



Easy Read

Disability Royal Commission Recommendations

Northern Territory Government Response.

How to use this paper



The Northern Territory Government wrote this paper.

We call it the NTG for short.

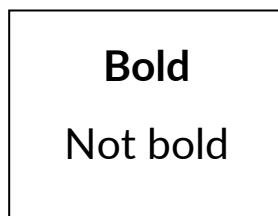
When you see the word '**we**' it means the Northern Territory Government



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

This means it has the most important ideas.

You can find the other document on our [website](#).



Hard words are written in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

We explain what the hard words mean.



You can ask for help to read this paper.

You could ask a friend, family member, support person or advocate.

You can take your time to read this.

You do not have to read it all at once.



We recognise the Traditional Owners of our land, the Northern Territory.



They were the first people to live on and use the land and waters.

What is in this paper

How to use this paper	2
Disability Royal Commission	5
Our Response to the Disability Royal Commission	7
Part 4: The Rights of People with Disability	9
Part 5: Guiding Government Plans	11
Part 6: Using Accessible Services and Better Decision Making.....	13
Part 7: Inclusive Education, Employment and Housing	16
Part 8: Criminal Justice and People with Disability	21
Part 9: First Nations People with Disability	26
Part 10: Disability Services.....	28
Part 11: Improving ways to manage and report a problem	30
Part 12: Beyond the Royal Commission	33
More information	35

Disability Royal Commission



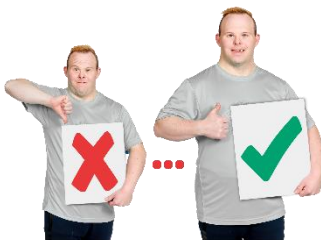
The **Disability Royal Commission** looked at how people with disability are treated.

We call it **DRC**.



A Royal Commission:

- Is an official way of looking into a big problem.
- Helps us to work out what went wrong.
- Tells us what we need to improve.



DRC wrote a **report**.

A report is a document that tells you what the DRC found out and what they think should change.

The report was split up into 12 parts.



The report had 222 **recommendations**.

Recommendations are the things the DRC think should happen.

Part 4

The recommendations start in Part 4.

Our Response to the Disability Royal Commission



We read the DRC recommendations.



This is our **response** to the recommendations.

A response is what we think about the recommendations.



We have responded to 50 recommendations that are our **responsibility**.



Responsibility means we can do something about this.

For each recommendation we:



- **Accept.**

This means we agree with the recommendation.

or

- **Accept in principle.**

This means we agree with the recommendation but need to think more about it.

or

- **Require further consideration.**

This means we need to think more about the recommendation.

or

- **Note.**

This means

- Another government or organisation is doing the work, or
- The DRC did not agree on the recommendation.

or

- **Do not accept.**

This means we do not agree with this recommendation.

Part 4: The Rights of People with Disability



The DRC recommends a new law in Australia called the **Disability Rights Act**.



An Act is a **law**.

A law is a rule or rules that people must follow.



A Disability Rights Act would protect the human **rights** of people with disability.

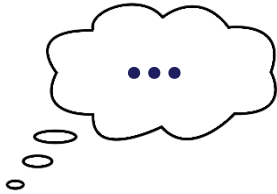
Rights are rules about treating everyone fair and equally.



A Disability Rights Act would be a law for all of Australia.

The Australian Government will think about making this law.

There are 34 recommendations in Part 4:



- We note 32 recommendations.
- We need to think more about 2 of the recommendations.



We will think about changing some Northern Territory laws to give people with disability better rights.

Part 5: Guiding Government Plans

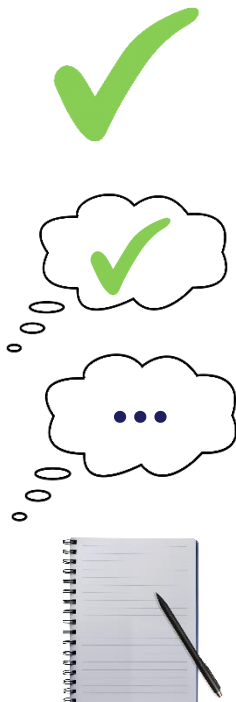


The DRC recommends governments write a **National Disability Agreement**.

