Disability Advocacy Work Plan 2023 to 2025

February 2025



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| Australian Government logo | All governments worked together on this.  When you see the word **we** it means   * Australian Government * State and territory governments. |
| A person holding a white book with easy read on the cover | We wrote this in an easy to read way.  We use pictures to explain some ideas. |
| The word bold is in bold and the words not bold are in plain text | We have some words in **bold**.  This means the letters are thicker and darker.  These are important words. |
| An easy read document with pictures and lines for text. | This is an Easy Read summary of another document.  This means it has the most important ideas. |
| a teal icon of a computer mouse clicking | You can go to our website to look at the document.  [www.dss.gov.au/national-disability-advocacy-framework](https://www.dss.gov.au/national-disability-advocacy-framework) |
| Two people with their arms around each other with thumbs up. | You can ask for help to read this document.  You can ask   * A friend * Family members * A support person. |
| image of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags in the background | We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the **Traditional Owners** of the land we live on. |
| teal map of australia | They were the **first people** to live on and use the   * Land * Waters. |

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About our Work Plan

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| Man in a blue shirt holding a white sheet of paper with Disability Advocacy Framework 2023 to 2025 on the front. | We wrote the National Disability Advocacy Framework 2023 to 2025.  We call it the Framework for short. |
| Four diverse individuals, three standing and one in a wheelchair, raising their hands in front of speech bubbles. | The Framework is about disability **advocacy**.  Advocacy is when someone supports you to speak up for your **rights**. |
| A group of people in white t-shirts giving thumbs up | Rights are **rules** about treating everyone   * Fair * Equal. |
| Young man in a suit with a thoughtful expression, hand on temple. | Disability advocacy supports people with disability to take part in   * Decisions about them |
| A diverse group of five individuals, including a person in a wheelchair and a person with crutches, standing together and smiling. | * The community |
| Woman standing with six smaller images of different people and settings surrounding her, connected by lines. | * Services and support. |
| Elderly person in an orange jacket holding a clipboard with an information icon and giving a thumbs-up. | The Framework also has information about disability advocacy services. |
| Two women, one standing and one seated, engaged in an activity with manila envelopes at a table. | Disability advocacy services   * Support you * Help you to have your say * Give you information and advice. |
| A diverse group of people interacting with speech bubbles overhead. | The Framework will help the government work together to make advocacy services better.  That is   * Australian Government * State and territory governments. |
| a person in a blue jumper pointing at paper that says disability advocacy work plan 2023 to 2025 | To help us reach our **goals** in the Framework we made the **Disability Advocacy Work Plan 2023 to 2025.**  We call it the Work Plan for short. |
| a person pointing with the word goals at the bottom | Goals are things you want to do.  The Work Plan says how we will reach the goals in the Framework. |
| Woman in black blazer pointing at number 1 on a whiteboard with numbers 1, 2, and 3. | Governments can choose what parts of the Work Plan they want to work on. |

What we want Australia to be in the future

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| Two men interacting, one standing and one seated in a wheelchair. | We want people with disability to find and use disability advocacy services that   * Supports them |
| A diverse group of five people standing closely together, smiling, and holding hands. | * Protects them |
| Three people standing in front of a house and a church, one in a wheelchair, under a tree. | * Helps them take part in the community |
| A man in a blue sweater and glasses stands next to a woman in a grey sweater. | * Makes sure everyone respects their rights. |

Why we created the Framework and Work Plan

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| Man scratching head while reading a booklet with a question mark above his head. | There are some **gaps** in what we know about disability advocacy in Australia.  Gaps are the difference between   * What currently happens * What should happen. |
| 2 people looking confuse with a speech bubble above their head with a question mark and people with speech bubble above them | Some of the gaps are  There is no way to check   * Who needs advocacy services but can **not** find them. |
| 2 people looking confused with a speech bubbe above their head with a  question mark and map of Australia | * The places that should have advocacy services. |
| 2 people looking confused with a speech bubble above their head with a question mark and fanned out money. | * How much **funding** different advocacy services get.   Funding is money from the government to pay for supports and services. |
| teal icon of parliament house | Governments give funding to disability advocacy services   * In different ways * For different reasons. |

