



Royal Commission
into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation
of People with Disability

Guiding government plans

Easy Read version



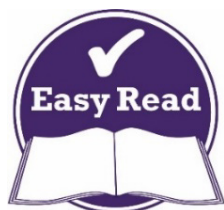
Final Report
Volume 5

How to use this report



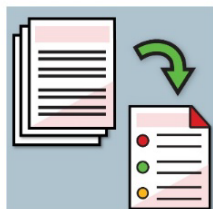
The Disability Royal Commission
(the Royal Commission) wrote this report.

When you see the word 'we', it means
the Royal Commission.



We wrote this report in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



This report is a **summary** of Part 5 of our *Final report*.

A summary only includes the most important ideas.



In the *Final report*, Part 5 is called
Governing for inclusion.



We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 22.



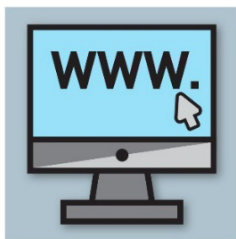
You can ask for help to read this report.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.



Our *Final report* is in 12 parts.

This is Part 5 – Guiding government plans.



You can find the rest of the *Final report* on our website.

www.disability.royalcommission.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country



We recognise First Nations peoples as the traditional owners of the land we live on – Australia.



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

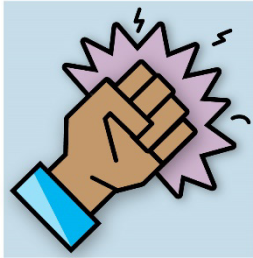
- land
- waters.

What's in Part 5?

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| Strategies and plans governments use now | 10 |
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What is the Disability Royal Commission?

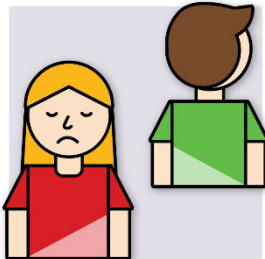
We wanted to work out the best ways to stop people with disability from experiencing:



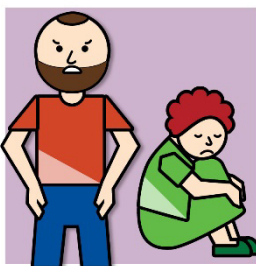
- **violence** – when someone hurts you physically



- **abuse** – when someone treats you badly



- **neglect** – when someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you



- **exploitation** – when someone takes advantage of you.



People with disability should have the same **rights** as everybody else.

Rights are rules that say you can choose how you live your own life.

And they explain how other people must treat you.



On 5 April 2019, the Australian Government created the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability.

We call it the **Royal Commission**.



A Royal Commission is an official way of looking into a big problem.

It helps us to work out what went wrong and what we need to improve.



The Royal Commission finished on 29 September 2023.



We have shared what we learned.



The last thing we need to do is share what we **recommend**.

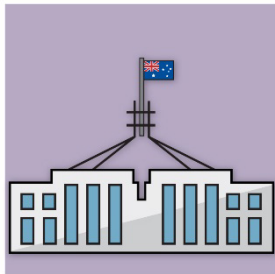
When we recommend something, we share an idea about how to make things better for people with disability.

What's Part 5 about?

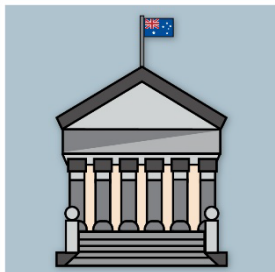


Part 5 is about what governments can do to support people with disability around Australia.

This includes:



- the Australian Government



- state and territory governments.



Governments use **disability strategies** to make life better for people with disability.

Disability strategies tell us about:



- what governments should do to improve life for people with disability



- what each government needs to do.



Governments also use disability plans.



Plans give us more information about all of the things that different governments will do to make life better for people with disability.



Part 5 looks into how well disability strategies and plans have been working.



And what governments can do to make them better.



Governments also use disability agreements to explain how they should work together.



Part 5 looks into how well disability agreements have been working.

And how governments can improve them.

Strategies and plans governments use now

The government uses disability strategies and plans to protect people with disability from:



- violence
- abuse
- neglect
- exploitation.



And different governments agree about how they will work together, including:

- the Australian Government
- state and territory governments.

