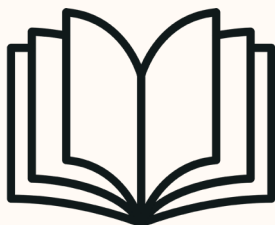


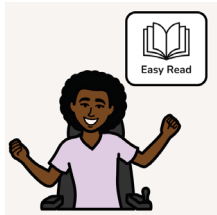
# Application Information Pack

**Lived Experience Advisory Council**



**Easy Read**

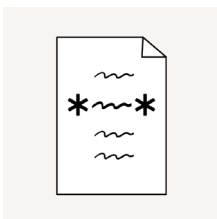
# About Easy Read



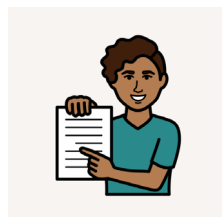
This is an Easy Read book.



Easy Read uses simple words and pictures to explain ideas.



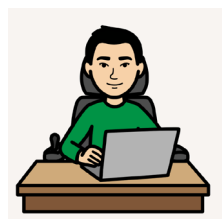
New words are **\*bold with stars\***.



We tell you what new words mean.

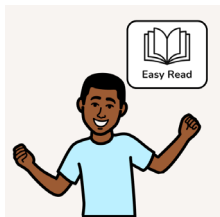


Easy Read is a summary.



Get more information on our website  
[www.dfsvc.gov.au](http://www.dfsvc.gov.au)

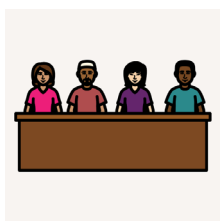
# About this book



This is our Easy Read  
**\*Application Information Pack\***.



Our Application Information Pack  
tells you how to join our **\*Lived  
Experience Advisory Council\***.



Our Lived Experience Advisory  
Council is a group of people that

- helps us plan and make decisions



- gives advice.

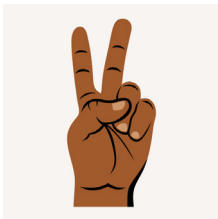


We call the group **our council** in this book.

# What happens if you join?



We write **members** for Lived Experience Advisory Council Members in this book.



Members are part of the group for 2 years.



There might be more work after 2 years.



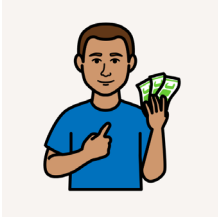
1 or 2 meetings a year will be in person.



All other meetings will be online.



Members meet up to **6 hours online** every 2 months and up to **6 days in person** a year.



You are paid for your time.

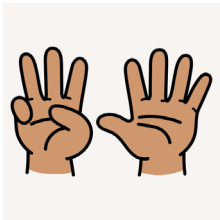


You are sometimes offered extra work.



You can say yes or no to extra work.

# Who can be a member?



There are 8 places for new members.



New members start in  
November and December 2026.



To apply to join our council, you must

- be over 18 years old



- be a permanent Australian resident



- have enough time to do the work.



We ask everyone to do the  
**\*self-reflection tool\*** before they apply.



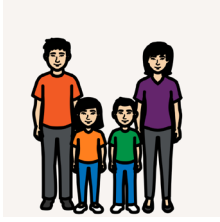
The self-reflection tool checks it is safe  
for you to be part of our Council.

# Apply before 10 August 2026



You must apply by  
**Monday 10 August 11.30pm AEST.**

# Experience



Members must have lived experience of 1 or more of these things

- family violence



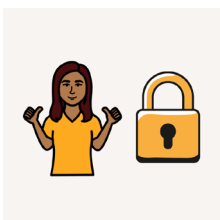
- sexual violence



- **\*domestic violence\***



Domestic violence is harm caused by people you are close to.  
For example family or partners.



You do **not** need to share your personal story of violence to be in the group.



You must also be able to help us make changes to **\*systems\***.



Systems describe how different organisations work together.



For example

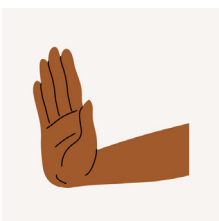
- health services



- alcohol and drug services



- homelessness services.



Members do **not** need a special qualification.

# Interest

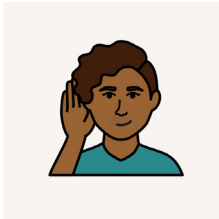


You must

- think our work is interesting and important

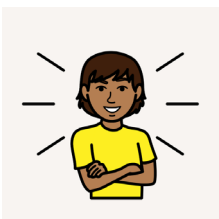


- care about the work we are doing in the group



- be open to learning new things.

