Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031

# Our Strategy Advisory Council meeting

# 9 November 2023

A text-only Easy Read meeting bulletin

**How to use this bulletin**

Australia’s Disability Strategy Advisory Council (the Council) gives advice to governments.

The Council holds meetings as part of their work.

The Council wanted to share a **bulletin** about what they did in their last meeting.

A bulletin is an important news item to share with the community.

The Council asked the Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS) to write this bulletin for them.

When you see the word ‘we’, it means DSS.

We wrote this bulletin in an easy to read way.

We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **10**.

This is an Easy Read summary of another bulletin.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.

You can find the other bulletin on our website.

[www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/communiques](https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/communiques)

You can ask for help to read this bulletin.

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you.

**What’s in this bulletin?**

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## Australia’s Disability Strategy Advisory Council

Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031 is a plan to support people with disability in all areas of their life.

In this bulletin we call it the Strategy.

**Australia’s Disability Strategy Advisory Council (the Council)** gives advice about the Strategy.

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

All the people on the Council are people with:

* disability

or

* **lived experience** of disability.

If you have lived experience of disability, you:

* have a disability
* know what life can be like for people with disability
* can tell your story to help others.

The Council is **independent**.

That means they:

* don’t work for the government
* make their own decisions.

The Council gives advice to:

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

Their advice is about how well these governments:

* use the Strategy
* share reports about the Strategy
* work towards the goals of the Strategy.

## What the Council talked about

The Council held their meeting on 9 November 2023.

The Council shared important updates about their work.

Their next meeting is planned for March 2024.

### The final report of the Disability Royal Commission

The Council shared ideas about the final report of the **Disability Royal Commission (DRC)**.

DRC looked into problems people with disability have experienced.

It helped the Australian Government find out:

* what went wrong
* what they need to fix.

The final report includes DRC’s **recommendations**.

Recommendations are ideas about:

* how to make something better
* what should happen next.

The Council shared ideas about how the Australian Government will respond to DRC’s final report.

The Council also talked about the new Commonwealth Disability Royal Commission Taskforce (the Taskforce).

The Taskforce gives advice to the Australian Government about:

* what people think about DRC’s final report
* how to respond to DRC’s final report.

The Council shared that it’s important for the disability community to have their say about DRC’s recommendations.

This includes people:

* from different backgrounds
* with different experiences.

The Council also talked about how it’s important for the Australian Government to:

* work with the disability community
* listen to their ideas.

### New data from the Outcomes Framework

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

The Outcomes Framework is how we keep track of the outcomes in the Strategy.

The Council heard about new **data** from the Outcomes Framework annual report.

When we talk about data, we mean facts, information and records.

The new data was about community **attitudes** towards people with disability.

Your attitude is what you think, feel and believe.

The data showed that the Australian Government needs to do more work to improve community attitudes towards people with disability.

The Council will talk more about ways to improve community attitudes at the first meeting in 2024.

### Accessible housing

The Council continued to talk about issues people with disability face with **accessible** housing.

They have talked about these issues at other meetings.

When something is accessible, it is easy to:

* find and use services
* move around.

The Council talked about the advice they might give the Australian Government about these issues.

Council members agreed to do work before their next meeting to learn about:

* plans and laws that have worked in the past
* how to collect more data about accessible housing.

## Word list

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

### Accessible

When something is accessible, it is easy to:

* find and use services
* move around.

### Attitudes

Your attitude is what you think, feel and believe.

### Australia’s Disability Strategy Advisory Council (the Council)

The Council gives advice about the Strategy.

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

### Bulletin

A bulletin is an important news item to share with the community.

It explains what the Council did in their last meeting.

### Data

When we talk about data, we mean facts, information and records.

### Disability Royal Commission (DRC)

DRC looked into problems people with disability have experienced.

It helped the Australian Government find out:

* what went wrong
* what they need to fix.

### Independent

When a group is independent, they:

* don’t work for the government
* make their own decisions.

### Lived experience

If you have lived experience of disability, you:

* have a disability
* know what life can be like for people with disability
* can tell your story to help others.

### Outcomes

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

### Recommendations

Recommendations are ideas about:

* how to make something better
* what should happen next.

The Information Access Group created this text-only Easy Read document.  
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