



Creating
an inclusive
community
together

We want to know what you think

Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031

Our guiding principles

An Easy Read paper



How to use this paper



The Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS) wrote this paper.

When you see the word 'we', it means DSS.



We wrote this paper in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold

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

Not 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 32.



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



You can find the other paper on our website.

<https://engage.dss.gov.au/ads-consultations-develop-guide-evaluation>



You can ask for help to read this paper.

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

What's in this paper?

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What is this paper about?



Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 is a plan to support people with disability in all areas of their life.

In this paper we call it the Strategy.



The Strategy has 8 **guiding principles**.

Guiding principles are important ideas we should always think about.

In this paper, we just call them principles.



These principles focus on the **rights** of people with disability.

Rights are rules about how everyone should be treated fairly and equally.



These principles help everyone make sure they include people with disability.

The principles are for:



- all levels of government



- businesses



- the community.



And they must use these principles for any new project.

For example, creating new buildings or services for Australians.



All levels of government are making a guide to help people follow these principles.



And we want to make sure the guide includes the most important things for people with disability.



We want to know what you think about the principles, including what:

- works well
- can be better.

How to tell us what you think



In this paper we:

- talk about our ideas
- ask questions.



We want to know what you think about our ideas.

There is no right or wrong answer.

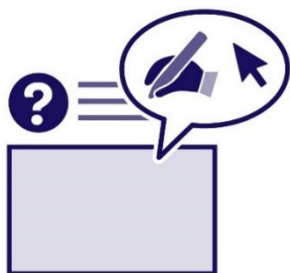
You can answer:



- all our questions



- some of our questions.



There is a box below each question where you can share your answers.



You can write your answers in this document and send it to us by email.

disabilityreform@dss.gov.au



You can also send us a video or voice recording by email.

disabilityreform@dss.gov.au



You can email us what you think.

disabilityreform@dss.gov.au

You can write to us.



Australia's Disability Strategy Governance and
Engagement Section

GPO Box 9820

Department of Social Services

Canberra, ACT 2601



You can tell us what you think on the
DSS Engage website.

[https://engage.dss.gov.au/ads-consultations-
develop-guide-evaluation](https://engage.dss.gov.au/ads-consultations-develop-guide-evaluation)



Please tell us what you think before
Wednesday 30 November 2022 at 11:59 pm.



We want to share your answers online.



But if you do not want us to share your answers,
please tell us.



If you have any questions about this paper,
you can email us.

disabilityreform@dss.gov.au



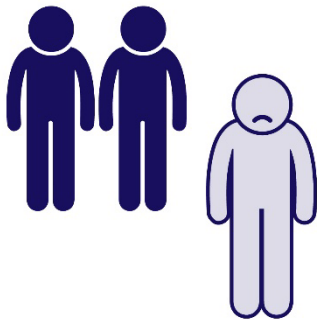
Or you can call us.

1800 334 505

The Strategy's principles



1. People should be able to make their own choices.



2. People should be safe from **discrimination**.

Discrimination is when you treat someone badly because of something about them they can't change.



3. People with disability should have the same rights as anyone else to take part in the community.



4. People with disability should be treated with respect.



5. Everyone should get equal chances to do what they want to do.



6. Everyone should be able to find and use the same things.



7. All people with disability should get equal chances to do what they want to do. Even if they have different experiences.

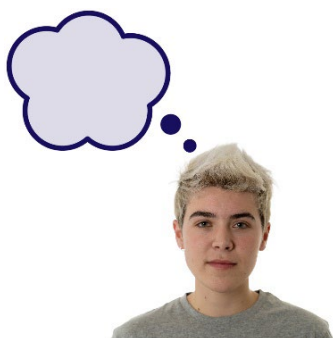


This includes people with different disabilities.

It also includes people from different:



- places
- communities
- backgrounds.



And it includes people of different **genders**.

Your gender is what you feel and understand about who you are as a person.

It isn't about whether your body is male or female.



8. Children with disability should be treated with respect as they grow older.

Questions for you to think about



What do you think about our principles?



Are there any more principles we should include?



On the following pages, you can share what you think about each principle.



We want to know what you think:

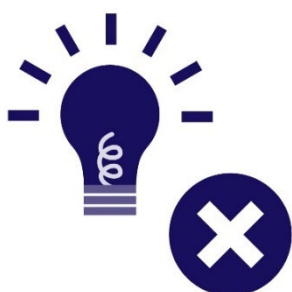
- works well
- can be better.



Please share examples and stories.



For example, you can tell us about a time that someone followed our principles.



