

A young boy with Down syndrome is smiling at the camera. He has light brown hair and freckles. He is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt over a white t-shirt. A necklace with a small pendant is visible. The background is a bookshelf filled with books, and the entire image has a warm, yellowish-orange tint.

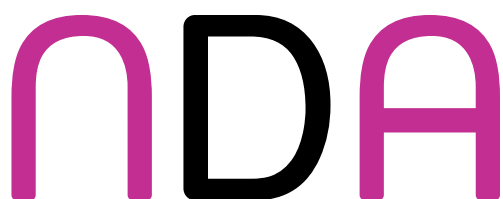
Progressing the Disability Agenda Strategic Plan 2010 -2012

nDA

National Disability Authority
Údarás Náisiúnta Míchumais



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Progressing the Disability Agenda

**National Disability Authority
Strategic Plan 2010 – 2012
Providing independent expert
advice to Government on
disability**

1

Support and monitor the implementation of the National Disability Strategy

2

Advice to promote independence and quality of daily life for people with disabilities

3

Promoting an accessible environment and Universal Design

4

Building NDA's capacity to deliver on the Strategic Plan

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Foreword

Foreword

This Strategic Plan for the three year period 2010-2012 sets out how the National Disability Authority (NDA), the Government's expert advisory body on disability, will focus its work to guide government departments and agencies on continuing to progress the inclusion of people with disabilities in the mainstream of Irish life in the current difficult economic climate.

The plan has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 9 of the National Disability Authority Act, 1999 and follows an in-depth process of consultation with key stakeholders including disability organisations and the government departments and public bodies the NDA advises.

In recent times, Ireland has moved towards a social model of disability emphasising the removal of societal barriers to achieve inclusion and full citizenship, and away from a medical model which viewed individuals as dependent. In line with this, responsibility for disability issues is recognised as an integral part of the services of every government department and the wider public service and is no longer confined to the health service.

The Government's broad-ranging National Disability Strategy, reaffirmed by the social partners in **Towards 2016**, sets out an agenda for every government department and public body, including detailed statutory Sectoral Plans for six key departments. It is important in this challenging economic period to safeguard and consolidate the real progress achieved to date and to continue to build on that work.

The Government has committed that disability remains a priority, that the National Disability Strategy will continue to be implemented subject to the availability of resources, and that the most vulnerable will be protected against the worst effects of the current economic recession.

The support and guidance of the NDA as the expert advisory body to Government will be crucial in enabling government departments and agencies in continuing to advance the disability agenda in difficult times.

Policies and strategies to support people living independently in the community are coming into sharper focus, with a rapidly ageing population, the HSE's work on closing institutions, and the expected refocusing of HSE-funded adult day services towards inclusion in mainstream activities. Successful supports for independent community living will involve a wide range of actors from housing and employment authorities to mainstream community and health services, and the NDA can provide expert guidance to inform the design and delivery of good practice.

As an independent body, the NDA works in partnership with departments and public bodies, bringing its expertise and learning from research, consultation and engagement with people with disabilities. This engagement supports identification of practical solutions. Established by the Government as a central national body to assist it in the co-ordination and development of policy relevant to the lives of people with disabilities, the NDA will continue to facilitate engagement on cross-departmental issues. As the independent voice on the National Disability Strategy Stakeholder Monitoring Group, the NDA will continue to contribute practical analysis and advice on implementation of this Strategy, as well as independent analysis of its impact on improving the lives of people with disabilities.

Ireland is unique in having a statutory Centre for Excellence in Universal Design which is an integral part of the National Disability Authority. The NDA's aim is to achieve an environment which is designed in a way that ensures it can be accessed, understood and used in an independent and natural way without further adaptation by people regardless of age, size, ability or disability. The remit also extends to products, services and systems for use in the environment, and to information and communications technology, further supporting the inclusion of people with disabilities in mainstream society.

The priorities and individual objectives set out in this Strategic Plan very much reflect the views of those stakeholders with whom the NDA engages. The priorities are therefore focused on:

- Support to implement the National Disability Strategy
- Advice to promote independence and the quality of daily life for people with disabilities
- Promoting an accessible environment and Universal Design
- Building NDA's capacity to deliver on its strategic goals

In setting these Strategic Priorities, the NDA aims to support achievement of real progress in realising a better life for people with disabilities. I am confident that the NDA will deliver on the objectives set out in this plan and will continue to provide a valuable service to all its stakeholders, building on the progress it has made to date and adapting and responding to future challenges.