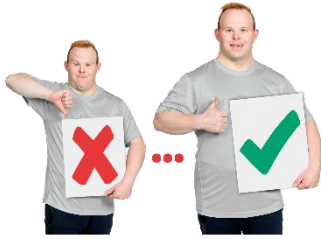


A National Disability Agreement is a plan for how governments around Australia will work together for people with disability.

There are 7 recommendations in Part 5:



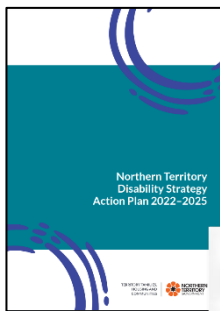
- We accept 1 recommendation.
- We accept in principle 3 recommendations.
- We need to think about 1 recommendation.
- We note 2 recommendations.



We will work with other governments to make **Australia's Disability Strategy** better.



Australia's Disability Strategy is a plan with ideas about making life better for people.



We will make a new **action plan** for the NT Disability Strategy.

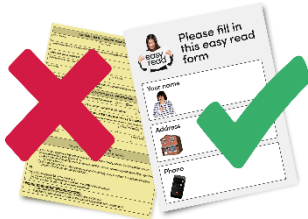


The action plan is a list of all the things we will do.

Part 6: Using Accessible Services and Better Decision Making



The DRC recommends governments make information more **accessible** for people with disability.



Accessible means it is easy to find, use and understand.

The DRC wants to:



- Support people with disability to make decisions about how they live their life.

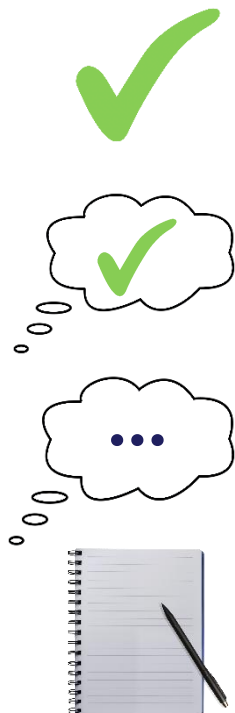


- Make it easier for people with disability to get the health care they need.



- Make it easier for people with disability to do what they want.

There are 41 recommendations in Part 6:



- We accept 1 recommendation.
- We accept in principle 28 recommendations.
- We need to think more about 2 recommendations.
- We note 10 recommendations.



We want people with disability to be able to find and use what they need in the community.



We want services to understand how to help people with disability.



We want people with disability to make decisions about things that affect their lives.



We want people in remote communities to be able to get the services they need where they live.

Part 7: Inclusive Education, Employment and Housing



The DRC recommends making it easier for people with disability to get a good education.

There are 15 recommendations about Education in Part 7:



- We accept 13 recommendations.
- We note 2 recommendations.



We want all schools to be **inclusive** for all children.

Inclusive means everyone can take part.



We want to make sure they are safe for students with disability.



The DRC wants us to get better at checking schools to make sure they follow the inclusion rules.

We will work with schools to help them do this.



The DRC recommends making it easier for people with disability to get a job.

There are 17 recommendations about Employment in Part 7:



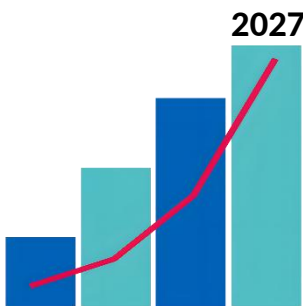
- We accept in principle 5 recommendations.
- We need to think more about 1 of the recommendations.
- We note 11 recommendations.



We want to create more chances for people with disability to work.



We want to support more people with disability to find and keep a job.



