



Australian Government

Department of Social Services

Australia's Disability Strategy

2021 – 2031 Advisory Council

Update

6 December 2024



Creating
an inclusive
community
together



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

This Easy Read document was written by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

We say **DSS** for short.

When you see the word **we** it means DSS.

We wrote this in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



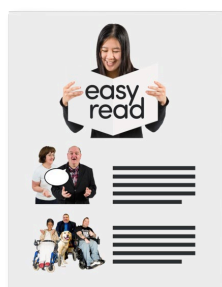
Bold

Not bold

We have some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

These are important words.



This is an Easy Read summary of what happened in the Advisory Council meeting.

This means it has the most important ideas from the meeting.



If you need support to read this you can ask

- A friend
- Family members
- A support person.



We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the **Traditional Owners** of the land we live on.



They were the **first people** to live on and use the

- Land
- Waters.

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Australia's Disability Strategy



Creating
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Australia's Disability Strategy 2021 - 2031 is a plan to make life better for people with disability.

We call it **ADS**.



ADS is important for Australia to be more **inclusive**.

Inclusive is when everyone

- Can **take part**
- Feels like they **belong**.



This makes everyone in our community feel welcome.

Australia's Disability Strategy 2021 – 2031 Advisory Council



Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031

Advisory Council gives **advice** about ADS to

- The Australian Government
- State and territory governments
- Local governments.

We call it **the Council**.



Advice means to tell someone your ideas of how to do something.



The Council is **not** part of the government.



The Council helps governments understand how to

- Use ADS
- Share reports about ADS
- Work towards the goals of ADS.



The Council includes people

- With disability
- Who understand barriers for people with disability.



The Council has 4 meetings a year.



The Council writes **bulletins** about what they did in their meetings.

A bulletin is important news to share with the community.



This bulletin is about the Council meeting on
6 December 2024.

What the Council talked about



Jane Spring is the Council **Chair**.

This means she

- Leads the Council meetings
- Shares the Council advice.

Jane welcomed members to the meeting.

The Council talked about



1. The **ADS Review Report**.



The ADS Review report is about

- If ADS is working well
- What needs to change
- What should be added.



2. The new **Targeted Action Plans**

To make it easier to work on ADS they made lots of small plans.

The small plans are all working towards ADS.

TAPs



The small plans are called **Targeted Action Plans**.

We call them **TAPs** for short.



All governments work together to do TAPs.



3. The 2024 ADS Council **Terms of Reference Review**

Terms of Reference are the rules of the Council.

They help everyone know what is expected.

We call it TOR for short.



The TOR Review report is about

- If the TOR are working well
- What needs to change
- What should be added.



4. **Annual Report**

The Annual Report is about the work the Council did in 2024.



5. The **Work Plan** for 2025.



The Work Plan will support the Council to

- Focus on the most important ADS issues
- Give advice to the **Disability Reform Ministerial Council**.



We call it the **DRMC**.



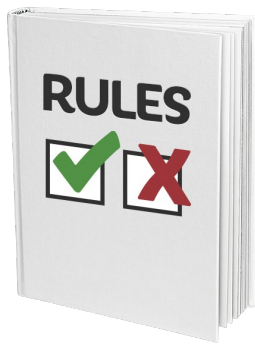
The DRMC is a group of Disability **Ministers** from

- The Australian Government
- State and territory governments.

Ministers are leaders in an area of the government.



6. What happened at the last DRMC meeting.



7. The **Disability Discrimination Act Review**

The Disability Discrimination Act is the **law** that says people with disability must have their **rights** met.

We call it the **DDA for short**.

Laws are **rules** for how we live.



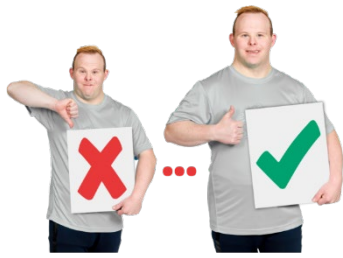
Rights are **rules** about treating everyone

- Fair
- Equal.



The DDA review will check if

- The DDA is working well for people with disability
- There is anything that needs to change.



8. How the reviews can make life better for people with disability.



9. Australian **Human Rights Act** idea

A Human Rights Act is an idea for a new law.

It would say how everyone in Australia should have their rights met.

It is an idea people in Australia are talking about.

It is **not** a law yet.



The Council talked about how a Human Rights Act could make sure people with disability

- Have their rights met.



10. A new **guide** called Involving People with Disability in **Evaluation**.

A guide is a group of ideas about how to do something.



Evaluation means you look at

- Went well
- Could be done better.

You can do an evaluation of a

- Service
- Program
- Plan.



The guide is about how to include people with disability in an evaluation.



DSS will write the guide in 2025.

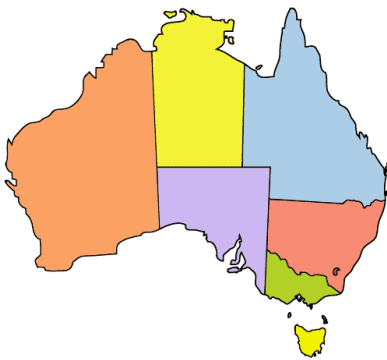
What the Council heard about



People on the Council shared work they had done

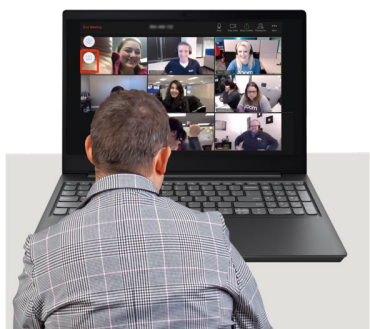
- Since the October meeting
- For **International Day of People with Disability**.

This is sometimes called IDPwD for short.



Members shared updates about what happened in each

- State
- Territory.



Jane organised a meeting for the **Jurisdictional Disability Advisory Leads**.

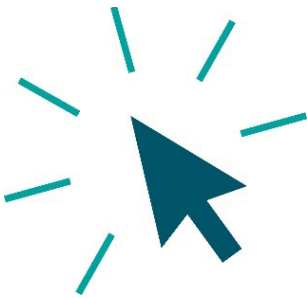
This was a meeting with Disability Advisory Councils from each

- State
- Territory.

Members shared information and ideas.



The next Council meeting is on **13 March 2025**.



Go to the Council website if you need more information.

www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads/advisory-council



You can email us.

adsadvisorycouncil@dss.gov.au

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