



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department



Have your say about our Second Action Plan

The National Strategy to Prevent and
Respond to Child Sexual Abuse 2021–2030

Easy Read version



Acknowledgement of Country



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First People of Australia.



They have always looked after Country.

Country means the land, water, sky and everything within them.



We respect the important connection that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have with Country.



And we respect their Elders from the past and now.

Respect for people who have experienced child sexual abuse



We give our respect to everyone who has experienced **child sexual abuse**.

This includes people who have passed away.



Child sexual abuse is when someone:

- makes a child do sexual things
- does sexual things to a child.

Child sexual abuse is against the law.



We recognise how much child sexual abuse affects each person.



This includes how each person is treated because of their experience.



We need to listen to the experiences of:

- children
- people who have experienced child sexual abuse.

We focus our work on:



- stopping child sexual abuse from happening



- improving supports for everyone who has experienced child sexual abuse.

How to use this document



We are The National Office for Child Safety.

We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

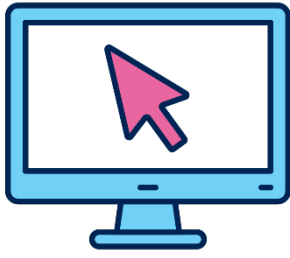
We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page [27](#).



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



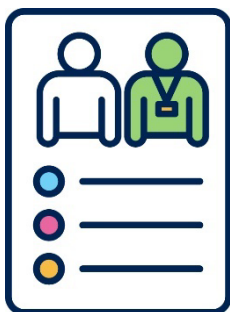
You can find the other document on our website.

<https://consultations.ag.gov.au/rights-and-protections/nocs-community-survey/>



You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



We have a list of organisations you can use if you need extra support.

You can find this list of organisations on page [21](#).

What's in this document?

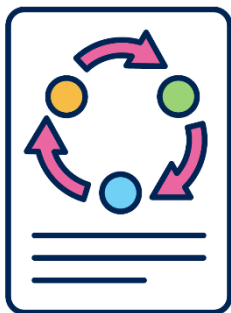
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About our Second Action Plan



We wrote the National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse 2021–2030.

In this document, we call it the Strategy.



A **strategy** is a plan for how to make things better.

We wrote the Strategy to:



- stop child sexual abuse



- support people who have experienced child sexual abuse and their families.

In Australia, child sexual abuse affects:



- more than 1 in 3 girls



- almost 1 in 5 boys.



Child sexual abuse can cause many health issues over a person's life.



For example:

- mental illness
- poor physical health.



It can also lead to:

- drug and alcohol use
- not being able to work.



The Strategy has Action Plans that explain how governments will work together to reach our goals.



We are creating a new Action Plan for the Strategy.

This will be the second Action Plan.

What we have already achieved



Our First Action Plan helped us reach many of our goals.

We created tools to support adults to talk about child sexual abuse with:



- children



- other adults.



We worked with organisations to help them understand how to keep children safe.



We helped open an online chat for children who have experienced child sexual abuse. This means they can get legal support in a safe way.



We gave money to help 23 services support more people who have experienced child sexual abuse.



We did research on how well the Strategy is working.

Why we need a second Action Plan



Our research tells us there is more we can do to keep children safe.



We also know that some things have changed since our First Action Plan.



For example, new technology is making it easier for child sexual abuse to happen.

What we have heard so far



We have already heard some ideas about what our Second Action Plan should focus on.



We heard it should be easier to get good support for people who have experienced child sexual abuse and their families.



This includes legal services.



We heard we need to build the skills of workers that support people who have experienced child sexual abuse and their families.



People told us we should keep improving the **Working with Children Check** system.



A Working With Children Check is a check you must have if you want to work with children.

It helps decide if someone is suitable to work with children.



We heard we should focus on stopping child sexual abuse before it happens.



People told us we need better ways to help children who use sexual behaviours that hurt:

- themselves
- other people.



This includes support to change their behaviour.



We heard we should stop child sexual abuse that happens online.



People told us we should research how things on the internet can cause people to hurt others.



For example, **pornography**.

Pornography includes images or videos of:

- someone's sexual body parts
- people taking part in sexual acts.

