# National Autism Strategy

The Draft National Autism Strategywill be released for public consultation in early 2024. A final version will be released at the end of 2024.

The Draft Strategy contains:

* The **long-term vision** – an ambitious statement outlining what the National Autism Strategy is seeking to achieve.
* **Outcome areas** – areas of focus for the Strategy.
* **Commitments** – these are the high-level commitments the Strategy will deliver on.

# 1st Action Plan

**Short-term (i.e. the first year)**

A one-year plan aimed at building a solid foundation.

Includes: Short-term actions.

Evaluation and engagement to inform development of the next Action Plan.

# 2nd Action Plan

**Medium-term (the next few years)**

A three-year plan focusing on Specific actions or activities which achieve Commitments.

Builds on 1st Action Plan and includes medium-term actions.

Evaluation and engagement to inform development of the next Action Plan.

# 3rd Action Plan

**Longer term (longer term actions)**

A three-year plan to achieve Commitments.

Builds on 1st and 2nd Action Plans and includes long-term actions.

Continual engagement with Autistic people and the community including governance arrangements, public consultation opportunities to contribute to action plans and in evaluations.

## Theory of change: How and why actions will lead to improved life outcomes for Autistic Australians.

* The Commitments and actions in the Action Plans need to be clear on the issue they are trying to address and what actions will work to make a difference.

## Evaluation Framework: Outlines the method and timeline for evaluations.

* The evaluations will occur towards the end of each Action Plan to inform the development of the next Action Plan.
* A full evaluation will occur at the end of the Strategy.
* The Autistic and autism community and sector will be re-engaged in evaluations to inform if change is being achieved.

## Monitoring and reporting: Measure progress towards the vision and outcomes

* This will be done on a regular basis to measure the implementation and progress against the Action Plans.

[**Subscribe**](https://engage.dss.gov.au/developing-the-national-autism-strategy/#subscribe)to be kept updated on the development of the National Autism Strategy.

\*This is a draft Strategy and not yet agreed by Government. The final Strategy will be considered by Government in late 2024.

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