



**Australian Government**

**Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science**

# **Review of the Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010**

**Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation  
and Science**

**Easy Read version**



## How to use this document



This information is written in an easy to read way.  
We use pictures to explain some ideas.



This document has been written by the Premises Standards Review Team (PSRT). When you see the word 'we', it means PSRT.



Australian Government

Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science



Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

The PSRT is made up of people from:

- the Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
- the Attorney-General's Department.



Some words are written in **bold**. We explain what these words mean. There is a list of these words on page 21.



This Easy Read document is a summary of another document.



You can find the other document on our website at <http://www.industry.gov.au/industry/IndustrySectors/buildingmetalsandconstruction/Pages/PremisesStandardsReview.aspx>



You can ask for help to read this document.  
A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

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## About the Premises Standards



**Access** means that you can enter a place, such as a building, or use a facility, such as a swimming pool.



There is a set of rules about access.

The rules are called the *Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010*.



We usually call them the Premises Standards.



These rules make sure that buildings provide the right levels of access, according to the law.



The Premises Standards started on 1 May 2011.



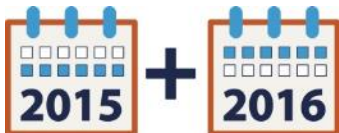
They only apply to new buildings or new parts of buildings that were built after this date.



Every 5 years, we must **review** the Premises Standards to make sure they are working well.



When we review the Premises Standards we look at how well they have been going.



We did this in the second half of 2015 and first half of 2016.

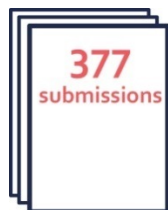


The review looked at how much of a difference the Premises Standards have made since they started in 2011.

## Reviewing the Premises Standards



As part of the review we asked people to tell us what they think about the Premises Standards.



We received 377 submissions.



Submissions are documents people write and send in to tell somebody what they think.

66%



66% of the submissions came from people with disability, carers and advocates.

9%



9% came from disability organisations.

6%



6% came from local governments.



19%



The rest of the submissions (19%) came from:

- access consultants – people who know a lot about making buildings accessible
- state governments
- the accommodation industry – people who work in hotels or motels
- building certifiers, developers and managers
- architects and designers
- industry associations – groups of people that work in the same industry and share the same interests
- Australian government agencies
- non-government organisations.





We found out from the review that the Premises Standards have helped.



People with disability have been given access to public buildings that is:

- fair
- cost-effective
- logical – it makes sense
- practical – done in a sensible way.



Buildings that have been built using the Premises Standards provide access that fits in with the law – the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.



We also found out from the review that we need more time to know whether the Premises Standards are really working well.



We also learned that there are some areas we need to work on.

We need to make some things clearer.



We need to tell more people about the Premises Standards and why they should use them.

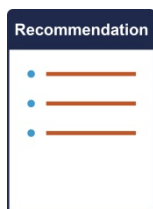


However, we need to do more research before we change anything.

## Improving the Premises Standards



We need to make the Premises Standards more effective and easier to understand.



We have come up with some ways we think this could be done.

We call them recommendations.

The recommendations fit in to 4 categories:



- Improving connections – making sure the Premises Standards work with other rules like the National Construction Code (NCC) and the Transport Standards.



- Improving understanding – making sure the Premises Standards can be understood by everybody.



- Improving measurement – collecting more data and information about how the Premises Standards are going and the effect they are having.



- Improving **governance** – making sure we carefully manage the way the Premises Standards are working so we can be ready for the next review.

## Improving connections

### Recommendation 1



Make changes to the Premises Standards so they:



- are clearer and easier to understand

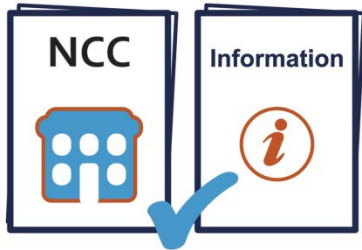


- keep up to date with the NCC



- work well with the Transport Standards.

We need to make changes like:



- making sure the information in some sections matches what's in the NCC



- taking out or adding some words to different sections



- talking to the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development about ways to make the Premises Standards work with the Transport Standards.

## Improving understanding



### Recommendation 2

Help people who will be affected the most to:



- understand the Premises Standards



- understand why we need the Premises Standards.

These people include:



- people with disability



- families and carers



- building owners



- architects and designers



- building and construction workers.

## Recommendation 3



Improve education and training about the important parts of the Premises Standards so people:



- know more about the Premises Standards



- understand the Premises Standards better.



## Improving measurement



### Recommendation 4



Develop a good system so we can do a better job when we review the Premises Standards in the future.

Find better ways to:



- collect data and information



- organise and look closely at the data and information we collect



- get other organisations to help us.

## Improving governance

### Recommendation 5



Set up a way of managing things that will guide what we do next.

We want to set up a group that includes people from:



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science**

- DIIS



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

- the Attorney-General's department



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Social Services**

- the Department of Social Services.

## Recommendation 6



Set up groups of experts who can give us advice when we need it.



The people in the groups would need to be experts on things in the Premises Standards.

They might be people from:



- the Australian Building Codes Board – the people who developed the NCC



- state and territory building regulators – people who make sure the rules are being followed



- local government



- the building and construction industry



- design professionals



- access consultants – people who know a lot about making buildings accessible



- disability organisations



- the accommodation or tourism industry – people who manage or work in hotels or motels.

## Next steps



We had to tell the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science and the Attorney-General what we have found out by 1 May 2016.



We need to do a new review every 5 years.



We will do our next review in 2021.

## Contact us



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## Word list



### **Access**

You can enter a place, such as a building, or use a facility, such as a swimming pool.



### **Governance**

The way we manage how well the Premises Standards are working.



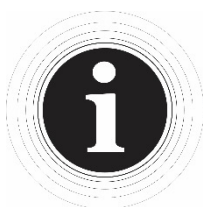
### **Review**

To look something over and see how well it has been going.



### **Submission**

Documents people write and send in to tell somebody what they think.



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