

Our response to the Disability Royal Commission

Victorian Government

Scope made this book in Easy English.



Easy English



Blue words



Some words in this book are **blue**.

We write what the blue words mean.

Help with this book



You can get someone to help you

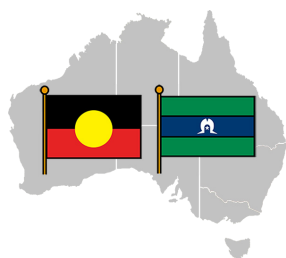
- understand this book

- find more information.



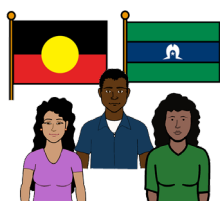
Contact information is at the end of this book.

We acknowledge First Peoples



Acknowledge means we understand the importance of **First Peoples'**

- history
- language
- culture.



First Peoples are the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



We recognise all First Peoples with a connection to Victoria.

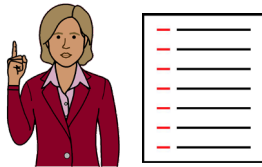
About this book



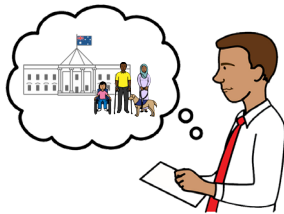
This book is by the Victorian Government.



This book is a **summary** of our **response** to the **Disability Royal Commission**.



Summary means we only include the most important ideas.



Response means answer.

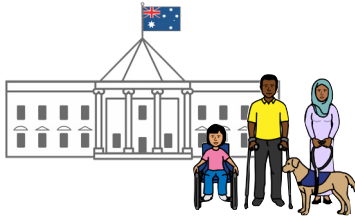


Royal Commission means a special way to

- find out about big problems

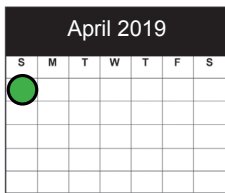


- find ways to make things better.



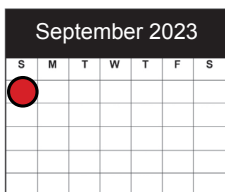
The Australian Government started the Disability Royal Commission.

In this book we call it **the Royal Commission**.



The Royal Commission

- started in April 2019



- finished in September 2023.

What did the Royal Commission look at?



The Royal Commission looked at

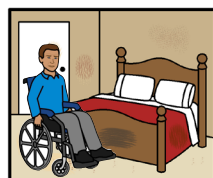
- **violence** against people with disability
 - violence is when someone hurts your body or makes you feel bad



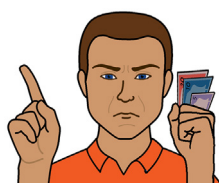
- **abuse** of people with disability
 - abuse is when someone does **not** treat you well



- **neglect** of people with disability
 - neglect is when someone does **not** give you the support you need



- **exploitation** of people with disability
 - exploitation means someone uses you to get things, like money.

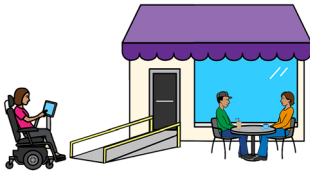




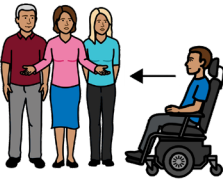
What did the Royal Commission say?

The Royal Commission gave more than 2 hundred **recommendations** about how to

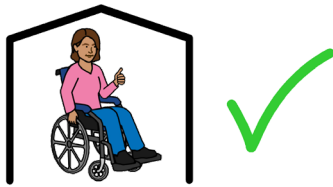
- help keep people with disability safe
- help make Australia more **inclusive** for people with disability.



Recommendations means things we could do to make things better.

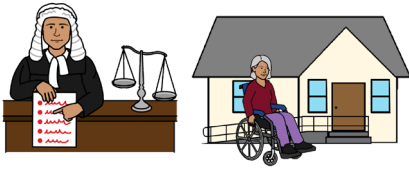


Inclusive means everyone can join in.

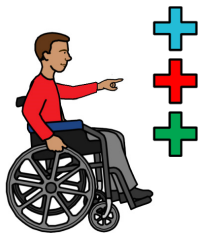


The Royal Commission said we are doing well at being safe and inclusive in many ways.

For example



- we have a law to help people who live in homes made for people with disability



- we have a law about helping people with disability make personal and health decisions



- we make sure people with disability help us plan and give services
 - for example, services for mental health.

What is our response to the Royal Commission?

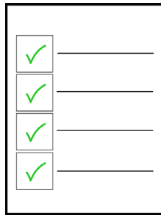


To give our response we worked with

- governments from other parts of Australia
- the Australian government.



There are some recommendations we accept



Accept means

- we agree with the recommendation
- we will do what the recommendation says.



There are some recommendations we accept in principle



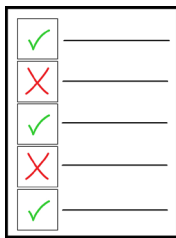
Accept in principle means

- we agree with the recommendation

but



- we have different ideas about the best way to make the change.



