



Australian Government  
Department of Social Services

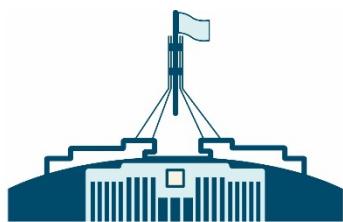
# The Disability Royal Commission

## Do you need support?

Easy Read fact sheet



## How to use this fact sheet



The Australian Government wrote this fact sheet.  
When you see the word 'we', it means the Australian Government.



We have written this fact sheet in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



We have written some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 12.



This Easy Read fact sheet is a summary of another document.



You can find the other document on our website at **[dss.gov.au/disability-royal-commission-support](https://dss.gov.au/disability-royal-commission-support)**



You can ask for help to read this fact sheet.  
A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

# The Disability Royal Commission



A **Royal Commission** is an official way of looking into a big problem.

It helps us work out:



- what went wrong



- what we need to fix.



The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability will run until September 2023.

In this fact sheet, we call it the Disability Royal Commission.

We need the Disability Royal Commission because we know that people with disability experience:



- **violence** – if someone is hurting you physically



- **abuse** – if someone is treating you badly



- **neglect** – if someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you



- **exploitation** – if someone is taking advantage of you.



The Disability Royal Commission will look at ways to stop people with disability experiencing violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.



If you are experiencing any violence or abuse, or if you feel unsafe, call 000 or contact the Police.

## Support for people who take part in the Disability Royal Commission



If you take part in the Disability Royal Commission, you might need support.

The support you can get is:

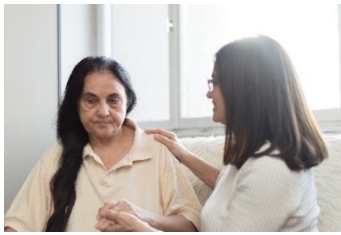


- **free** – it won't cost you any money



- **independent** – it is run by disability organisations, not by the Disability Royal Commission or the Australian Government.

## Counselling support



You might need support from a **counsellor**.

A counsellor will support you to:



- talk about your feelings and emotions in a safe space



- make choices about telling your story to the Disability Royal Commission



- work out a problem or issue.



You can call the National Counselling and Referral Service to get counselling support.



**1800 421 468**

or

**(02) 6146 1468**





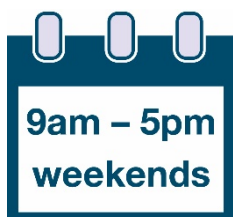
They give counselling support to:

- people with disability
- their families and carers.



You can call them:

- from 9 am to 6 pm on weekdays



- from 9 am to 5 pm on weekends.



If you need support in a language other than English, the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) can help you.



It won't cost you any money.

You can call:



- the National Counselling and Referral Service and ask them for an interpreter



- TIS National and ask them to connect you to the National Counselling and Referral Service.



TIS National

**131 450**



The National Counselling and Referral Service can also help you find:

- someone to support you with legal issues
- someone to support you with financial issues
- an **advocate**.



An advocate is someone who can help you work out issues or problems you have.



## Advocacy support

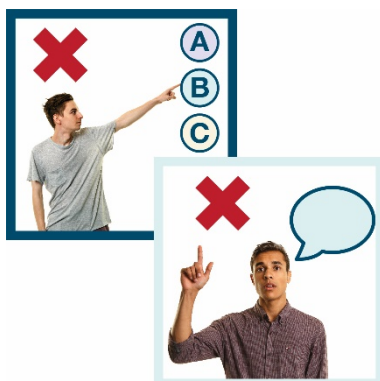


You might need support from an advocate.



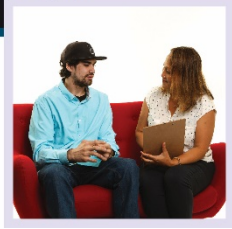
An advocate can help you to:

- tell your story
- protect your rights
- find supports to help you with communication
- find someone to support you with legal issues
- find someone to support you with financial issues.



An advocate won't:

- make decisions for you
- tell you what to do.



Advocacy support is available for people with disability who need help:

- with communication
- to take part in the Disability Royal Commission.



The National Counselling and Referral Service can help you find an advocate.



Or you can find one on the  
**Department of Social Services website.**

## Extra support



We have shared information about the support you can get on our website.



[www.dss.gov.au/disability-royal-commission-support](http://www.dss.gov.au/disability-royal-commission-support)



If it is hard for you to hear or speak, you can contact us through the National Relay Service.



National Relay Service

**133 677**

## Word list



### **Advocate**

An advocate is someone who can help you work out issues or problems you have.

### **Counsellor**

A counsellor will support you to:

- talk about your feelings and emotions in a safe space
- make choices about telling your story to the Disability Royal Commission
- work out a problem or issue.



### **Free**

It won't cost you any money.



### **Independent**

It is run by disability organisations, not by the Disability Royal Commission or the Australian Government.



### **Royal Commission**

A Royal Commission is an official way of looking into a big problem.

## Contact



**1800 421 468**

or

**(02) 6146 1468**



From:

- 9 am to 6 pm on weekdays



- 9 am to 5 pm on weekends.



**[www.dss.gov.au/disability-royal-commission-support](http://www.dss.gov.au/disability-royal-commission-support)**



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