



## National Autism Strategy Reference Group Meeting Summary

### Online, 19 May 2026

The second meeting of the National Autism Strategy Reference Group (Reference Group) was held online on 19 May 2026.

The Reference Group agreed to taking on an oversight role for the *National Roadmap to Improve the Health and Mental Health of Autistic People 2025-2035* (Roadmap), noting that the Roadmap addresses the fourth outcome area of the *National Autism Strategy 2025-31* (Strategy). Members discussed opportunities to align implementation of the Roadmap and the Strategy, taking a whole-of-person approach to improving life outcomes for Autistic people and strengthening capability across mainstream systems. Members noted the Roadmap draws attention to several critical issues, including mental health risks among Autistic people and the prevalence of reported sexual violence affecting Autistic girls and women.

Members noted the progress of work on key elements of the First Action Plan, including the development of a Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy, research on defining neurodiversity affirming care for Autistic people and projects under the Economic Inclusion outcome area.

Members noted the key findings and recommendations from this work and provided feedback informed by their expertise and lived experience, including how the findings could be applied in future work. Members also discussed opportunities for collaboration and consultation across government, the Autistic and autism communities, and the broader disability community.

Further information about the Strategy, First Action Plan and the Reference Group is available here: [National Autism Strategy | Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing](#).