How will the Work Plan help

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| Person in a wheelchair holding a clipboard with a green check mark, smiling and giving a thumbs-up. | The Framework and the Work Plan are part of how the governments will work together.  They are doing this to make disability advocacy better. |
| A man leaning towards a smiling woman in a pink wheelchair with a thought bubble above them with a map of Australia with different colours for each state | We will think about what each local area needs when we use the Framework and Work Plan. |
| A diverse group of people interacting with speech bubbles overhead. | Governments will be able to work together more in the future.  This will make good change across Australia. |
| Two colleagues discussing a document in a professional setting. | We will check the Framework and Work Plan often to make sure they are up to date. |

Work areas

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| Three people using magnifying glasses to examine something closely. | Our Work Plan has areas we want to focus on.  We call them our work areas. |
| Person holding a clipboard with a completed checklist. | We have 6 work areas.  They support the Framework. |
| Three ring binders in red, blue, and green. with a green tick | Our work areas will help us collect evidence about disability advocacy in Australia.  The evidence will help us make disability advocacy better. |

Work area 1

Checking how well we reach our goals

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| a person pointing with the word goals at the bottom | The framework has goals we want to reach. |
| Two women standing beside a flip chart, both pointing at it with markers. the flip chart has a person pointing with the word goals at the bottom | We want to find a way to know how well we are reaching our goals. |
| Two people presenting a bar graph on a flip chart. | We also want to collect data so we can tell people about how well we are reaching our goals. |
| 2 calendar icons with the dates January 2024 and June 2025. an arrow pointing from one to the other | We will work on this area between   * January 2024 * June 2025. |

Work area 2

Check how we collect data

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| Person in a wheelchair pointing at a bar chart on a whiteboard. Person in a blue hoodie pointing at a colorful pie chart with a black pointer. | People and organisations deliver disability advocacy in different ways across Australia.  They also have different ways to collect data about disability advocacy. |
| Three people examining a chart on a table. | We want to check how everyone collects data.  We want everyone to agree on 1 way that everyone can collect data. |
| Six gray silhouettes of human heads arranged in a circle with a question mark in the center. | The data might tell us who   * Uses disability advocacy services |
| Person in a pink shirt thinking with a thought bubble above their head. in the thought bubble is Four diverse individuals, three standing and one in a wheelchair, raising their hands in front of speech bubbles. | * Would like to use disability advocacy services. |
| Four diverse individuals, three standing and one in a wheelchair, raising their hands in front of speech bubbles with a green tick in front | This will help make sure we are working together to make disability advocacy better across Australia. |
| 2 calendar icons with the dates April 2024 to June 2025. an arrow pointing from one to the other | We will work on this area between   * April 2024 * June 2025. |

Work area 3

Make a map of disability advocacy services

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| teal icon of Australia | We want to make a map of disability advocacy services in Australia. |
| Man with a puzzled expression and raised arms wearing a white t-shirt with a question mark. | We want our map to include   * Where people can find and use advocacy services |
| A person with a puzzled expression and open arms, standing next to a large question mark. | * Where the gaps are * What types of people use advocacy services. |
| 2 calendar icons with the dates October 2023 and December 2024. an arrow pointing from one to the other | We will work on this area between   * October 2023 * December 2024. |

Work area 4

Make shared resources for advocacy services

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| Two women sitting and conversing, with one taking notes. | We want to support people who deliver advocacy services. |
| Booklet titled 'Booklet' with a photo of a person reading and a compact disc beside it. | We can do this by sharing resources that we know work well. |
| teal information icon | We also want to support people to share information about disability advocacy. |
| 2 calendar icons with the dates October 2023 and February 2025. an arrow pointing from one to the other | We will work on this area between   * October 2023 * February 2025. |

Work area 5

Check how funding works

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| Two colleagues discussing a document in a professional setting. | We want to check how governments fund disability advocacy. |
| Woman pointing at a sign on an easel that reads 'More Info Here'. | We will collect information from other work areas.  We will use it to think about how funding could work better. |
| Two people smiling at each other with an thought bubble above their heads. the thought bubble has fanned out money and a stopwatch | We will work together to   * Think of ways for funding to last for a long time |
| Calendar with a clock showing 3:00 and a question mark. fanned out money | * Make it easier for disability advocacy services to know when they can get funding. |
| A diverse group of eight people, including one in a wheelchair, standing together and interacting. | This will help more people with disability to be able to get the advocacy services they need. |
| 2 calendar icons with the dates July 2024 and June 2025. an arrow pointing from one to the other | We will work on this area between   * July 2024 * June 2025. |