# Readiness



**\*Readiness\*** is about having skills to take on the work in a safe way.



You must be ready to talk about hard topics, like violence.

# Team work



You must be able to listen to ideas that are different from your own.



You must help us make the group feel safe and work together well.

# We want different groups to apply



We want different groups to apply.

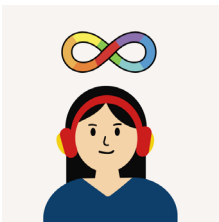


For example

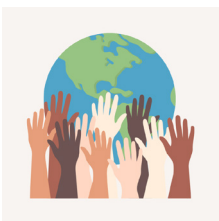
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



- people with disability



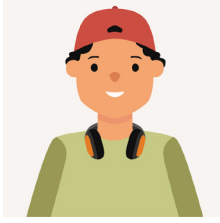
- neurodivergent people



- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

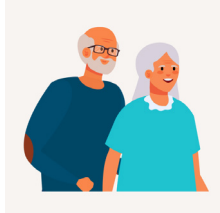


- LGBTIQA+SB people.

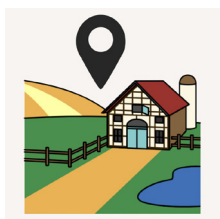


We also want to hear from

- young people aged 18 to 25



- older people aged over 65



- people who live in regional, rural or remote parts of Australia.

## Who cannot apply?



You cannot apply to be in our group if

- you work at DFSVC



- you live outside Australia.

# What members must do



Members must

- join 80 percent of meetings or more



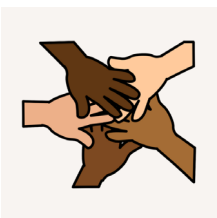
- get ready for meetings ahead of time, like reading about meeting topics



- share ideas in meetings



- show respect for all others in meetings



- help the group make decisions together.



Members must respect our rules about **\*privacy and confidentiality\***.

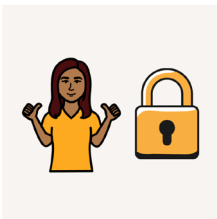


Privacy and confidentiality means you do not share **\*sensitive\*** information outside meetings.



Sensitive information could be

- personal details of other members, for example where they live



- ideas shared in meetings that are not known by the public.



You must respect different **\*trauma\*** other people might have.



Trauma means

- something very bad happened to you



- it can impact you for a long time.



You must respect different cultures.  
For example, people with beliefs  
that are different from yours.

# Help to be in our council



You can ask for **\*adjustments\***.



Adjustments are changes we make to meet the different needs of people.



Adjustments might be

- more time to prepare



- longer breaks



- something else.



We pay for travel.



If you live far away, we will pay for costs to come to in-person meetings.



For example, flights or accommodation.

# Questions you must answer



When you apply, we will ask about

- why you want to join our council



- what you want government to know

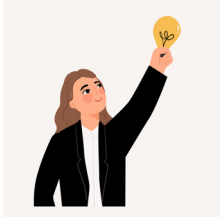


- how you will show respect in meetings



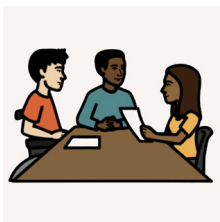
- if you are already part of any communities, networks or groups.

# How do we choose members?



We choose members based on

- the experience and knowledge each person might bring to the group

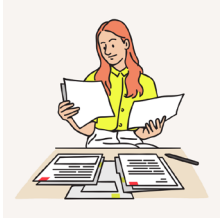


- the balance of different experiences across the group.



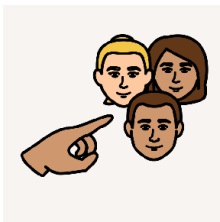
For example, our council must have a mix of people with different backgrounds.

# Our selection process



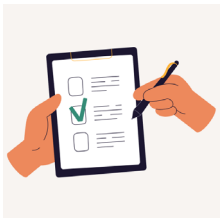
Our **\*selection process\*** explains the steps we follow when we

- read and check all applications



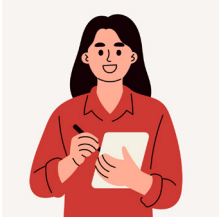
- choose members.

## Step 1



We look at all applications and make sure they meet all the rules above before going to step 2.

## Step 2



We assess the applications.

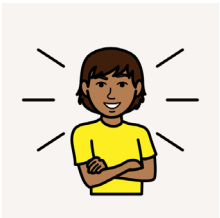


To assess, we look at

- your experience



- your interest



- your readiness



- if you are safe to join



- if you will show respect and help our council be a good team.

## Step 3

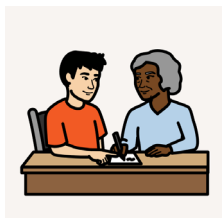


We make sure we have a good balance of different people in the group.

