Hard words

This plan has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**

- we will say what the hard word means.

Why we need a plan

We are the Victorian Government.

We want to stop **abuse** in disability services.

Abuse is when someone hurts you.

Abuse is **not** okay.

We have a plan to keep people with a disability safe from abuse.

Our plan is called **Victoria’s disability abuse prevention strategy**.
About abuse

We want everyone to understand

● what abuse is

● different types of abuse

● where abuse can happen.

People who abuse others can be

● disability workers

● supervisors

● people with a disability

● family

● other people.
Our plan to stop abuse

Help for people with a disability and their family

● **Capacity building.**

  We will support people with a disability to understand their rights.

● **Advocacy groups.**

  Groups who support people with a disability to
  – speak up about abuse
  – speak up about their needs
  – be treated the same as everyone else.
● We give money to advocacy groups to help people with a disability
  – keep safe
  – understand what abuse is
  – tell people if abuse happens
  – learn about relationships and sex.

● www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/disability-abuse-prevention is our website with
  – information about abuse
  – links to other useful websites
  – lists of services that can help.
Help for service providers

**Disability service providers** support people with a disability.

- We will support disability service providers to
  - understand abuse
  - keep everyone safe
  - work with people with a disability
  - support the different needs of men and women.
- The government makes rules about the way disability workers must act.

- We will tell disability workers
  - abuse is not okay
  - what they can do to help stop abuse.

- The Victorian government wants all governments in Australia to
  - agree that abuse is never okay
  - make rules about abuse for all disability workers.
Help for the disability sector

The **disability sector** is all the groups that help support people with a disability.

- **Workforce screening.**
  
  Screening means to check
  - **no** disability workers are dangerous
  - all disability workers know how to do a good job.

- **Provider regulation.**
  
  This means to make sure service providers
  - follow the rules
  - do a good job.

- We will make videos to support disability workers to
  - treat people with a disability with respect.
  - tell people with a disability their rights.
● To keep everyone safe there will be
   – rules on who can be a service provider
   – rules on who can be a disability worker
   – a list of disability workers.

● We will give money to groups that help
  women with a disability feel safe.

● We made a law that abuse is **not** okay.

● We will make sure
  – everyone follows the rules
  – everyone works together
  – the plan makes things better.

● We will let everyone know that they can
  learn more about how to stop abuse.
What we want our plan to do

We want

- to support people with a disability to be leaders

- for you to understand
  - what abuse is
  - when abuse can happen
  - how to get help when abuse happens
  - what rights people have

- for you to have someone to help you speak up if you need it.
We want

- more advocates to help people
  - who live far away from support
  - who have trouble getting help

- to provide training that supports different
  - cultures
  - religions.
To receive this publication in an accessible format phone 1800 783 783, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or email disability.services@dhhs.vic.gov.au.

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne, Department of Health and Human Services, July 2018.