Work area 6

Support culturally safe advocacy

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| illustration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the flags in the background | Culturally safe means respecting peoples   * Rights * Cultures * Traditions.   This helps people feel safe to be themselves. |
| illustration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with speech bubbles above their heads | We want to make sure First Nations people with disability can   * Find * Use   Culturally safe disability advocacy services. |
| illustration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, 2 sitting at a desk and 1 standing | We do this by   * Training people who deliver advocacy services * Giving them what they need to do a good job. |
| illustration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 2 sitting on green bench seats and 1 standing talking | This will help First Nations people to   * Become leaders * Speak up for people with disability. |
| 2 calendar icons with the dates February 2024 and March 2025. an arrow pointing from one to the other | We will work on this area between   * February 2024 * March 2025. |

Checking the Framework and Work Plan

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| A group of five people having a discussion around a table, with one person standing and holding a document. | The **Disability Reform Ministerial Council** will check the Framework and the Work Plan.  We call them the DRMC for short. |
| Four individuals standing side by side holding ID cards. | The DRMC has disability **ministers** from across Australia on it.  A minister is a leader in an area of the government. |
| Calendar date showing April 21. | The DRMC agreed to the Framework and Work Plan on 21 April 2023. |
| Spiral-bound notebook with 'Annual Report' title and a 'Y' emblem on the cover. | The government will give reports to the DRMC about how they are reaching the goals in the   * Framework * Work Plan.   They will give reports to the DRMC every year. |
| Calendar icon displaying the year 2025 with a green header. | The Framework will finish at the end of 2025. |
| A man writing in a notebook and a woman examining something with a magnifying glass. | We will check the Framework and Work Plan over 2025.  We will find out how well they worked. |
| Three people giving thumbs-up, wearing professional attire and ID badges. | We will use information from other government   * Programs * **Strategies**. |
| A roadmap with calendar pages from March to June, showing steps in a journey. | Strategies are plans with steps to reach goals for something. |
| Australia's DIsability Strategy logo | This includes information about how well Australia’s Disability Strategy worked.  We call it ADS for short. |
| A paper with 'Policy' written on it and a green checkmark. | The Framework and Work Plan will work with other government   * Plans * **Policies**.   Policies are plans for how to do things. |

Updating the Framework and Work Plan

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| Wooden rubber stamp with 'UPDATE' and circular arrow icon in green ink. | We will keep updating the Framework and Work Plan. |
| Close-up of two people shaking hands. | In February 2025 the **DRMC** agreed to update the Work Plan. |
| an icon of a document with DRC and lines for text | The Work Plan was updated using the **recommendations** from the **Disability Royal Commission**  We call it DRC for short. |
| Smiling man in a wheelchair pointing upward with a light bulb illustration. | Recommendations are ideas to do things better. |
| a book with NDIS review on the cover | The Work Plan was updated using the recommendations from the **NDIS Review**. |
| Man looking through a magnifying glass while wearing a blue checkered shirt. | A review is when you **check** what   * Works * Needs to **change**. |
| Two elderly individuals smiling and giving thumbs-up. | We have looked at the recommendations of the NDIS Review.  Some can be supported by working on the   * Framework * Work Plan. |

Working with the community in the future

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| Group of five diverse individuals with disabilities smiling and standing together. | We want to work with people with disability when we do things that affect them. |
| Three people giving thumbs-up, one holding a whiteboard, one in a wheelchair. | This includes making   * Programs |
| A paper with 'Policy' written on it and a green checkmark. | * Policies. |
| A diverse group of people interacting with speech bubbles overhead. | We will keep working with people with disability while we use the Work Plan. |
| A diverse group of five people sitting around a table, including a woman in a wheelchair smiling and holding a folder. | We will also work with **advisory councils**.  An advisory council is a group of people who know a lot about something.  Like the ADS Advisory Council. |
| A diverse group of people, including a woman in a wheelchair, seated around tables at a conference, with a woman standing and speaking into a microphone. | We will also work with organisations that provide disability advocacy.  This includes Disability Representative Organisations.  We call them DROs for short. |

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