



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Disability Safeguards Consultation

Participant Information Sheet





Australian Government

**Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing**

The Australian Government Department of Health Disability and Ageing wrote this.

We say **DHDA** for short.

When you see the word **we** it means DHDA.



We wrote this in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

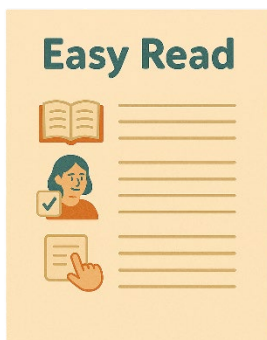
Bold

Not bold

We have some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

These are important words.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

This means it has the most important ideas.



We can answer any questions by email.

Email us

disabilitysafeguards@ahaconsulting.com.au



You can ask for help to read this document.

You can ask

- A friend
- Family members
- A support person.



We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the **Traditional Owners** of the land we live on.



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

- Land
- Waters.

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What we want to do



We are doing a **consultation**.

Consultation is when the government works with the disability community.

It makes sure that the government is listening to communities.

This helps the government make better plans to support people with disability.



The Australian Government wants to make **safeguards** better for people with disability.

They will do this by writing the



- Disability Support **Quality** and **Safeguarding Framework**

We call it the **Safeguarding Framework** for short.



Quality means services that

- Helps people



- People get what they need



- People feel happy with the service



- The service does everything they are supposed to.



Safeguarding means protecting people with disability from harm.



A framework is how we will do something.



- Disability Support **Ecosystem**
Safeguarding **Strategy**

We call it the **Safeguarding Strategy** for short.



Ecosystem is everything working together.

This means that disability services work together to support people with disability.



A strategy is a plan for how to do something.

What will the Safeguarding Framework and Strategy do



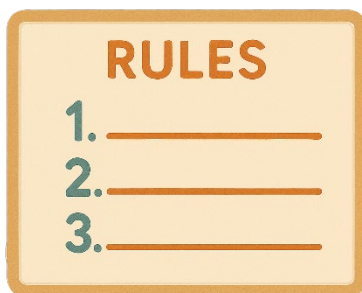
The Safeguarding

- Framework
- Strategy

Plans to support all people with disability.

People who

- Get NDIS supports
- Do **not** get NDIS supports.



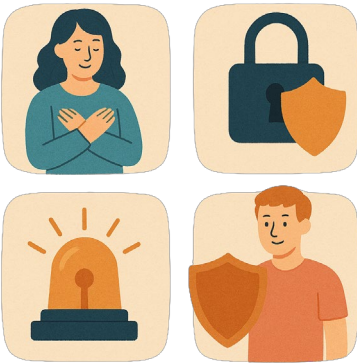
They will

- Set rules and ways to work for services and supports for people with disability



- **Empower** people with disability to be able to get good services and use safeguards

Empower means give you the confidence to speak up for what you need.



- Make safeguards stronger for people with disability

This also means safeguards working together.

Who is helping us

The Australian Government is working with



- **Australian Healthcare Associates**

We call it **AHA** for short.



AHA are **experts** in

- Disability
- Doing consultation.

Experts are people who know a lot about something.



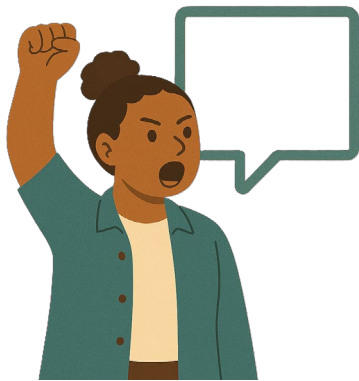
**Australian Federation of
Disability Organisations**

AHA are working with **Australian Federation of Disability Organisations**.

We call it **AFDO** for short.



AFDO will make sure people with disability can take part in this work.



AFDO do **advocacy** work.

Advocacy is when someone supports you to speak up for your **rights**.

