

The new National Disability Strategy

What people wrote to us about

Easy Read report



How to use this report



This report is from the Australian Government. When you see the word 'we', it means the Australian Government.



We wrote this report in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Not Bold
Bold

We have written some words in **bold**. This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean. There is a list of these words on page 34.



This Easy Read document is a summary of another document. This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other document on our website at www.dss.gov.au/disability-and-carers-a-new-national-disability-strategy/reports

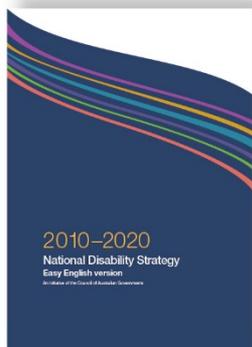


You can ask for help to read this report. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

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What is the National Disability Strategy?



The *National Disability Strategy 2010–2020* is a plan to make life better for people with disability.

We call it ‘the Strategy’.

The Strategy talks about what we can do to make Australia more:



- **inclusive**



- **accessible.**



If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.

If something is accessible, everyone can use it. This might be:



- a place or a building
- transport
- a service
- information
- a website.



Governments across Australia are working together to create a new strategy.

What is this report about?



To help us write a new Strategy, we asked people what they think should be in it.



We asked people what they thought about our **position paper**.



A position paper is a summary of what might be in the new Strategy.



We also asked people what they thought about our **outcomes framework**.



The outcomes framework helps us understand how well some things work for people with disability.

They are a way to keep track of:



- people with disability reaching their goals



- how we know people with disability have reached their goals



- how much things changed over time.

We also talked to experts about the new Strategy, including:



- researchers



- academics – people who work at universities.

In this report we explain what:



- we asked people



- they told us.

Ideas about our position paper



In 2020, we asked people what they thought about our position paper.



237 people and organisations answered our questions.



People told us they were happy with the main parts of the Strategy.



They were also happy with the ideas for the new Strategy.



People told us we need to focus on improving community attitudes about people with disability.



Attitudes are what you:

- think
- feel
- believe.



People also told us we need to be more open about what governments do as part of the Strategy.



People also told us we should involve more people with disability in the new Strategy.

Our vision and outcome areas



We asked people what they thought about the **vision** of the Strategy.



The vision of the Strategy is what we think the future should be like for people with disability.



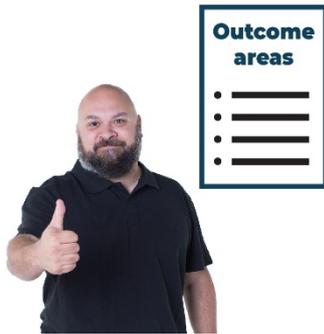
Almost everyone we asked said they like the vision of the Strategy.



We asked people what they thought about the **outcome areas** of the Strategy.



Outcome areas are ideas about how to make life better for people with disability.



People told us they like the outcome areas.



They also gave us some ideas for new outcome areas.



They told us changing community attitudes towards people with disability could help them be included.



They told us it is important that people with disability can find the right housing.



They also told us how the problems people with disability face often affect other areas of their life.

Our guiding principles



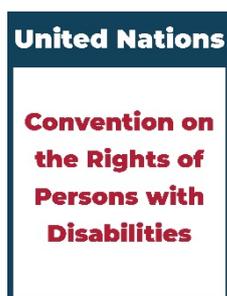
We asked people what they thought about our guiding principles.



Guiding principles are important ideas we want to put in the new Strategy.



Lots of people said it is important for the principles to be based on ideas from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN Convention).



The UN Convention sets out the rights of people with disability.
It explains how people with disability should be treated fairly.



Rights are rules about how everyone should be treated fairly.



Lots of people said we should focus on how important the rights of people with disability are.



This includes rights like choice and control.

Community attitudes



We asked people what they thought about community attitudes.



Almost every person said we should focus on changing community attitudes towards people with disability.

People said they would like the community to:



- understand more about people with disability



- have better attitudes towards people with disability.

Clear roles for the new Strategy



We asked people what we should include in the new Strategy.

We must be clear about what:



- governments need to do



- other organisations can do.



People told us that we should clearly explain:

- what governments do
- how governments support people with disability.



They said this could help people with disability find and use the services and supports they need.



People said governments should work together to help make life better for people with disability.



People also said the new Strategy should include how other organisations help make life better for people with disability.

Making sure the new Strategy works well



We asked people how we can make sure the new Strategy works well.

This includes writing:



- reports about how well the new Strategy is working



- action plans that say exactly what governments can do.



Most people thought these documents were a good idea.

People said these documents need to include:



- goals that governments must reach



- what governments need to tell people.

They also said people with disability should take part in:



- writing these documents



- making sure governments follow these documents.

Including people with disability in the new Strategy



We asked people what they thought about an Engagement Plan.



The Engagement Plan will talk about how to include people with disability in making sure the Strategy works.

People said they liked the idea of an Engagement Plan that includes:



- people with disability



- disability organisations.