We want to:

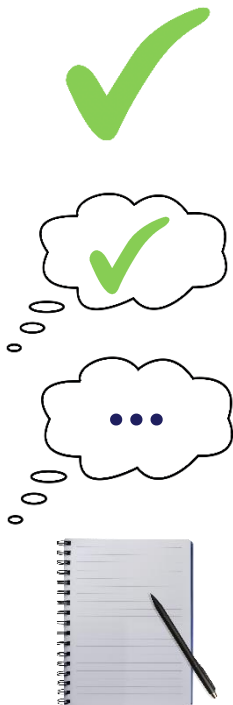
- Keep employees with disability.
- Employ more people with disability.

We want to reach our goal by 2027.



The DRC recommends making it easier for people with disability to live where they want.

There are 12 recommendations about Housing in Part 7:



- We accept 1 recommendation.
- We accept in principle 6 recommendations.
- We need to think more about 4 recommendations.
- We note 1 recommendation.



We want to make the waiting time for **social housing** better to make sure people with disability get the housing they need.

Social housing is for people who can't afford to rent or buy a home on their own.

Social housing might be:



- Public housing.
This is homes that the NTG own and manage.
- Community housing.
This is homes that other organisations own and manage.



All new social housing we build will be accessible.

Part 8: Criminal Justice and People with Disability



The DRC says governments should make it easier for people with disability to get the support they need when they are in the **justice system**.



The **justice systems** means:

- Police.



- The courts.



- The law.

- **Detention centres.**

Detention centres are places where people have to stay if they:

- Have broken the law.
- Are waiting for a court to decide if they broke the law.



There are 24 recommendations in Part 8:



- We accept or accept in principle 13 recommendations.
- We need to think more about 3 recommendations.
- We note 7 recommendations.
- We do not accept 1 recommendation.



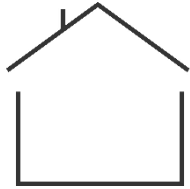
We want youth detention centres to be safer for young people with disability.



We will make sure all staff in youth detention centres will get training on working well with young people with disability.



There are two recommendations in this part that are just for the NTG.



The DRC recommends that we give housing to people with disability when they:



- Leave a detention centre.
- Have been given a **custodial supervision order**.



A custodial supervision order means the court must agree to where you live.



We note this recommendation and we will need to change some laws to make this happen.



The DRC also recommends that we make sure there are **diversion programs** for people with disability.

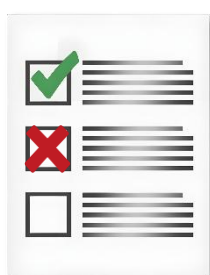


Diversion programs help people:

- Get support instead of going to a detention centre.
- Access the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
This is also known as NDIS.
- Connect people with support services.



We need to think more about this recommendation.



We are looking into our own programs to decide what is and is not working before we make a decision.



We do not support the idea to change the age of **criminal responsibility** to 14 years old.

14 X

Criminal responsibility means you are in control of your actions if you do a crime.

The current criminal responsibility age is 10.

Part 9: First Nations People with Disability



This part is about **First Nations people** with disability.

First Nations people are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



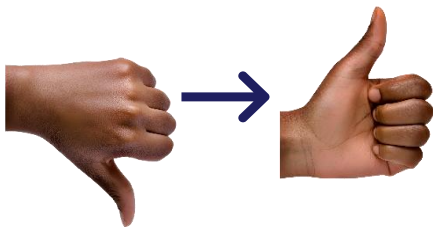
The DRC recommends governments make it easier for First Nations people with disability to get services from:

- Governments.
- Service providers.

There are 13 recommendations in Part 9:



- We accept in principle 6 recommendations.
- We note 7 recommendations.

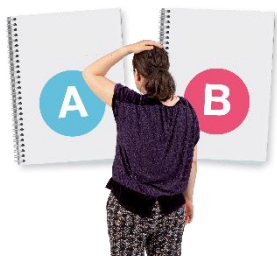


We want to make services better for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability.

