government will make a new plan for managing emergencies.



Some emergency services are part of the SA Government.



These services will update their plans for making life better for people with disability.



The SA Government will make sure people with disability are safe during COVID-19.

The SA Government will make sure people with disability get medicine that:



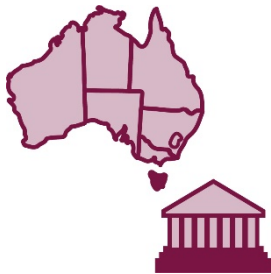
- helps people fight COVID-19 if they come in contact with it
- can stop people from getting very sick from COVID-19.

Tasmanian Government



The Tasmanian Government will plan how to manage emergencies better.

This plan is for:



- all Tasmanian governments



- the community.



The Tasmanian Government will look at laws about managing emergencies.

They will:



- see what needs to change



- add what they have learnt from COVID-19.



The Tasmanian Government will use what they learnt to help people with disability in emergencies.



The Tasmanian Government will use what they learnt from a royal commission to change how they manage emergencies.

Australian Capital Territory Government



The Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

Government will send out a COVID-19 planning tool to:

- people with disability
- the community.



The ACT Government will keep sharing accessible information.



The ACT Government will plan how to support people with disability:

- during COVID-19
- after COVID-19.



The ACT Government will plan what different organisations must do to support people with disability.

Knowing how well our action plan is going

We will:



- check how well our action plan is going



- talk to the community about how well it's going.



We will make sure we talk to people with disability.



We will check if we are getting the outcomes we want.



We will use what we learn to write a report.



We will share our report with the community.

Word list

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

Accessible

If something is accessible, everyone can use it.

This might be:



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



COVID-19

COVID-19 is a virus that has affected many people around the world.



Disability sector

The disability sector includes:

- people with disability
- service providers
- support workers
- advocates.



Emergency

An emergency is something dangerous that:

- we don't expect to happen
- can put your health at risk.

Emergency services

We use emergency services when an emergency happens.



They do their best to:

- make people safe
- fix the dangers and risks caused by the emergency.

Evacuation plans



An evacuation plan is how we get out of a dangerous place:

- safely
- calmly.

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.



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides supports and services to many people with disability around Australia.



Outcome areas

The Strategy has ideas about how to make life better for people with disability in 7 main areas.

We call these outcome areas.



Outcomes

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



Royal commission

A royal commission is how the government looks into a big problem.



Vulnerable

If a person is vulnerable, they might be in danger of:

- being hurt
- getting sick
- someone taking advantage of them.

Contact us



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