Australia's Disability Strategy



Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 is a strategy to make things better for people with disability in all areas of their life.

We call it the ADS.



The Department of Social Services is in charge of the ADS.



It explains the goals that governments must work towards.

And it affects all of Australia.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)



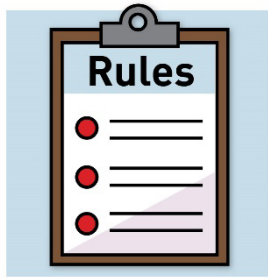
Governments have worked to build the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) around Australia since 2013.



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

It is an important part of how governments achieve the goals in their disability strategies and plans.

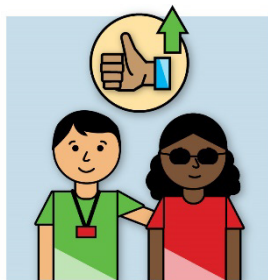
How we know if strategies and plans are working



Disability strategies and plans include rules about what government departments need to report to the government.



These reports need to say how well different parts of the government are working towards the goals in the ADS.



And the reports must say whether life is getting better for people with disability.

How governments can improve disability strategies and plans



Some important issues mean that disability strategies and plans aren't working as well as they should.

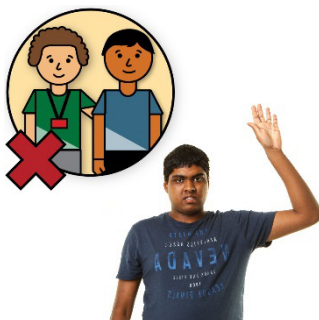


And this can mean people with disability don't get to lead as good a life as people without disability.



Many people with disability are confused about what:

- the NDIS should do
- other government services should do.



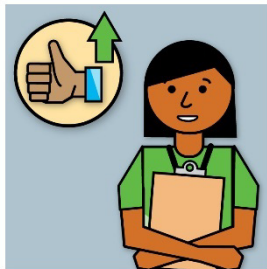
Many people with disability can't get support from services that people without disability use.

And they should be able to.

Because of these issues, governments should:



- create better disability strategies and plans



- improve services so that people with disability can use them too



- find new ways to work together.

Governments should make sure the community:



- treats people with disability as equals



- supports the rights of people with disability



- is **inclusive**.



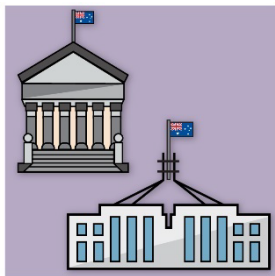
When the community is inclusive, everyone feels:

- included
- like they belong.

What we recommend



We recommend governments make a new National Disability Agreement.



It should include:

- state and territory governments
- the Australian Government.

The National Disability Agreement should support governments to:



- fix issues explained in disability strategies and plans

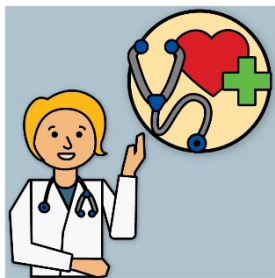


- work together to make life better for people with disability around Australia.



Governments should also make sure they update disability strategies and plans to include what we recommend in our *Final report*.

This includes improving the ADS.



People with disability use government services that support everyone in the community.

For example, health care services.



Policies about these services must think about people with disability.

They should have rules about how these services should support people with disability to use their service too.

How governments can make sure disability strategies and plans work

It is important that governments check:



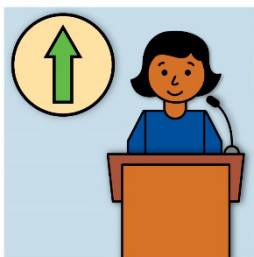
- how people are working towards the goals in disability strategies and plans



- if disability strategies and plans are making life better for people with disability.



Governments are getting better at doing this.



But they can still do more.



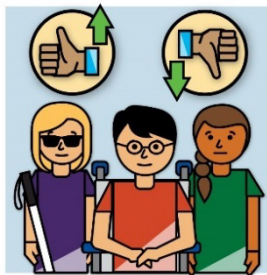
Governments also need leaders who will make sure disability strategies and plans are working.

What we recommend



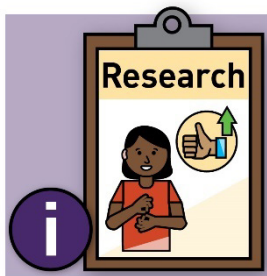
We recommend creating a new National Disability Commission.

