



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Individual Disability Advocacy Program

Consultation

Final report

Part 1





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.

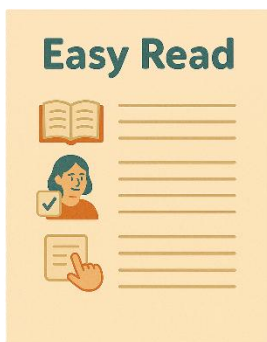
Bold

We have some words in **bold**.

Not 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

disabilityadvocacyreforms@health.gov.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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About this document



This document is in **2 parts**.



Part 1 talks about

- Our **consultation**

Consultation is the governments way of working 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.



Part 2 talks about

- What people said.



You can read the other part on our website.

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/individual-disability-advocacy-reform/



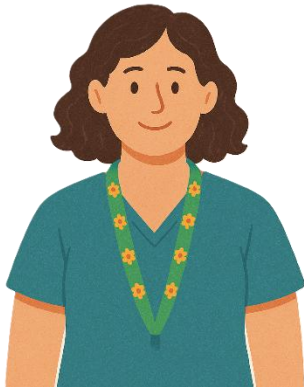
This is part 1.

What is individual disability advocacy



The Australian Government is making a new **individual** disability **advocacy** program.

We call it **IDAP** for short.



Individual means 1 person.



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



Rights are **rules** about treating everyone

- Fair
- Equal.



Individual disability advocacy is when a person gets support to fix

- When they have been treated unfairly



- **Abuse**

Abuse is when someone treats you badly.



You can get support from

- An **expert** advocate

Expert is knowing a lot about something.



- Family member



- Friend



- **Volunteer** from an advocacy organisation

Volunteers help someone but do **not** get paid.

What we did



We did a consultation on IDAP.

IDAP will **replace** some of the old programs.

Replace means change 1 thing for another.



The old programs IDAP will replace are

- National Disability Advocacy Program



- Indigenous Community Advocates Pilot

DISABILITY ADVOCACY SUPPORT HELPLINE



- Disability Advocacy Support Helpline



- National Centre for Disability Advocacy.



IDAP will help how advocacy organisations get money.

This will make it easier for them to support people with disability.

Why we did it



We did a consultation so we could

- Test our ideas



- Hear about the experiences of people with disability

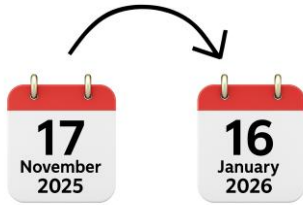


- To find out what is important.



This helps make sure we get IDAP right.

How we did it



Our consultation was open between

- 17 November 2025
- 16 January 2026.



People could share their ideas by

- Doing a **survey online**

Surveys have questions about your ideas.



- Sending their answers in
 - An email
 - A letter



- Making a video of their ideas



- Making an **audio file**

An audio file is speaking only.



Lots of people shared their ideas.

Like



- People with disability



- Families



- Carers



- Disability advocacy organisations



- Organisations that do **not** work for the government

They can be called **peak bodies**.



- Community organisations



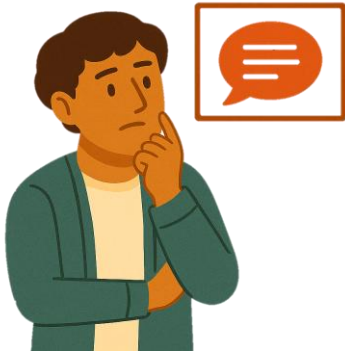
- Different parts of the government.



We know that **barriers** can stop some people from taking part in consultation.

A barrier is something that stops you from doing what you

- Want
- Need.



Some barriers could be

- Ways they communicate



- The language they speak



- They are **isolated**

Isolated means being alone.



- Being scared to speak up



We know some people could **not** take part in our consultation.

Contact us



You can contact us if you **need more information**.



You can send us an email.

disabilityadvocacyreforms@health.gov.au



You can look at our website.

consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/individual-disability-advocacy-reform/

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March 2026.