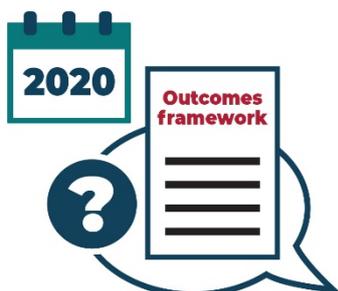


People said it is important for people with disability to take part in writing the Engagement Plan.



People also said it's important to work with other groups that support people with disability.

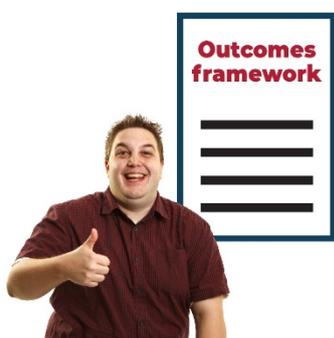
Ideas about our outcomes framework



In 2020, we also asked people what they thought about our outcomes framework.



74 people and organisations answered our questions.



People told us they were happy with the main parts of the outcomes framework.



We asked people what **data** we should keep track of to make sure the new Strategy is working well.

When we talk about data, we mean:



- facts



- information



- records.

This includes data about the:



- new Strategy



- **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).**



The NDIS is a way the Australian Government supports people with disability.



We will collect data about people with disability taking part in the community.

People said we should focus on data about:



- accessible information



- community attitudes.



We will collect data about people with disability working and earning money.

People said we should focus on data about:



- jobs and employment



- how accessible **workplaces** are.

Workplaces are any place you work,
such as:



- an office



- a factory



- a shop.



We will collect data about people with
disability staying healthy and looking
after their wellbeing.

People said we should focus on data about:



- health services and supports



- how healthcare workers support people with disability.



We will collect data about the rights of people with disability.

People said we should focus on data about:



- safety



- support for making decisions



- **advocacy.**



Advocacy is when someone speaks up for someone who can't speak up for themselves.



We will collect data about people with disability learning new skills.

People said we should focus on data about:



- support to learn new skills



- being inclusive.



We will collect data about supports and services for people with disability.

People said we should focus on data about how:



- easy it is to find and use supports and services



- well services work



- community services work with NDIS services.



We will also write reports about how well the new Strategy and the NDIS are working.



People said we should publish these reports every year.



They also said it was important to use these reports to check if things are working well.



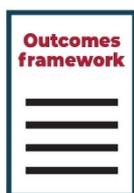
These reports could also tell us how well things work for different groups of people with disability, such as men or women.

Ideas from researchers and academics

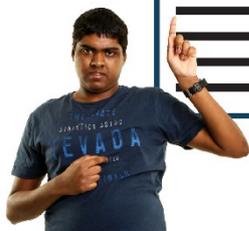
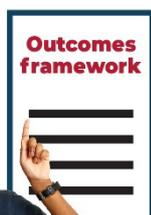


In 2020 we also talked to researchers and academics about our outcomes framework.

In this document, we call them experts.



Experts told us they support the outcomes framework.



Experts said it is important to include people with disability when we introduce the outcomes framework.



Experts also said setting goals is an important way to start making life better for people with disability.



Experts said it's important to give this data to people with disability.

Experts also said it's important to make sure we put money towards:



- collecting data



- finding better data.



Experts said it is important to share data about different groups of people with disability.

Word list

Not Bold Bold

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



Accessible

If something is accessible, everyone can use it. This might be:

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Advocacy

Advocacy is when someone speaks up for someone who can't speak up for themselves.



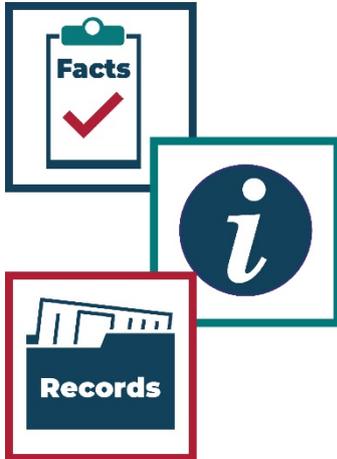
Attitudes

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Data

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Guiding principles

Guiding principles are important ideas we want to put in the new strategy.



Inclusive

If something is inclusive, everyone can take part.



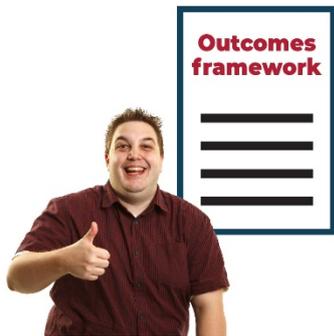
National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS is a way the Australian Government supports people with disability.



Outcome areas

Outcome areas are ideas about how to make life better for people with disability.



Outcomes framework

The outcomes framework helps us understand how well some things work for people with disability.



Position paper

A position paper is a summary of what might be in the new strategy.



Rights

Rights are rules about how everyone should be treated fairly.



Vision

The vision of the Strategy is what we think the future should be like for people with disability.

Workplaces

Workplaces are any place you work, such as:



- an office
- a factory
- a shop.



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