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|  | Dr Ben GauntlettDisability Discrimination CommissionerSECOND YEAR OF TERM | *‘Good disability policy benefits all Australians: not just the 4.5 million people with a disability in Australia. Ensuring that the voices of people with disability are central to policy decisions is the key to achieving positive outcomes and changing the trajectory of people’s lives for the better.’* |

## TERM GOALS

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| **Increased** access to meaningful employment opportunities for people with disability | **Increased** access to accessible housing for people with disability | **Greater** community awareness of disability rights and disability discrimination | **Strengthened** legal and policy frameworks to protect disability rights |

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| STRATEGIES* Ensuring meaningful consultation, engagement and collaboration with people with disability, including children and young people with disability, and their representative organisations to amplify their voices and promote self-advocacy.
* Promoting understanding and application of the social model of disability in education, policy development, law reform and structural change.
* Fostering stakeholder networks and partnerships to promote the participation of people with disability in the workforce and the broader community.
* Highlighting and addressing structural discrimination and intersectional disadvantage, with a focus on women with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability.
* Improving the collection and publication of disaggregated data relating to disability to facilitate evidence-based analysis, advocacy and decision-making.
 | *Commissioner Gauntlett in discussion with UN representatives, Brussels, December 2019.* |

## KEY ACTVITITES / 2020–21 WORKPLAN

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| Disability Employment Project | * Building employer commitment and capacity to recruit and support the progression of people with disability in employment. A range of strategies will be adopted including working directly with a network of private and public sector employers. In the coming year we will establish a core employer network, an ambassador group, and a set of resources to support employers and job seekers with disability.
* Ongoing engagement with employers and industry groups to remove workplace barriers and encourage the adoption of recommendations and good practice examples from the 2016 ‘Willing to Work’ report.
* Development of resources for employers and job seekers with disability including leader training, factsheets and practical tools and templates. Resources will be designed to remove recruitment and career progression barriers and create more inclusive workplaces for people with disability.
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| **Accessible Housing Project** | * Exploring ways to increase the availability of accessible housing options for people with disability through collaboration with key stakeholders, experts, government agencies and people with disability.
* Improving the knowledge of people with disability in relation to their housing needs and options.
* Raising awareness within the community regarding the benefits of universal and accessible design in the housing context.
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| **Community consultation and engagement** | * Working with Government to ensure that its second National Disability Strategy is informed by lived experience through meaningful consultations with people with disability. This will include people with complex support and communication needs and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability in remote and regional Australia.
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| Disability Royal Commission engagement | * Developing human rights-focused submissions to inform the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (Disability Royal Commission) on issues including inclusive education, criminal justice, and employment.
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| International engagement and youth development  | * Participating in the 13th Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP13) in New York in December 2020. This will involve sharing the experiences of Australians with disability on the international stage and learning from international leaders.
* Facilitating participation of, and mentoring, a delegation of Emerging Young Leaders, comprising people with disability under 30 years of age, to the COSP13 in New York.
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| Education and awareness raising | * Working with universities, vocational education, and training institutions and professional groups to ensure that disability awareness is integrated throughout the curricula of all relevant degrees and diplomas.
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