

## **Australia's Disability Strategy (ADS) Advisory Council**

(the Advisory Council) met virtually for their third meeting of the year on 16 October 2024. The Chair noted that since their last meeting of June 27, the Advisory Council had been supported through several out of session workshops and briefings on the disability reform agenda, progress of the ADS Review and the next round of Targeted Action Plans and an introductory 'ADS101' session.

At its October 16 meeting, the Advisory Council received a briefing from the Attorney-General's Department and provided advice on likely community interest arising from the Government's commitment to review the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA Review).

The Advisory Council's advice included that the disability community would be interested in how the DDA Review could celebrate good practice in promoting inclusion and accessibility, would reduce the administrative burden on those making a complaint, and provide clear compliance for breaches. The Advisory Council will stay closely informed of the DDA Review and appreciated the opportunity to engage with the process early.

The Advisory Council also discussed its draft 2025 Work Plan, which would enable the Advisory Council to engage more deeply but in fewer, more targeted topics. This includes the potential for formal advice to the Disability Reform Ministerial Council (DRMC).

The Advisory Council noted that Ms Natalie Wade had resigned effective end of September 2024, and the Chair acknowledged her contribution. The Advisory Council also noted recent correspondence had been received from advocates regarding accessible information and communications, and tertiary education reform.

The next meeting is scheduled for 6 December 2024.