



AN ROINN DLÍ AGUS CIRT AGUS COMHIONANNAIS
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

National Disability Inclusion Strategy

2017 - 2021



This is an easy to read booklet on the National Disability Inclusion Strategy.

What is this booklet about?



This booklet is about the National Disability Inclusion Strategy.
A strategy is a plan.



This Strategy will support people with disabilities to take part in their local communities.



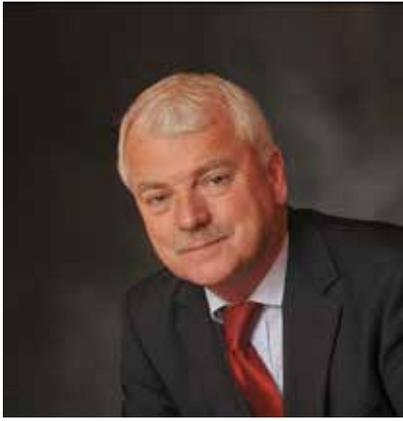
The Strategy asks different government departments, public organisations and other groups to work together.



It will run from 2017 to 2021.



The Strategy has 114 actions.
The actions tell us the things that will be done to support people with disabilities.



Minister Finian McGrath says



I am very happy, as the Minister for Disability issues, to present this Strategy.



The Government wants to give people with disabilities a better life and more opportunities to be successful.



I spent time meeting people with disabilities.
They told me about their needs.
I listened to the things that are important for people to have a good life.



The Strategy wants people with disabilities to have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else in Ireland.



One of my main goals as Minister is to agree the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This is taking longer than we planned.



We still have some work to do, but we are making good progress. Some of the actions in this Strategy are important so we can agree the UN Convention.



I am working hard with all government departments and organisations to make sure we can agree the UN Convention as soon as possible.



For the last year, I have been working with the National Disability Authority and government departments on this Strategy.

We had to decide which actions could be put in place by 2021.



The actions in this Strategy have the support of the Taoiseach and Government.



The actions try to make sure that every person with a disability can live the life they want.

Some actions could change the way services support people with disabilities.



I would like to thank everyone who helped us to put this Strategy together.

We all need to work together to make this Strategy a success.

How was the National Disability Inclusion Strategy put together?



The Department of Justice and Equality talked to people with disabilities and their supporters about the Strategy. They did this in three parts.



In part 1, people were asked to look at a list of things to go into the new Strategy. These are called themes.



In part 2, people were asked to meetings to talk about the goals for each theme. People also wrote to the Department with their views.



In part 3, the Department talked to people about the actions in the Strategy. The actions say how to reach each goal. People came to meetings around the country and wrote to the Department.

Important things for the Strategy



There are many people with disabilities living in Ireland. Living with a disability means different challenges for different people.



The Disability Act says that public services must include and support people with disabilities.



There are government policies which are important to this Strategy. For example the Comprehensive Employment Strategy, Transforming Lives, A Vision for Change.



The Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures programme and The National Youth Strategy will support children and young people with a disability to make choices, be the best they can be, and become an adult.

The themes in the National Disability Inclusion Strategy



Equality and choice



Public services working together



Education and learning



Employment – having a job



Keeping healthy and well



Person-centred supports – getting the supports you need to live your life



Living in the community



Transport and easy access



Some important actions on Equality and choice



We will pass the Disability Bill so we can agree the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



We will give people with disabilities information about the Assisted Decision-Making Act and the Decision Support Service.



We will make sure that Garda and Court services can be used by all people with disabilities.



We will make sure that public buildings and services are accessible in line with the Disability Act 2005.



Some important actions on Public services working together



We will put together a plan on local health and education groups.

These groups will talk about how local services can work together for children with disabilities.



We will set up systems and policies to support children and young people to move into and out of education.



Public organisations and Government Departments will talk to people with disabilities about how services are designed and checked.



Some important actions on Education and learning



We will train teachers to work with all students. Teachers and schools will learn new skills to support students with disabilities.



We will review the Special Needs Assistant (SNA) scheme.
We will write a report on the scheme.



We will encourage people with disabilities to take part in third level education.



We will make sure that schools can use information technology to help students with disabilities to learn.



Some important actions on Employment



We will put in place the Comprehensive Employment Strategy for Persons with Disabilities.



We will have more people with disabilities working in the public service by 2024.



The Make Work Pay Working Group will report to the Government in 2017. They will give their ideas to make sure that if a person with a disability is working, they have more money.



We will support the Employer Disability Information service with a helpline, website and by talking with employers.



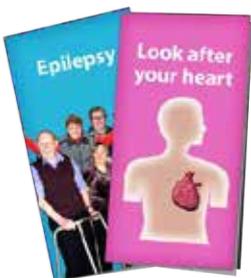
Some important actions on Keeping healthy and well



We will carry out the Healthy Ireland action plan.



We will make sure that health services give people with mental health difficulties the same level of care as other people.



We will help community HSE services to learn new skills so they can give accessible services and information to people with disabilities.



We will put together policy advice for Government Departments on a national programme for rehabilitation.



Some important actions on Person-centred supports



We will put the Transforming Lives programme into action so people with disabilities can live ordinary lives in ordinary places.



We will give advice and information on person-centred planning.



We will build communities that welcome and support people with disabilities. We will support all people with disabilities to be active citizens.



The Personalised Budgeting Task Force will report to the Government in 2017.



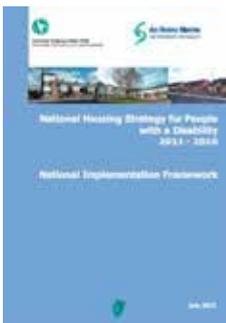
Some important actions on Living in the community

We will put into action the Time to Move On report.

This will give people with disabilities, living in institutions, choice and control over where they live in the community and who they live with.



We will go on with the National Housing Strategy for People with Disability up to 2020, and keep achieving the goals.



We will put together advice on using universal design for new houses so they can be used by everyone.



We will review the housing adaptation grant scheme.

The grant is money to help you make changes to your home.





Some important actions on Transport and easy access



We will make public transport easier for people with disabilities to use, especially buses, rural transport, bus stops and train stations.



We will ask people with disabilities about their experience of using public transport.



We will look at why some people with disabilities need to give notice before they travel on a train.

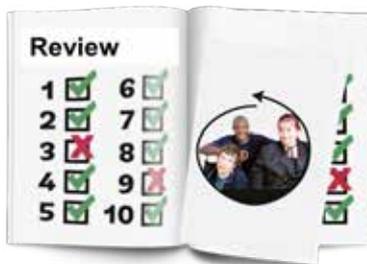


We will make sure that people with disabilities are included in discussions about the design and planning of buildings and spaces.

How will we know if the Strategy is working?



The Strategy says who is responsible for each action and when it will be done.



The Strategy will be reviewed to make sure there is progress on each action.



The National Disability Inclusion Strategy Steering Group will meet four times a year. They will check how things are going.



The Minister will keep the Government up to date on progress with the Strategy. They will work together to solve any problems that come up.





People with disabilities will be asked how they think the Strategy is going.



The National Disability Inclusion Strategy Steering Group will write a report every year.



The Government will see if the Strategy brings good changes for people with disabilities.

These are called outcomes.



The National Disability Authority are looking at different ways to measure outcomes.

For more information



You can get more information on the National Disability Inclusion Strategy from:



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