



Disability Justice Strategy

2019 to 2029

ACT Government



Easy English



Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we write what the hard word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what this book is about



- find more information.

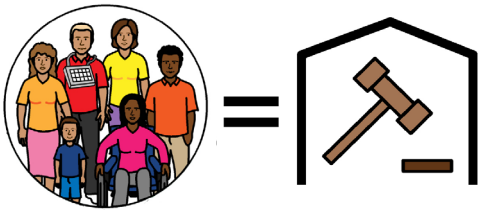


About this book

This book is made by the ACT Government.

This book is about our

Disability Justice Strategy.



Our Disability Justice Strategy is our plan to make sure people with disability get the same **justice** as everyone else.



Justice means you are treated

- fair

and

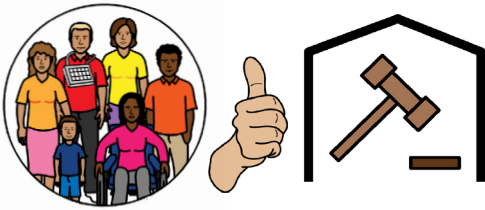
- right by the law.

We will call it the strategy.

The strategy is a 10 year plan.



The strategy is for people in the Australian Capital Territory or ACT.



The strategy will help us make it easier for people with disability to use the justice system.

We will listen and talk to

- people with disability
- carers
- family and friends.



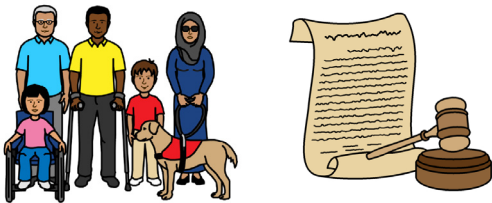
This book is part of the full strategy.



You can read the full strategy on our website
[www.communityservices.act.gov.au/
disability_act/disability-justice-strategy](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/disability_act/disability-justice-strategy)

Our goals

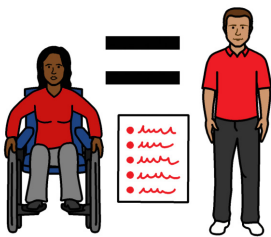
We have 3 main goals.



1. We will make sure people with disability are safe and access their **rights**.

Rights are things everyone should be able to

- get
- have
- do.



2. We will make sure the justice system supports people with disability.



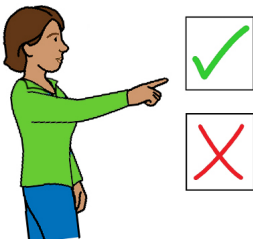
3. We will find out if changes to the system have worked and our goals are met.

Goal 1 - We will make sure people with disability are safe and know their rights

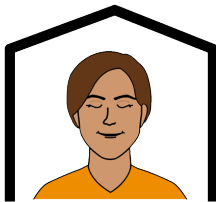


We will make sure people with disability

- know their rights



- have help to make their own decisions about what they want and need



- are safe from violence and get the care they need



- have the right support to get justice and use the justice system.

Goal 2 - We will make sure the justice system supports people with disability



We will make sure the justice system

- understands disability

and



- can better help people with disability.



We will make sure people with disability get support early so they will **not** need to use the justice system at all.

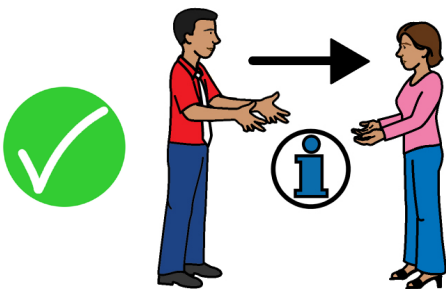
Goal 3 - We will find out if changes to the system have worked and our goals are met

We will make sure we

- get the right information

and

- use the information to make things better.



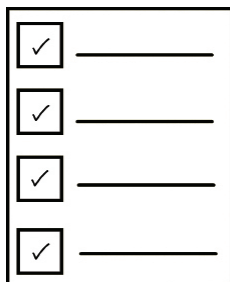
We will check if we meet our goals.

We will make reports about

- how we have made the justice system better

and

- what we still need to do.



How we will make things better



We will make information easy for everyone to understand.

We will give information about justice that is easy to understand to

- people with disability

and

- their supporters.