We want to know what you think

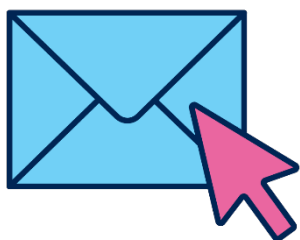


We want to hear your ideas about what should be in our Second Action Plan.



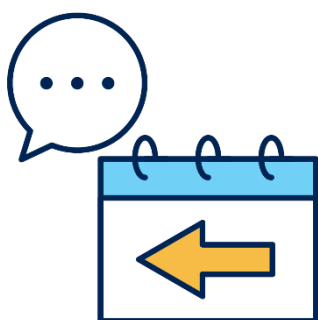
You can share your ideas in the survey on our website.

<https://consultations.ag.gov.au/rights-and-protections/nocs-community-survey/>



You can email us if you need support to fill out the survey.

NationalOfficeforChildSafety@ag.gov.au



You can have your say before 17 July 2026.

What will happen next

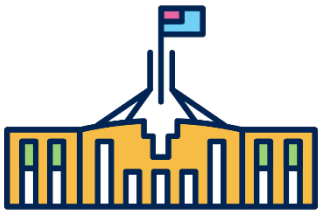


We will write a report about the ideas the community shares with us.

We will share this report:



- on our website



- within the Australian Government.



We will use your ideas to help us write our Second Action Plan.

Other ways to keep Australians safe



The Strategy is part of how the Australian Government is working to keep Australians safe.



The government also has strategies to keep people safe from other types of **violence**.

Violence is when someone:



- hurts you
- scares you
- controls you.



For example, violence against women and children.



We will use the ideas you share to make all our strategies better.



You can find more information about the other strategies on the Department of Social Services website.

[www.engage.dss.gov.au/
second-action-plan](http://www.engage.dss.gov.au/second-action-plan)

Get support

We have a big list of support services on our website.



This includes support services for:

- parents and carers
- children and adults who have experienced child sexual abuse.

www.childsafety.gov.au/get-support

Bravehearts



Bravehearts is a support service for children who have experienced child sexual abuse.



They can also support adults who need help when a child they know has experienced child sexual abuse.



You can call Bravehearts:

- Monday to Friday
- 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

1800 272 831



You can visit the Bravehearts website for more information.

www.bravehearts.org.au

Blue Knot Foundation



The Blue Knot Foundation supports adults who experienced child sexual abuse as a child.



They also provide support to the family and friends of people who have experienced child sexual abuse.



You can call the Blue Knot Foundation every day between 9 am and 5 pm.

1300 657 380



You can visit their website for more information.

www.blueknot.org.au

Kids Helpline



Kids Helpline is a free **counselling** service for children who are 5 to 25 years old.



Counselling is when someone talks with a professional about how they think and feel.



You can call Kids Helpline any time.

1800 55 1800



You can visit their website for more information.

www.kidshelpline.com.au

Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)



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

131 450



You can ask TIS National:

- to connect you to a phone number
- for support to send an email.



You can also visit their website for more information.

www.tisnational.gov.au

National Relay Service



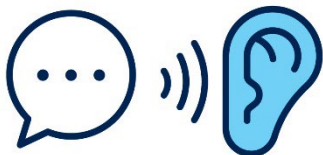
You can call the National Relay Service if you:

- are deaf or hard of hearing
- find it hard to speak using the phone.



You can use their TTY service (Type and Listen).

1800 555 677



You can use their speak and listen service.

1300 555 727



You can ask them to connect you to a phone number.

Contact us



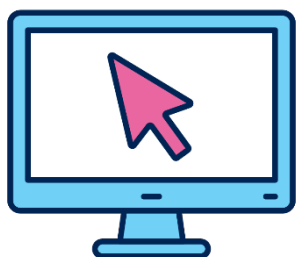
For more information about this document, you can send us an email.

NationalOfficeforChildSafety@ag.gov.au



You can write to us.

National Office for Child Safety
3–5 National Circuit
Barton ACT 2600



You can visit our website.

www.childsafety.gov.au

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



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- does sexual things to a child.

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Counselling is when someone talks with a professional about how they think and feel.



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Strategy

A strategy is a plan for how to make things better.

Violence

Violence is when someone:



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Working with Children Check

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It helps decide if someone is suitable to work with children.

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