Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031

# Our Strategy Advisory Council meeting 27 June 2024

A text-only Easy Read meeting bulletin

## How to use this bulletin

Australia’s Disability Strategy Advisory Council (the Council) gives advice to governments about what people with disability need.

The Council holds meetings as part of their work.

The Council shares **bulletins** 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 read 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 **9**.

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

The Council gives advice about Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021–2031 (the Strategy).

The Strategy is a plan to support people with disability in all areas of their life.

The Council includes:

* people with disability
* people who have experienced what life can be like for people with disability.

The Council is not part of the government.

The Council gives advice to:

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

They help governments understand how to:

* 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 27 June 2024.

They shared important updates about their work.

The Council also planned their next meeting for October 2024.

Ms Jane Spring is the Chair of the Council.

This means she leads the Council meetings.

Jane welcomed new members who will support the Council’s work over the next year.

The new members include people who are also members of state and territory councils.

These state and territory councils give their own advice about the Strategy.

Jane thanked the members who:

* are leaving the Council
* supported the Council over the past year.

The Council heard from the Honourable Justine Elliot.

She is the Assistant **Minister** for Social Services and the Prevention of Family Violence.

A minister leads an area of government.

The Honourable Justine Elliot works to support the community and stop **family violence**.

Family violence is when someone close to you hurts you, such as:

* your partner, like your boyfriend or girlfriend
* a member of your family
* someone who takes care of you
* someone you live with.

The Honourable Justine Elliot said the Council has an important role in supporting governments to meet the goals of the Strategy.

The Council talked about how governments are using **data**.

When we talk about data, we mean:

* facts
* information
* records.

The Council talked about the ACT Government’s Disability Justice Strategy 2019–2029.

It explains how the Australian Capital Territory Government will support people with disability in the **justice system**.

The justice system includes:

* police
* the courts
* the law
* prisons.

The Council said this is a good example of how governments can support the Strategy.

## What the Council heard about

The Council heard about the work people are doing to check how the Strategy is going.

This includes looking at what:

* is working well
* needs to be better.

The Council heard about the work its members have been doing since March 2024.

This includes giving advice about who should be the Chair of the National Disability Research Partnership (NDRP).

The NDRP is an organisation that supports research programs:

* about disability
* that are run by people with disability.

The Council heard about work to create the Housing Working Group.

This is a group of people who share ideas about how housing affects people with disability.

The Council heard about how Ms Jane Spring went to the Conference of States Parties (COSP).

Jane went to the COSP in New York from 11–13 June.

The COSP is a meeting between different countries about the **rights** of people with disability.

Rights are rules about how people must treat you:

* fairly
* equally.

The Council heard about issues in the disability community.

The Council also heard what state and territory governments are doing to deliver the Strategy.

## Word list

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

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
* records.

Family violence

Family violence is when someone close to you hurts you, such as:

* your partner, like your boyfriend or girlfriend
* a member of your family
* someone who takes care of you
* someone you live with.

Justice system

The justice system includes:

* police
* the courts
* the law
* prisons.

Minister

A minister leads an area of the government.

Rights

Rights are rules about how people must treat you:

* fairly
* equally.

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