

Australia's Disability Strategy Advisory Council Communiqué

Australia's Disability Strategy (ADS) Advisory Council (Advisory Council) met virtually on 13 March 2025.

The Chair of the Advisory Council, Ms Jane Spring AM, welcomed the members.

The Chair:

- Reported on her presentation to a meeting of the Disability Reform Ministerial Council (DRMC), held on 21 February 2025.
- Noted that Ministers endorsed the Advisory Council's 2025 Work Plan, revisions to the Advisory Council's Terms of Reference, and noted the 2024 Annual Report, with agreement to publish these documents to the [ADS Hub](#).

The Advisory Council agreed:

- On formal advice to be given to the DSS on Targeted Action Plans (TAPs), with a focus on 'what makes a good TAPs report'. This advice was informed by a workshop held on this topic on 17 February. The Council's advice will inform a new report for TAPs which will be presented to the DRMC.
- On informal advice to be given to the Department of Social Services (DSS) on evaluation in the ADS, with a focus on ensuring that evaluation practices are inclusive of people with disability, across the evaluation lifecycle. This advice was informed by a workshop held on this topic with the Council on 18 February
- To further consultation and discussion in relation to the topic of establishing a First Nations Disability Forum, which is part of the Disability Royal Commission recommendation 9.10 and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Review action 20.4.

The Advisory Council noted:

- The work undertaken by Council members since the December 2024 meeting, including workshops to inform advice on Evaluation in ADS and TAPs.
- The 2025 Work Plan and how it supports the role of the Council to take the lead in strengthening the implementation and awareness of ADS.
- Updates provided on activities in the states and territories.

The next Advisory Council meeting is planned to occur across two days in June 2025, with in-person attendance.