A person with disability should run the National Disability Commission.



The National Disability Commission should check if life for people with disability gets:

- better
- worse.



It should also share information and research about how to make life better for people with disability.



The National Disability Commission should also make sure governments do what we recommend in our *Final report*.

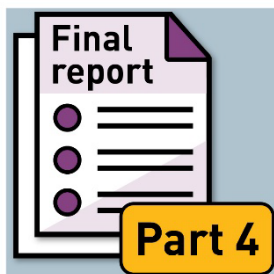


This includes:

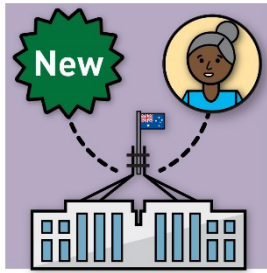
- creating the Disability Rights Act
- following the Disability Rights Act.



The Disability Rights Act will explain how governments should protect the rights of people with disability.



You can learn more about the Disability Rights Act in Part 4 of our *Final report*.



We also recommend that the Australian Government should create a new government department.

The new department should manage policies and programs for:



- people with disability



- their carers.

Word list

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



Abuse

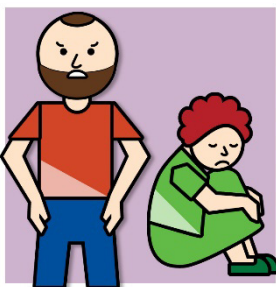
Abuse is when someone treats you badly.



Disability strategies

Disability strategies tell us about:

- what governments should do to improve life for people with disability
- what each government needs to do.



Exploitation

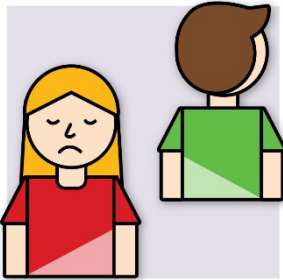
Exploitation is when someone takes advantage of you.



Inclusive

When the community is inclusive, everyone feels:

- included
- like they belong.



Neglect

Neglect is when someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you.



Recommend

When we recommend something, we share an idea about how to make things better for people with disability.



Rights

Rights are rules that say you can choose how you live your own life.

And they explain how other people must treat you.



Royal Commission

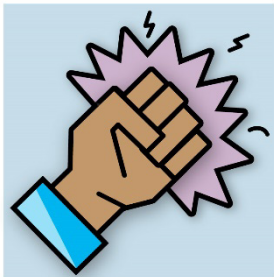
A Royal Commission is an official way of looking into a big problem.

It helps us to work out what went wrong and what we need to fix.



Summary

A summary only includes the most important ideas.



Violence

Violence is when someone hurts you physically.

Support for you



Lifeline is a service for people at risk of suicide.

This is when someone ends their own life.



You can call Lifeline any time.

13 11 14



You can use Lifeline's online chat to talk to someone.

www.lifeline.org.au/crisis-chat



Beyond Blue is a service that can support you with your mental health.



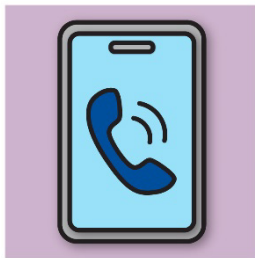
You can call them any time.

1300 224 636

1800Respect is a phone service for people around Australia who experience:



- domestic and family violence
- sexual violence.



You can call them any time.

1800 737 732



Qlife is a service that supports people in the LGBTIQ+ community with their mental health.



You can call them any day from 3pm to 12am.

1800 184 527

Contact us



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

The Disability Royal Commission has ended.

If you have questions, you can contact
the Attorney-General's Department.



You can call them.

(02) 6141 6666



Or you can use the form on their website.

www.ag.gov.au/about-us/connect-us/contact-us



You can also contact them to make a complaint.

This is when you explain that something:

- has gone wrong
- isn't working well.

Support to contact the Attorney-General's Department



You can call the National Relay Service.

133 677



You can visit the Access Hub website to find the right service for you.

www.accesshub.gov.au/services



If you speak a language other than English, you can call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS).

1800 131 450

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Royal Commission
into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and
Exploitation of People with Disability