



Council for
Intellectual Disability



Position statement about rights in the criminal justice system



Easy Read

www.cid.org.au

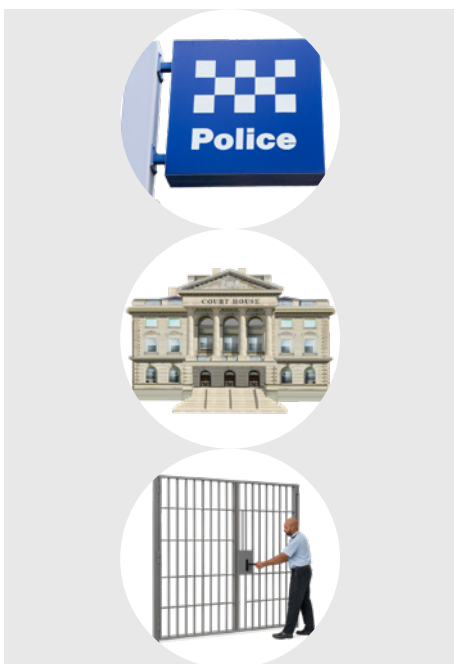
Getting rights in the criminal justice system



CID made this **position statement** about the **criminal justice system**.



A **position statement** says what CID thinks about an issue.



The **criminal justice system** means services for people who get in trouble with the law like

- The police
- Courts
- Prisons.



Many people with intellectual disability are in the criminal justice system.

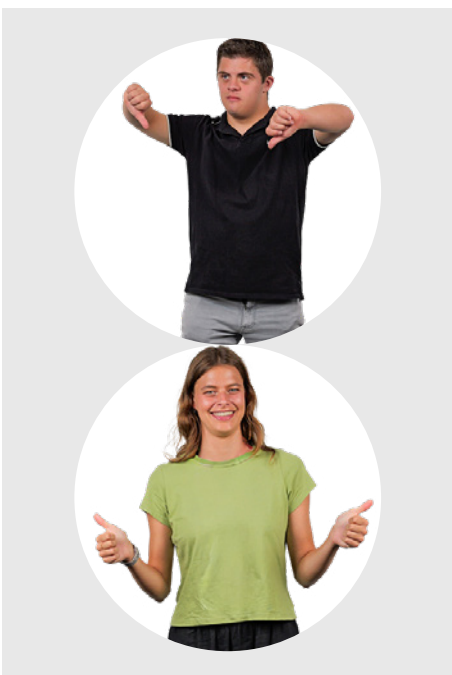


In the criminal justice system everyone should

- Be treated fair
- Get their rights.



We want to make sure this happens for people with intellectual disability.



This position statement says

- What the issues are with the criminal justice system
- What CID wants to do to make things better.

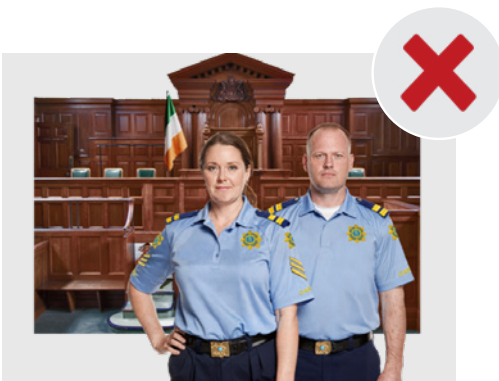
What is happening now



The **Disability Royal Commission** looked at how people with disability are treated.



It found out that many people in prison have an intellectual disability.



Many people with intellectual disability say police and court staff do not treat them fair.

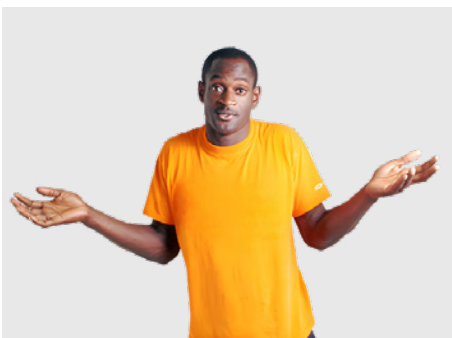


Next we will look at issues people with intellectual disability have in the criminal justice system.

Staff in the criminal justice system



Staff often do not know how to support people with intellectual disability.



They often do not know what people with intellectual disability need.

Understanding information



Information in the criminal justice system is often hard to understand.