For example, family or carers.



The information will be accessible.

For example, Auslan interpreter and Easy English.



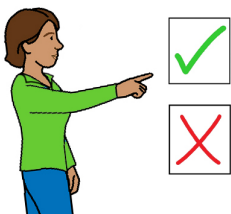
The information will make sure people with disability know how to get the right justice supports.



We will make sure people with disability

- understand the justice system

and



- have support to make their own decisions.



We want more people with disability to tell us what they need from the justice system.



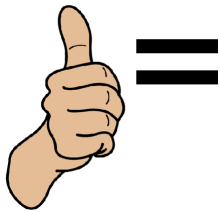
We will make sure workers in the justice system listen and understand what people with disability need and want.

We will help workers in the justice system better understand disability.



We will make sure the justice system

- can notice disability
- gives good support to people with disability



- is fair to people with disability.

We will help workers in law and other services understand the issues people with disability live with.



We will give workers

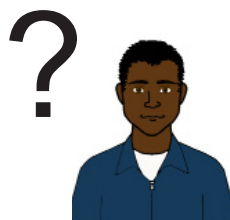
- information

and



- training.

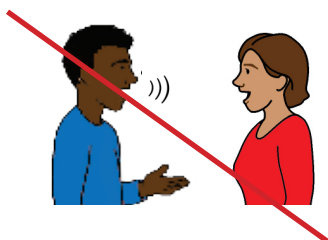
We will better understand people who use the justice system.



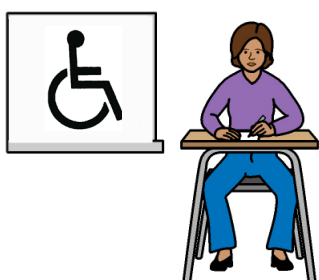
We will help people who

- might have a disability

and



- do **not** tell others about it.

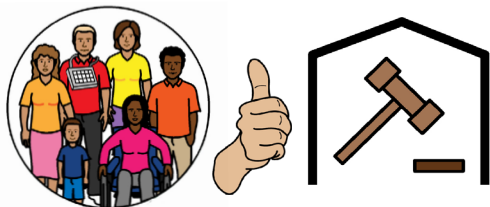


We will learn more about disability support needs.



We will help people in different ways so everyone gets the right support for their needs.

We will make better services for people with disability.



The justice system and other services will work together to help people with disability get what they need.

We will do work to make sure the justice system can give better help to different groups in the community.

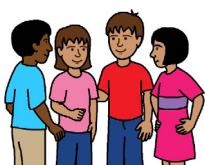


For example

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders



- women



- children.

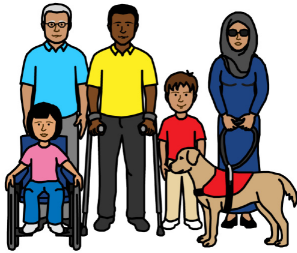
We will find out if we have done a good job.

We want to know

- how many people with disability use the justice system

and

- why they use the justice system.



We will use the information to help us know what people with disability need.



We will use the information to tell us if we have given better help to people with disability.

PLAN	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____

We will use the information to help us make

- new plans
- better plans.

What we will do first

We have a **First Action Plan**.

PLAN	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____

The First Action Plan says what we will do in the first 4 years.

We know a lot of changes need to happen.

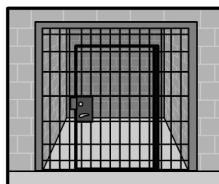


We will start to make changes at

- ACT government departments
- the police



- courts



- child protection
- prison



- legal aid services.



There will be people who work in the justice system who help people with disability understand

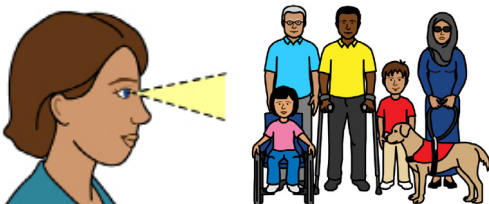
- what is happening
- what they need to do.

We will help other **justice workers** learn how to better support people with disability.

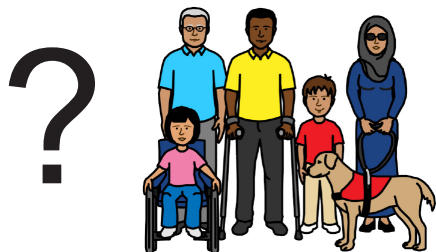


Justice workers might be

- people in uniform. For example, the police
- people at court
- child and youth protection services.



