Council for Intellectual Disability

COVID-19
Leave no one behind

Summary of CID consultations with people with intellectual disability.

June 2020

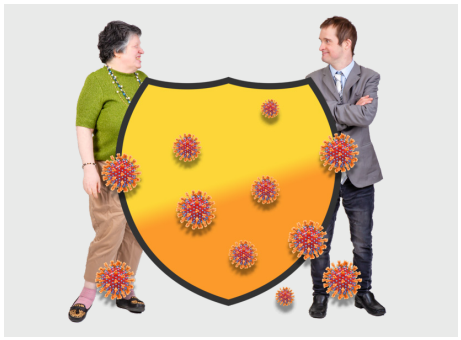
Easy Read

www.cid.org.au

Consults

CID held consults with people with intellectual disability in May 2020.

A **consult** is a conversation about a big issue.



The consults were about

- Coronavirus and
- The government plan to keep people with disability safe from Coronavirus

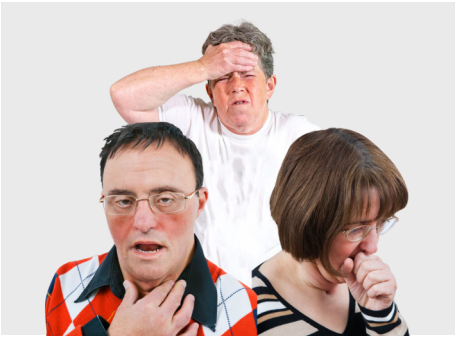
CID wrote a report.

This is an Easy Read summary of the report.

It includes

- What the consults were about
- What is working well
- What people think of the plan
- What the government can do better

What the consults were about



Coronavirus is making people sick in Australia and overseas.

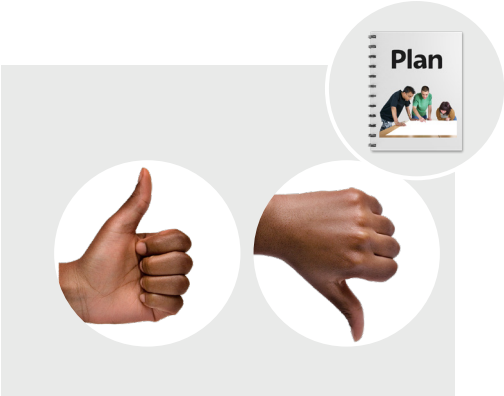
Coronavirus is also called COVID-19.

CID want to know

- How Coronavirus has impacted people
- Concerns people have about Coronavirus

The Australian Government has a plan to keep people with disability safe from Coronavirus.

The Plan says people with disability must get the health care they need.



CID want to know

- What people think of the Plan
- How the Plan can be improved

Who was involved

CID talked to **15** people from

- New South Wales
- South Australia and
- Tasmania

Some people lived in group homes.

2 people were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

We talked to people on the phone or by video on the computer.

We asked people questions about

- Coronavirus and
- The government plan

What people said

People are glad there is a Plan.

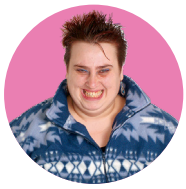
A lot of people with disability are forgotten so it's good to know the Government is thinking of us.

People want more Easy Read information on Coronavirus.

I'm confused about the symptoms.

Put it in Easy Read. No graphs, no numbers.

People want the test for Coronavirus to be easy to get.



I was feeling really sick so wanted to get tested for COVID. It was a drama to get tested! Testing needs to be better for people with disabilities.

What people said

People want the Plan to keep them safe on public transport.

I want to know how they will help us with public transport.

I need public transport to get to my job.

Some people are worried about catching Coronavirus.

It would be really bad if I got Coronavirus because I have other conditions.

Some people are worried and feel lonely.

The restrictions over the long weekend really affected me. My mental health was bad.

What people said

Some people in group homes had to follow strict rules.

I was in seclusion for 4-5 days in my room at the group home.

People said the COVID Safe app is hard to use.

I have downloaded the Coronavirus app but I don't get how the app works.

People said internet and technology was very important.

Everything has gone online and I need the internet.

Tips for the Government

1. The Plan

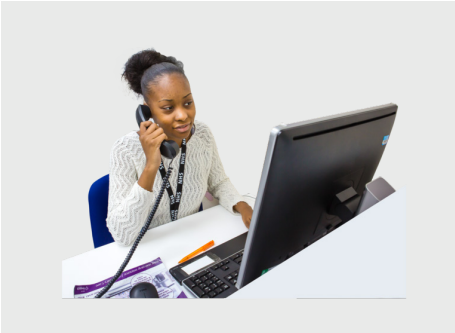
Tell people with intellectual disability about the plan and ask what they think.

2. Vaccine

Make sure people with intellectual disability have the same right to the vaccine as others.

3. Testing

Allow people with disability to be tested for Coronavirus at the GP or at home.



4. Telehealth

People with disability must be able to choose if they want to use telehealth or not.

Telehealth is when you talk to a health person on the phone.

Tips for the Government

5. Make Easy Read information on

- Testing for Coronavirus
- Symptoms of Coronavirus
- COVID Safe app

Make sure health people have Easy Read information to give to people with disability.

- GPs
- Psychologists and
- Pharmacists

6. Group homes

Tell people who live in group homes about their rights.

Make sure disability service providers follow the rules.

Tips for the Government

7. Essential items

People with intellectual disability need

- Internet
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) like gloves and masks.

8. Public transport

Protect people with intellectual disability on public transport.

“It is important that the government listen to people with a disability. People like me. They need to include people with intellectual disability.” – Laura, CID member

cid Council for Intellectual Disability

For more information contact CID

Call **1800 424 065** or

email **info@cid.org.au**