There are some recommendations we accept in part

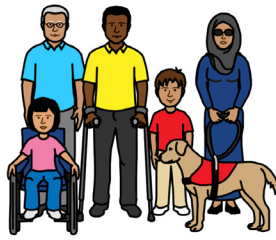
Accept in part means the recommendation has many parts and

- we agree with some parts

but

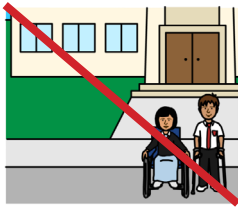


- we do **not** agree with other parts.

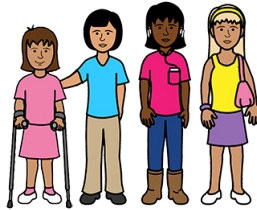


There are some recommendations we need to think about more

For some recommendations we need to do more work first, like talk to people with disability.



There was also a recommendation to close specialist schools

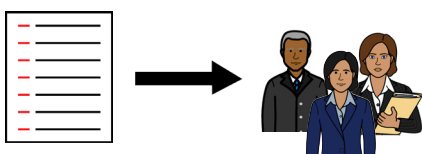


Specialist schools are schools for children with disability who need a lot of support.



We said **no** to the recommendation because we think specialist schools

- are important
- let families and children choose to go to a good school that is right for them.



There are also recommendations for other organisations or services to respond to.

What we are already doing

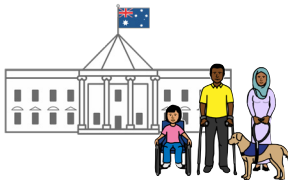


We are already doing a lot to make things better for people with disability.



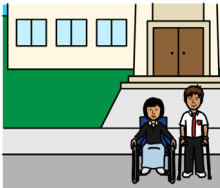
The things we are already doing

- are in our disability plan from 2022 to 2026



- will help us do what the Royal Commission said.

For example, we are improving services for people with disability, like



- education



- transport



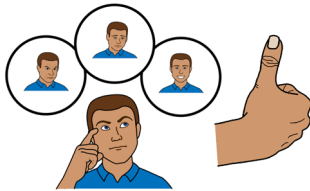
- health care



- homes.

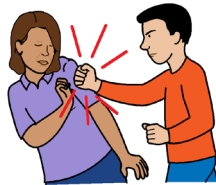


We are making sure organisations are more inclusive for workers with disability.



We are also making better services for

- mental health



- **family violence.**

Family violence is when someone in your family hurts you or others in your family.

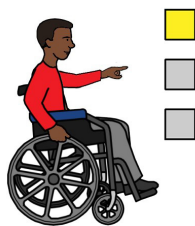
We are working on **Aboriginal self determination.**



Aboriginal self-determination is when

Aboriginal people

- are free to live well



- get to decide what they need to live well

- get to decide about their future.



Self determination includes when Aboriginal people can share how they have been treated.

For example,

- in the **justice system**

- in the **child protection system.**

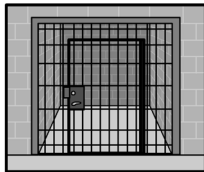


The justice system might mean

- the police



- the courts



- prison.



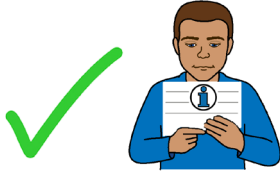
The child protection system is when the government takes children out of their family home for others to look after them.

For example, in foster care.



We are improving

- laws to support people with disability



- how we make information so it is easy to understand



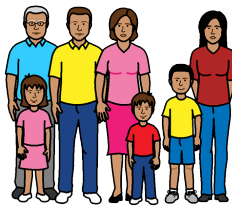
- how we check if we are doing a good job.

What kinds of work we will do next



In Victoria we will keep working with

- people with disability



- family members and carers of people with disability



- disability organisations and services



- other important groups.



We will keep working on recommendations from

- the Royal Commission



- a report about the NDIS.

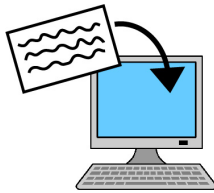


We will make sure we ask people with disability in Victoria how we can make things better for them.

More information



For more information contact the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing at the Victorian Government.



Email disabilityreform@dfh.vic.gov.au

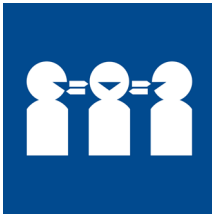


You can read our full response to the Royal Commission on our website.



Website www.vic.gov.au/disability-royalcommission-response

If you need help with English



Use the free Translating and Interpreting Service or TIS to make a phone call.

You can call the TIS in your language.



Call 131 450

Give the TIS officer the phone number you want to call.

If you need help to speak or listen



Use the National Relay Service to make a phone call.

You must sign up to the service first.



Website accesshub.gov.au/nrs-helpdesk



Call 1800 555 660

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disabilityreform@dffh.vic.gov.au

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