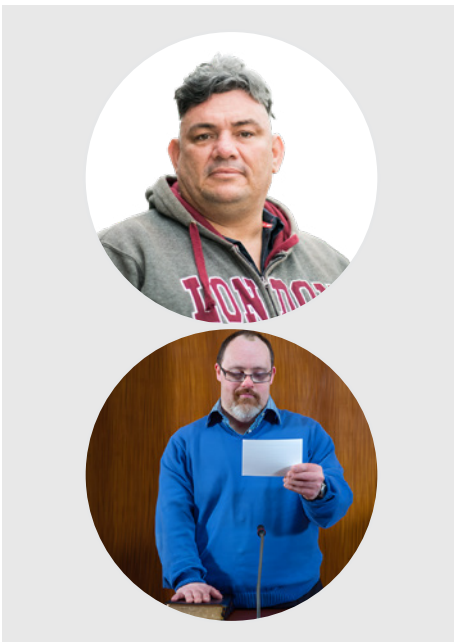
It is harder for people who have trouble reading.



Staff in the criminal justice system use very hard words.



It is also hard for lots of people to understand how the court works.



This makes it hard for people with intellectual disability to know

- Their rights
- What they have to do at court.



When people do not know their rights they might not get the support they need.

Justice Advocacy Service



The **Justice Advocacy Service** supports people with intellectual disability in NSW

- At the police station
- In courts.



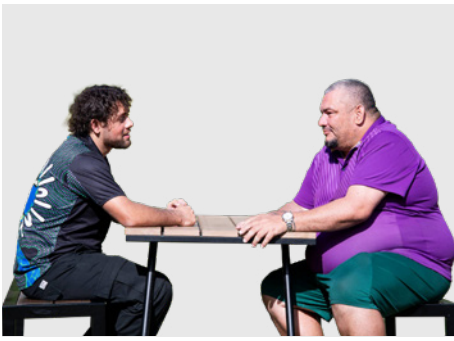
We will say **JAS** for short.



JAS gets money from the NSW Government.



JAS also has a program in **6** courts to keep people out of the criminal justice system.



This program is called the **JAS diversion program**.



This program looks at why people get sent to the criminal justice system.



The program helps people get the support they need from services like the NDIS.



Many people who get support from JAS are First Nations people.



Many of the young First Nations people JAS supports have an intellectual disability.



JAS does not have the money to support everyone who needs it at the police or court.



They need more money from the Government to support all the people who need it.



When people get the right support it means they are more likely not to do the wrong thing again.

What CID wants



We looked at the issues for people with intellectual disability in the criminal justice system.



We think

1. The government should give more money to JAS so people get the right supports
2. The JAS diversion program needs to be in more courts
3. Staff in all criminal justice services should learn about intellectual disability.

1. The government should give more money to JAS so people get the right supports



The NSW Government should give more money to JAS to support people.



This will help more people with intellectual disability get the right support at places like

- Police stations
- Courts
- Meetings with lawyers.



It will make sure they get the right supports from people who know how to best support them.

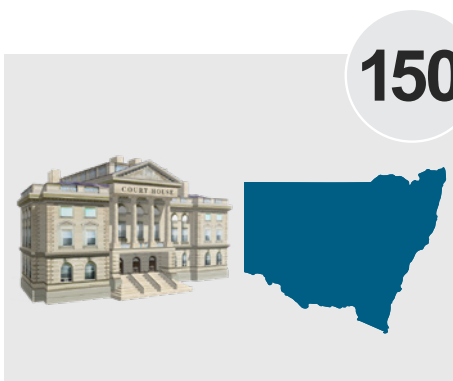
2. Have the JAS diversion program in more courts



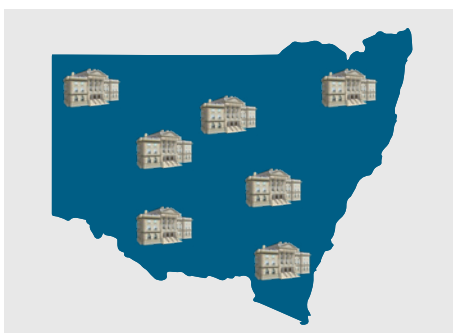
We want the NSW Government to make the JAS diversion program bigger.



Right now it is only in 6 courts.



There are 150 courts in NSW.



We think the program should be in more courts all over NSW.

3. Train staff in all services



The **Department of Communities and Justice** should do more training for their staff.

We will say **DCJ** for short.



DCJ is part of the NSW Government and looks after services that support people.



DCJ should make a plan to train their staff.



The training will help staff to better support people with intellectual disability.

What needs to happen next



CID will keep speaking to the NSW Government.



For JAS and the JAS diversion program we will ask for

- More money
- More time for the programs to run.



We want these programs to support people who need them most.

More information



You can contact CID for more information about this position statement.



You can

- Call CID on 1800 424 065
- Send an email to advocacy@cid.org.au