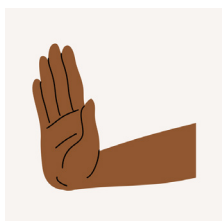
## Step 4



We do interviews.

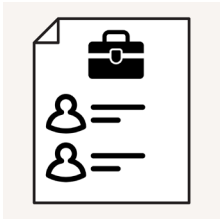


You can bring a support person.



You do **not** have to share stories of personal violence.

## Step 5

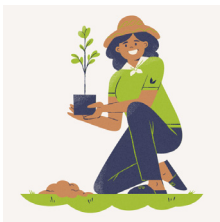


We do **\*reference checks\***.



Reference checks mean we talk to someone who knows you from

- community work



- volunteer work



- other services you both were part of.



You can tell us who your reference will be.

## Step 6



We do **\*police checks\***.

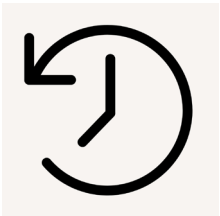


Police checks

- tell us about each member's criminal history



- help keep everyone safe.



People with a criminal history can still apply.



We will pay for your police check.

## Step 7



We tell the Minister for Social Services who we think should be in the group



The Minister makes the final decision.

# How we pay members



Members get paid for

- meetings



- some extra work events. For example, extra meetings or workshops.

## Meetings

If you are a member, you are paid

- **\$190.40** for 2 hours of work or less
- **\$285.60** for 2 to 3 hours of work
- **\$476** for 3 hours or more of work.

If you are **\*Co-Chair\***, you are paid

- **\$252.40** for 2 hours of work or less
- **\$378.60** for 2 to 3 hours of work
- **\$631** for 3 hours or more of work.



The Co-Chair is a person who helps lead the meetings.

## Extra work events



Extra work events happen outside council meeting days.

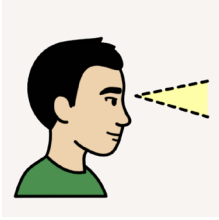
If you are a member, you are paid

- **\$95.20** for each hour
- **\$476** for 5 or more hours.

If you are Co-Chair, you are paid

- **\$126.20** for each hour
- **\$631** for 5 or more hours.

# Activities you are not paid for



You are not paid to

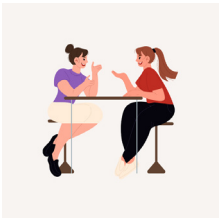
- be in the audience of an event



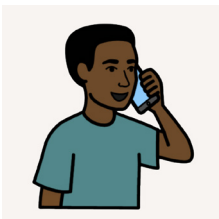
- give general feedback



- read newsletters or general information by the government



- **\*debriefing\*** sessions.



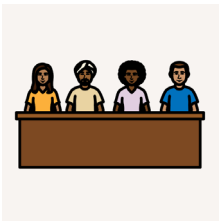
Debriefing sessions are calls after meetings to get support from a counsellor.

# Your privacy

## Who sees your application?



We follow laws to keep your information safe and private.

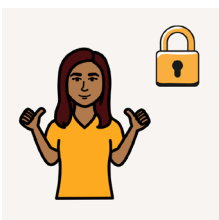


Only people working on the selection panel will see your application.



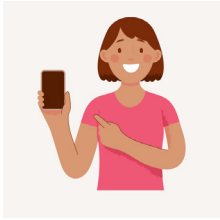
We do not share your application with other workers or the public.

## Will the public see your details?



You choose what we share with the public.

# Learn more



Contact the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission to learn more.



Website [www.dfsvc.gov.au](http://www.dfsvc.gov.au)



Email [enquiries@dfsvc.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@dfsvc.gov.au)



Call 1300 152 963

# Help to call



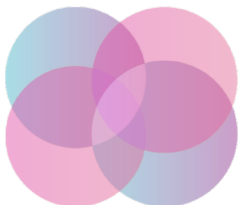
Call 131 450 for the Translating and Interpreting Service if English is not your first language.



Call 1800 555 660 for the National Relay Service if you have communication support needs.



Call 1800 555 677 if you use a teletypewriter or TTY.



Embrace **Access**

Embrace Access wrote this Easy Read book in August 2026. This book was co-designed by an advisor with lived experience of disability. You must ask for permission to use the words and images in this book. Picture Communication Symbols © 1981–2026 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox. Contact the team at Embrace Access to create your own co-designed Easy Read book. W: [www.EmbraceAccess.com.au](http://www.EmbraceAccess.com.au) E: [info@EmbraceAccess.com.au](mailto:info@EmbraceAccess.com.au) M: 0433 759 535