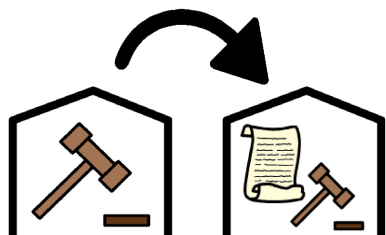
We will teach justice workers ways to learn how to notice if someone has a disability.



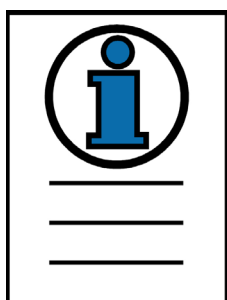
We will

- ask people with disability what they need to help them use the justice system

and



- make changes to services to meet the needs of people with disability.

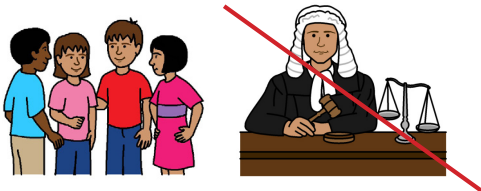


We will make information books about how to give better help to people with disability for

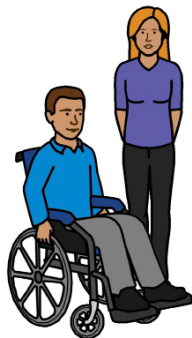
- the police
- legal workers
- child and youth protection services.



We will train people who work in the courts about how to give better support to people with disability.



Early support for children with disability might help them stay out of the youth justice system.



We will help people with disability who use the justice system find an **independent advocate**.

An independent advocate can help you tell us what you want.



We will find out if people with disability need more services and support.

For example

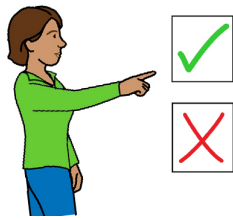
- special legal support
- more help in court.



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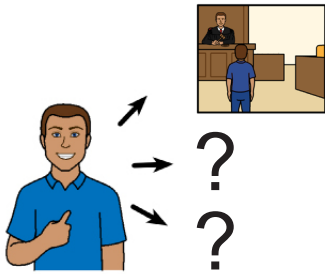


We will make a plan about how to help people with disability who are in jail.



We will review laws to see if we can make changes to help people with disability

- make their own decisions about justice support

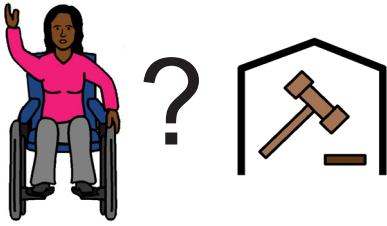


or

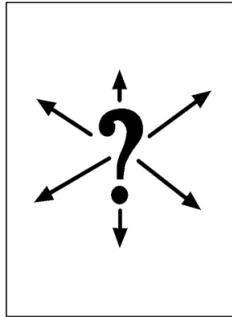
- have other choices instead of going to court.

People with disability will still be able to use community support for legal services.

For example, Canberra Community Law and Legal Aid.



We will do work to find out how people with disability use the justice system.



We will find out information about

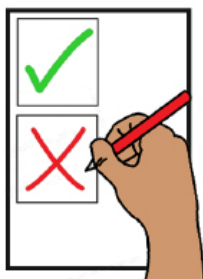
- who uses the justice system
- what they use the justice system for
- how many times they use the justice system.

PLAN	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____

We will

- review the first action plan

and



- find out if we have met our goals.



More information

For more information contact the
ACT Government Office for Disability



Call 02 6207 1086



Website

[www.communityservices.act.gov.au/
disability_act/disability-justice-strategy](http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/disability_act/disability-justice-strategy)



Email ACTDisabilityJustice@act.gov.au



If you need help to speak or listen

Use the National Relay Service or NRS.

Call the NRS help desk

1800 555 660

Go to the NRS website

communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs





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Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre wrote the Easy English version in August 2019.

To contact Scope call 1300 472 673 or visit www.scopeaust.org.au

To see the original contact the ACT Government Office for Disability.

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