Or you can tell us about a time when someone didn't follow our principles.



Sharing your stories and experiences can be hard.



If you need help or support, there are services you can contact.



Their contact details are on page 25.

Principle 1



Principle 1: people should be able to make their own choices.



What do you think about principle 1?

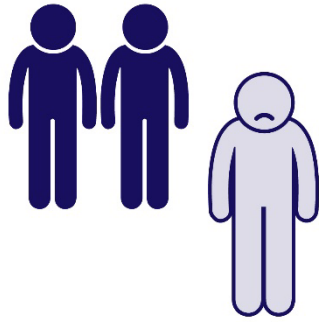
Do you have any examples or stories to share?



What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

Principle 2



Principle 2: people should be safe from discrimination.

What do you think about principle 2?



Do you have examples or stories to share?

What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

Principle 3



Principle 3: people with disability should have the same rights as anyone else to take part in the community.



What do you think about principle 3?

Do you have any examples or stories to share?



What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

Principle 4



Principle 4: people with disability should be treated with respect.



What do you think about principle 4?

Do you have any examples or stories to share?

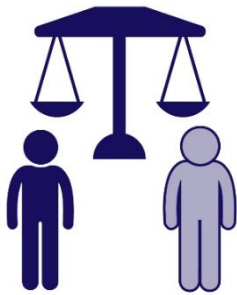


What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

A large, empty rectangular box with a dark blue border, intended for users to write their responses or share their stories.

Principle 5



Principle 5: everyone should get equal chances to do what they want to do.



What do you think about principle 5?

Do you have any examples or stories to share?



What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

Principle 6



Principle 6: everyone should be able to find and use the same things.



What do you think about principle 6?

Do you have any examples or stories to share?



What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

A large, empty rectangular box with a purple border, intended for writing responses to the questions above.

Principle 7



Principle 7: all people with disability should get equal chances to do what they want to do.

Even if they have different experiences.



What do you think about principle 7?

Do you have any examples or stories to share?



What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

Principle 8



Principle 8: children with disability should be treated with respect as they grow older.



What do you think about principle 8?

Do you have any examples or stories to share?



What do you think:

- works well?
- needs to change?

Support for you

Triple Zero



000

If you are in danger now, you should call

Triple Zero.



000

1800Respect

1800Respect is a phone service for people who are hurt by someone close to them, such as:



- their partner or ex-partner
- someone who lives with them
- someone who cares for them.



You can call them any time.

They are available 24 hours, 7 days a week.



1800 737 732

The National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline



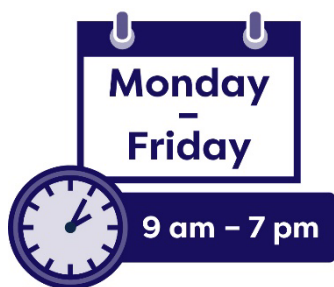
The National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline is a service for people with disability who experience:

- abuse – when someone treats you badly
- neglect – when someone isn't helping you the way they are supposed to.



You can call them.

1800 880 052



You can call them from
9 am to 7 pm, Monday to Friday.

Lifeline



Lifeline is a service for people at risk of suicide.

This is when someone ends their own life.



You can call them any time.

They are available 24 hours, 7 days a week.



13 11 14

Suicide Call Back Service



The Suicide Call Back Service is another service that can people at risk of suicide.

This is when someone ends their own life.



You can call them any time.

They are available 24 hours, 7 days a week.



1300 659 467

Beyond Blue



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



You can call them any time.

They are available 24 hours, 7 days a week.



1300 224 636

MensLine



MensLine is a service that can support men with family and relationship problems.



You can call them any time.

They are available 24 hours, 7 days a week.



1300 78 99 78

Advocates



An **advocate** is someone who speaks up for people with disability.



They can help you:

- sort out problems
- make decisions
- understand information.

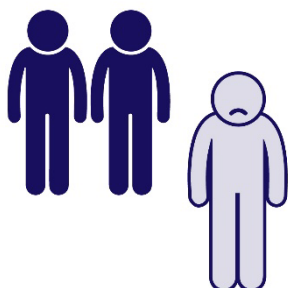


You can find your local advocate on the Ask Izzy website.

askizzy.org.au/disability-advocacy-finder

Word list

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



Discrimination

Discrimination is when you treat someone badly because of something about them they can't change.



Genders

Your gender is what you feel and understand about who you are as a person.

It isn't about whether your body is male or female.



Guiding principles

Guiding principles are important ideas we should always think about.



Rights

Rights are rules about how everyone should be treated fairly and equally.



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