



Creating
an inclusive
community
together

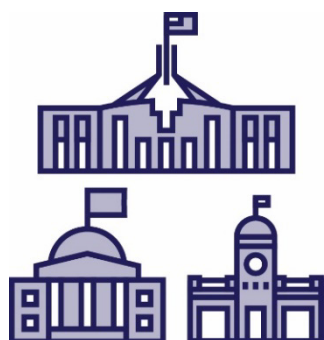
Australia's Disability
Strategy 2021-2031

Our Strategy Advisory Council meeting 5-6 March 2024

An 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 use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold

Not bold

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

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



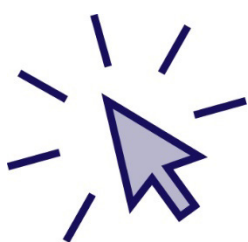
We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **18**.



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



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.



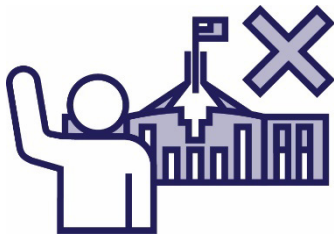
All the people on the Council are people with:

- disability
- or
- **lived experience** of disability.



If you have lived experience of disability, you might:

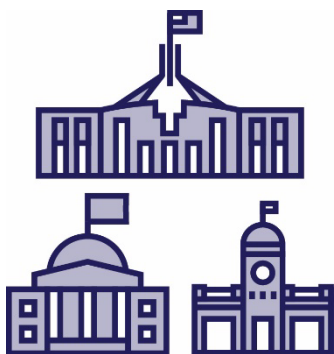
- have a disability
- or
- have experienced what life can be like for people with disability.



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.

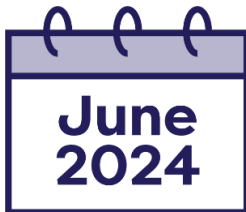
What the Council talked about



The Council held their meeting on 5–6 March 2024.



The Council shared important updates about their work.



Their next meeting is planned for June 2024.

The Council talked about a meeting that happened between:



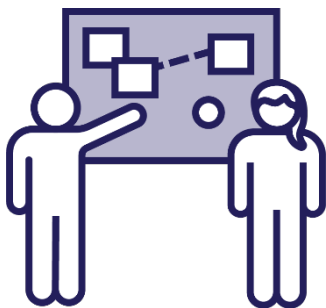
- the Council's Chair – the person who runs the Council meetings
- disability **ministers**

A minister leads an area of the government.



At this meeting, the Chair explained:

- the Council's work in 2023 and 2024
- what the ministers should expect from the Council.



Members of the Council also gave presentations at this meeting.

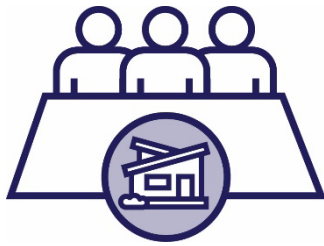
The 2 Council members who gave the presentations were:



- Mr Nigel Webb, from Queensland



- Dr Katherine Elliston, from Tasmania.



The Council also shared updates about the work of the Council's new Housing Working Group.



They are a group of people who work to share ideas about how housing affects people with disability.



The Council's Housing Working Group had a meeting in February 2024.



The Council also shared issues about making parts of the community easier for people with disability to find and use.

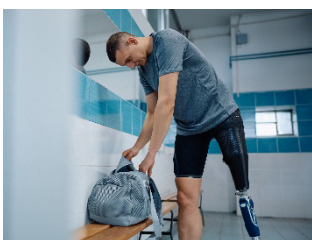
This includes:



- medical services, like health clinics



- beaches



- places where people get changed and use toilets.



The Council talked about Amy James leaving the Council.

They thanked her for the work she did.



The Council talked about work we are doing to replace the members of the Council who have left.

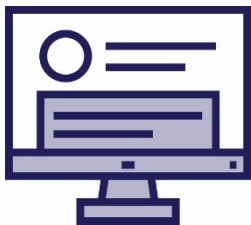


The Council also talked about the work people are doing as part of the **review** of the Strategy.



When you review something, you check to see what:

- works well
- needs to be better.



The Council also talked about the online surveys and reports about community **attitudes** towards people with disability.



Your attitude is what you think, feel and believe.



The Achieve Foundation gave a presentation to the Council about their community attitudes project.



The Achieve Foundation is an organisation that wants to support the community to include everyone.

This includes people with disability.



The Council talked about Targeted Action Plans (action plans).

An action plan explains what the government will do to help reach the goals in the Strategy

What the Council heard about



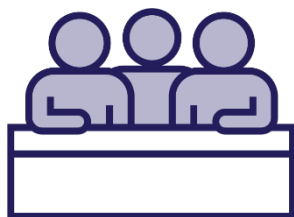
The Council heard about meetings that have happened since the final report of the **Disability Royal Commission (DRC)**.



The DRC looked into problems people with disability have experienced.

It helped the Australian Government find out:

- what went wrong
- what they need to fix.



These meetings were with a group called the DRC Taskforce.

The DRC Taskforce supports the Australian Government to respond to the DRC's final report.



The Council also heard about how DRC's final report links with the **NDIS Review**.



The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) provides services and support to people with disability.



A group of people who were separate to the Australian Government, checked the NDIS to find out what:

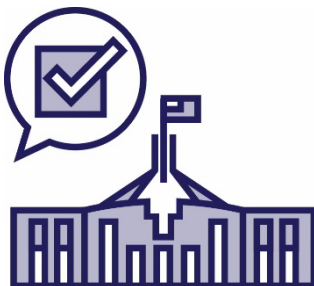
- worked well
- could be better.

This was called the NDIS Review.



The Council also heard about the new NDIS Provider and Worker Registration Taskforce.

In this document we call it the Taskforce.



The Taskforce will give advice to the Australian Government about a new way to check **providers**.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



Natalie Wade explained the Taskforce to the Council.

Natalie is a leader of the Taskforce and a member of the Council.



The Council also heard about what work the new **Disability Discrimination Commissioner (the Commissioner)** will focus on.



The Commissioner works to make sure people with disability are safe.



The new Commissioner is called Rosemary Kayess.



The Council also heard about challenges that students with disability face in higher education.

This includes:

- university
- TAFE.



The Council heard about a plan that the **Office for the Arts** is making.

This plan will support people with disability to take part in creative projects in Australia.

The Office for the Arts supports creative projects in Australia.



For example:

- theatre
- visual art.

Word list

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



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.



Disability Discrimination Commissioner (the Commissioner)

The Commissioner works to make sure people with disability are safe.



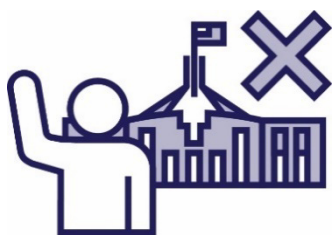
Disability Royal Commission (DRC)

The 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 might:

- have a disability
- or
- have experienced what life can be like for people with disability.



Minister

A minister leads an area of the government.



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides services and support to people with disability.



NDIS Review

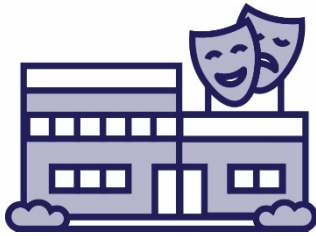
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Office for the Arts



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Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



Review

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