Consultation principles



AHA will follow **principles** to do the consultation.

Principles

- Are beliefs
- Say how the consultation **should work**.



The principles they will follow are

- Use information that we have already been told



- Encourage people to share their ideas



- Do **not** do any harm



- Make a difference to support people with disability to take part



- Encourage people to take part in ways that works for them.



AFDO will help AHA to work with people with disability.

Taking part



You need to read this whole document.

It will help you decide if you would like to take part in our consultation.



You can choose if you would like to take part.

You do **not** have to if you do **not** want to.



You can change your mind and stop taking part at any time.

You will **not** get in trouble if you change your mind.



Your support or services will **not** change if you change your mind.



No one will be angry with you if you change your mind.



If you decide you do **not** want to do the survey anymore you can **stop**.



Surveys have questions about your ideas.

What does safeguarding mean



The NDIS Quality Safeguarding Framework say **safeguards** means



Actions that protect the rights of people to be safe from harm like

- **Violence**

Violence is when someone hurts your body.



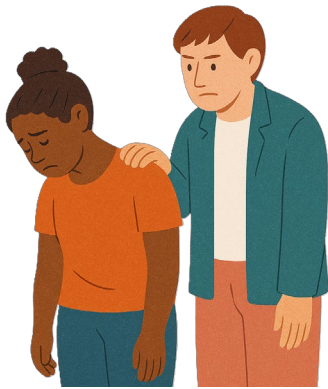
- **Abuse**

Abuse is when someone treats you badly.



- **Neglect**

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



- **Exploitation**

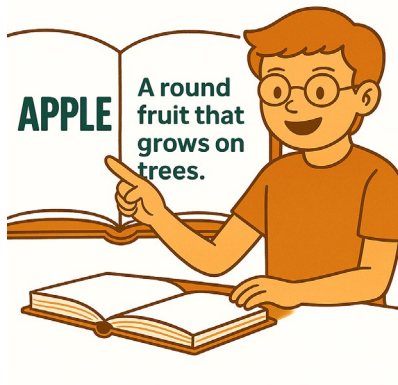
Exploitation is when someone takes advantage of you.



Safeguards also help people have

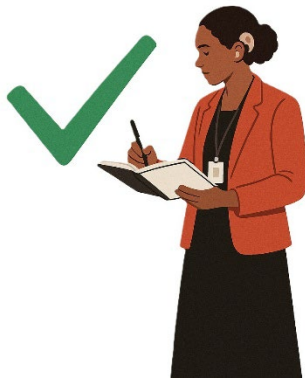
- Choice
- Control

Over their lives.



We want to make sure this **definition** covers everything safeguarding means.

Definitions explain what a word or idea means.



We will use what people tell us to make sure the definition is right.

Who do we want to hear from



We want to hear from **all** people with disability.

People who

- Get NDIS support
- Do **not** get NDIS support.



Including

- First Nations people



- People who speak different languages



- People from different cultures



- LGBTQIA+ people



- Older people



- People who live in areas that are
 - Regional
 - Rural
 - Remote



- Families of people with disability



- **Disability Representative Organisations**

We call them **DROs** for short.



- **Advocates**

An advocate is someone who supports you to speak up for your **rights**.

It can also be called **advocacy**.



- Supporters of people with disability



- Disability support **providers**

Providers get money to help support you.

You might use money from your NDIS plan to pay them.



- Disability support workers



- People who work for the government that do disability support services



- People who work for **mainstream** services

Mainstream services are other supports you get from government services like

- Health
- Aged care
- Mental health services.

Mainstream services are supports everyone can access.



- People who do research



- People who know a lot about
 - Quality
 - Safeguarding
 - Disability services.

Consultation paper



We know the Safeguarding Framework needs to improve

- Safety
- Quality

For supports and services for people with disability.



Our Consultation paper has some of these ideas.

None of these have been agreed on yet.



