



Audio description

The Government has released the report of the Audio Description Working Group. The Government is grateful to the Working Group for its deliberations and is undertaking further policy work to determine the appropriate next steps.

As this work is ongoing, the Report is being released to enable greater public discussion and engagement with interested stakeholders.

The availability of media access technology for people with a disability in Australia varies. Whilst program captioning for people who are deaf or hearing impaired is widely prevalent, audio description for people who are blind or vision impaired is far less available.

Audio description technology enables people who are blind or vision impaired to enjoy screen content through narration of the action and visuals, providing context for audible sounds and dialogue.

The Audio Description Working Group brought together consumer groups, broadcasters, disability organisations, technology providers and regulators to consider options for the expanding access to audio description in Australia. This followed two trials of the technology on the ABC via broadcast and on-demand platforms.

Screen content is an audio/visual medium and the Government is committed to finding a viable pathway for much greater access to audio description technology for those Australians with blindness and vision impairments.