We will:



- Listen to what Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability need.



- Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability to make decisions about their supports.



- Help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability get the support they need in their community.

Part 10: Disability Services



The DRC recommends governments should make sure disability service providers keep the people they support safe.

There are 33 recommendations in Part 10:



- We accept in principle 14 recommendations.
- We note 19 recommendations.



We want to make sure people with disability are safe.



We will work with the Australian Government on this.

The Disability Services Act says all disability services must be safe to use.

We want to make it easier and better for people to:



- Make **complaints**.

A complaint is when you tell someone that:

- Something has gone wrong.
- Someone has treated you badly.



- Tell us about **incidents**.

An incident means something bad happened to you.

Part 11: Improving ways to manage and report a problem



The DRC made recommendations about how governments can know when people with disability experience:



- **Violence.**

Violence means someone hurts you physically.



- **Abuse.**

Abuse means someone hurts you with actions or words.



- **Neglect.**

Neglect means you do not get the care you need.



- **Exploitation.**

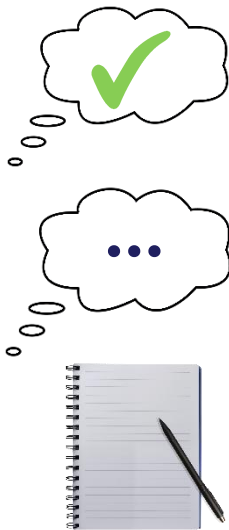
Exploitation means someone uses your weakness to do things for themselves.

For example, they make you work but do not pay you.

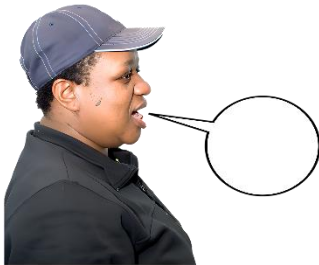


People with disability must be able to make a complaint if something bad happens to them.

There are 18 recommendations in Part 11:



- We accept in principle 12 recommendations.
- We need to think more about 3 recommendations.
- We note 3 recommendations.



We want to help to make a place where all people with disability can make a complaint.



The DRC recommends all governments have a **Community Visitors Scheme**.



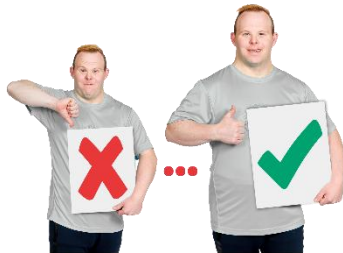
The Community Visitors Scheme is a program where community visitors:

- Check that people with disability are safe.
- Help people with complaints.



We will look at making the program:

- Better for people.
- Work better with the NDIS.



Part 12: Beyond the Royal Commission

The DRC recommends governments should respond to the DRC by:



- Writing a response to the DRC.



- Working together with people with disability on the recommendations.



- Sharing reports of the work being done.

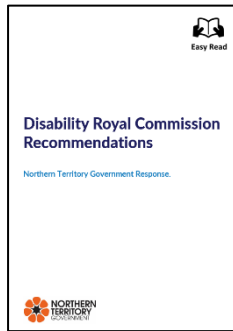
There are eight recommendations in Part 12:



- We accept in principle 7 recommendations.
- We note 1 recommendation.



We will tell people how we respond to the Disability Royal Commission final report.



This paper is part of our promise to tell people what we will do.

This document has been made in an easy-to-read way with support from the South Australian Council on Intellectual Disability and Inclusion Northern Territory using images from Microsoft 365 and Photosymbols. Images cannot be used without permission. This document was tested by people with intellectual disability.

© Created February 2025

More information



You can get more information about this book by contacting us.



Call us: **08 8999 2809**



Email us: OfficeofDisability.dpsc@nt.gov.au



Write to us:

Office of Disability

Department of People, Sport and Culture

GPO Box 37037

Winnellie NT 0820



Find more information about the Disability Royal Commission on their web page

www.disability.royalcommission.gov.au