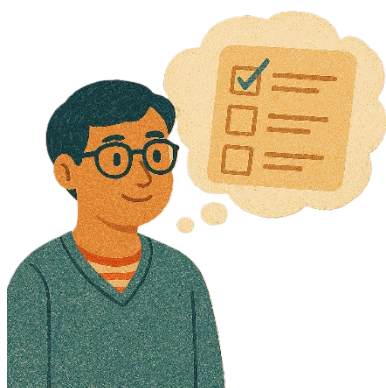
We used ideas that we have already heard to write the consultation paper.



You can read our consultation paper on our website.

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/disability-safeguards-consultation/

It is in Easy Read.



We also have a survey.

You can go to our website to do the survey.

This Easy Read is in **3 parts**.

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/disability-safeguards-consultation/

How to take part



We want to hear your ideas.



There are 4 ways to take part.

You need to do it before
Monday 22 December 2025.



You can ask for extra time if you need it.

Email us

disabilitysafeguards@ahaconsulting.com.au

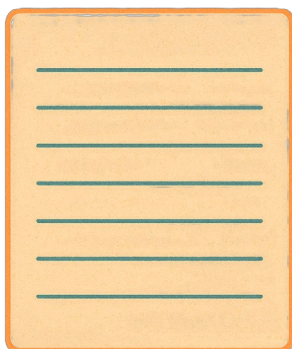


1. You can take part by filling out a survey.



There are 3 different surveys.

They all have the same questions.



- Plain Language

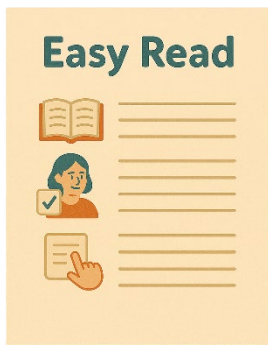
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- Auslan

Auslan is Australian sign language.

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/disability-safeguards-consultation/



- Easy Read

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/disability-safeguards-consultation/



2. You can talk to us.

You could talk to us

- On the phone
- Online like Teams.



You can make a time by

Calling us

03 8632 9505



You can call us between

- 9am
- 5pm **AEST**

Between

- Monday
- Friday.



AEST is the time in

- Canberra
- New South Wales
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Queensland

When it is **not** daylight savings time.

If you live somewhere else you will need to check what time to call.



Send us an email

disabilitysafeguards@ahaconsulting.com.au



If you need an **interpreter** you can call
Translating and Interpreting Service on

13 14 50

We call it **TIS National** for short.



Interpreters are people who change what
someone is saying into the words of another
language



3. You can write to us

You can write in any language.



You can send what you write to us by

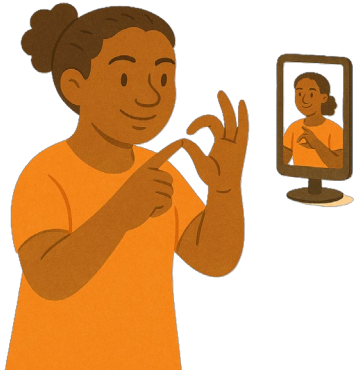
- Email

disabilitysafeguards@ahaconsulting.com.au



- Post

Disability Safeguards Consultation
Australian Healthcare Associates
Reply Paid 86905
Locked Bag 32005
Collins Street East Vic 8003



4. You can record a message

You can do this in any language.

You can send it to us online



You can contact us if these ways do **not** work for you.

We will try our best to find a way for you to take part.

Will I be paid to take part



We have a draw that you can enter to win a prize.

The prize is a \$100 gift card.

Not everyone will win.



If you would like to have a chance at winning you can fill out the information at the end of the survey.

We will keep this information separate from your survey.

