A11yText

Multi-Platform Component

```
<A11yText text="I'm read by screenreaders" />
```

Introduction

A11yText is a zero-size invisible element that adds text to be read by screen readers.

Follow the appropriate instructions to add this component in to your app.

Guidance

Use `A11yText` to insert additional context for screenreader users within existing text content.

For example, there might be a link below some text. For sighted users, the text above provides context for the link. However, screenreader users may be skipping to interactive items and may therefore not be aware of this context on focusing the link:

The new MegaPhone is our loudest phone yet.

Buy today

```
<StackView space={2}>
  <Typography>The new MegaPhone is our loudest phone yet.</Typography>
  <Link href="https://telus.com">Buy today{<A11yText text=",
MegaPhone" />}</Link>
</StackView>
```

In the above example, screenreaders read "Buy today, MegaPhone" on focusing the link.

Appending hidden text at the end of the element is the best practice for voice to text technology.

Accessibility

Inside focusable interactive components, the `A11yText` text will be flattened alongside other text into one focusable item.

`A11yText` fulfills a similar role to the React Native `accessibilityLabel` prop which is available to most UDS components, but inserts itself inside text, rather than replacing current text content.

Despite having a similar use case, React Native's `accessibilityHint` prop is not recommended for use as it has inconsistent cross-platform behaviour and is not supported on web.

Platform considerations

The component is available on both native platforms and web.

Props

Name	Type	Platform	Default	Description
text*	string	standard		Text to be read by screen readers
heading	bool	standard		Whether text should be rendered as a heading

Variants

This component does not have any stylistic variants.

This component is always invisible.

Feedback

- Spotted a problem with this component? Raise an issue on GitHub
- See any existing issues for this component
- Contact the team on slack in #ds-support