What are the good things that could happen if I take part



We will use the ideas shared with us to write the Safeguarding

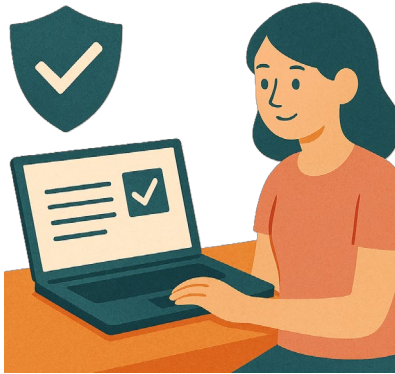
- Framework
- Strategy.



This will make sure that we include

- What the community needs
- Support safety.

What are the risks that could happen if I take part



We do not think there are any big **risks**.

Risks are the chance that something bad might happen to you.



Some people might feel

- Upset
- Worried

When doing our survey.



There are lots of people you can talk to.



You can talk to Lifeline.

You can call them on

13 11 14



You can go to their website

www.lifeline.org.au/



You can talk to Beyond Blue.

You can call them on

1300 22 46 36



You can go to their website

www.beyondblue.org.au/



You can call the Disability Advocacy Support Helpline.

You can call them on

1800 643 787



You can talk to 13 YARN.

You can call them on

13 92 76



You can go to their website.

www.13yarn.org.au/

What will happen to the information I share



When you answer questions in our consultation you will share information with us.



We have to tell you

- The rules we must follow when we collect your information
- What we will do with your information.



PRIVACY

You can read the privacy notice.

It tells you all of these things.

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/disability-safeguards-consultation/

It is in Easy Read.



When the consultation is open some information will be stored in

- **Qualtrics**

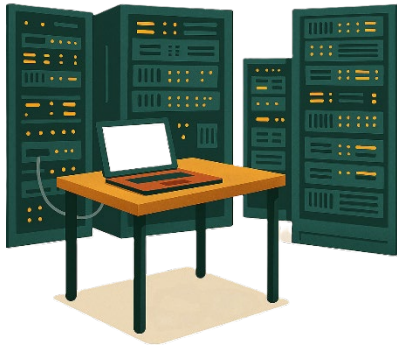
Qualtrics is an online survey.

If you fill out the survey online your information will be stored there.



After the consultation closes AHA will move all the information from Qualtrics to AHA.

They will do this in a safe way.



It will be kept on **servers**.

Servers are special machines that hold lots of information.



AHA will keep the information for 5 years after they write the report.



AHA will then get rid of all the data.

They will do this in a safe way.

Report



AHA will write a report.

It will have information about everyone who took part.

No one will know who took part.



We expect the everything will be finished in June 2026.

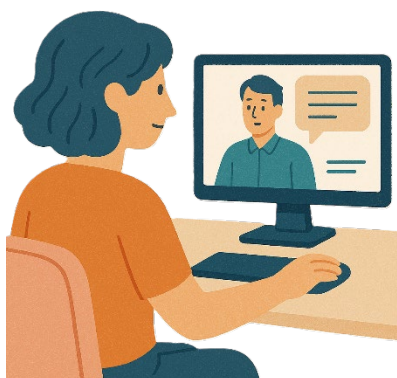
Other ways to take part



We will do more consultation in the future.

You can look at our website to see more consultations.

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/disability-safeguards-consultation/



We will have some **webinars**.

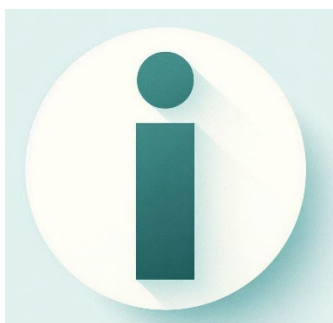
A webinar is when you watch someone on your computer talk about something.



The webinars will share what we will do next in making the Safeguarding

- Framework
- Strategy.

Contact us



You can contact us if you **need more information** you can talk to AHA.



You can send AHA an email.

disabilitysafeguards@ahaconsulting.com.au



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03 8632 9505

You can call AHA between



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