Angela Kerins

Chairperson

NDA Strategic Plan 2010-2012

Mandate

The NDA's mandate is set out in the National Disability Authority Act 1999 and the Disability Act 2005 and in summary is:

- To provide policy advice to Government and public bodies
- To undertake, commission and collaborate in disability research and assist in the development of statistical information
- To advise on standards and guidelines in services to people with disabilities
- To develop standards, education and promote awareness of Universal Design

A full list of statutory functions and powers is set out in the Appendix.

Mission

To provide independent expert advice to the Government on policy and practice, as the lead state agency on disability and on universal design.

Vision

An inclusive Irish society in which people with disabilities enjoy equal rights and opportunities to participate in the economic, social and cultural life of the nation and of an environment which is accessible to all.

Operational values

Independence

The NDA's advice and guidance is independent and impartial, rooted in what the evidence shows. The NDA's aim is to ensure quality information and evidence-based advice to best inform and guide policies and programmes for people with disabilities.

Excellence

The NDA is committed to the achievement of excellence. The NDA's work must be effective, efficient and value for public money. The NDA will focus its work in a strategic way on the areas where the NDA can add most value and on issues that are important in the lives of people with disabilities. The NDA has an ethos of public service, characterised by integrity, accountability and a strong work ethic. The NDA works in a flexible way to remain responsive and relevant. The NDA staff work in a professional way, characterised by teamwork, to the common NDA agenda.

Partnership and engagement

The NDA will establish and develop strategic collaborations and work together with key stakeholders, consulting and listening. The NDA will actively seek partnerships with other bodies, guided by the need to deploy resources as effectively as possible.

Inclusion and respect

Inclusion and respect are the hallmarks of NDA staff's engagement with external stakeholders and with one another. Fostering good relationships is key to an effective advisory role. NDA staff aim to work with each other and with external stakeholders in a fair and equal manner.

Strategic Priorities for NDA 2010-2012

Strategic Priority 1

To provide support and evidence-based advice to government departments and public bodies by:

- supporting the effective implementation of the National Disability Strategy
- monitoring the impact of the National Disability Strategy

Strategic Priority 2

To provide evidence-based policy advice to promote independence and the quality of daily life for people with disabilities across the lifecycle.

Strategic Priority 3

To promote inclusion through accessibility and universal design.

Strategic Priority 4

To build the NDA's capacity to deliver on its strategic goals.

Context for Strategic Plan 2010-2012

National Disability Strategy

The primary context for the NDA's Strategic Plan is the continued implementation of the National Disability Strategy. The Strategy, launched in autumn 2004, has the following core elements:

- Disability Act 2005
- Education for Persons with Special Education Needs Act 2004
- Sectoral Plans on disability of six government departments, covering communications, employment, environment, health, social welfare and transport
- A multi-annual investment programme for high-priority disability services which ran from 2005 to 2009
- Citizens Information Act 2007, providing for a personal advocacy service

The National Disability Strategy builds on a foundation of equality legislation which bars discrimination against people with disabilities in employment and in the provision of goods and services.

The Strategy's goals for people with disabilities were set out in the **Towards 2016** document:

- Every person with a disability would have access to an income which is sufficient to sustain an acceptable standard of living
- Every person with a disability would, in conformity with their needs and abilities, have access to appropriate care, health, education, employment and training and social services

- Every person with a disability would have access to public spaces, buildings, transport, information, advocacy and other public services and appropriate housing
- Every person with a disability would be supported to enable them, as far as possible, to lead full and independent lives, to participate in work and in society and to maximise their potential
- Carers would be acknowledged and supported in their caring role

Structures and a reporting framework have been put in place to oversee the implementation of the National Disability Strategy. The Office for Disability and Mental Health, headed by a Minister of State, has a specific remit to develop cross-sectoral engagement across the Departments of Health and Children; Education and Science; Enterprise, Trade and Employment; and Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

An important backdrop to the National Disability Strategy is the steady ageing of Ireland's population, with an increasing proportion of the population in the age-groups which are more vulnerable to disability. The NDA will work with the Office for Older People, which is developing a Positive Ageing Strategy, on issues of disability in old age, including the needs in old age of people who have had long-standing disabilities.

Other developments

International developments

A number of other important international developments are also taking place. The EU Commission has started working on a European Disability Strategy to succeed the current **European Disability Action Plan**. It will aim to assess how national actions reflect the commitments made by the European Community and the Member States to fully implement the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** at European level, and to consider setting consistent and comparable national targets to that end. Ireland has signed, and is working towards

ratification, of the UN Convention. Ireland is also working to implement specific actions under the **Council of Europe Action Plan on Disability 2006 to 2015**.

Public sector transformation

The public sector is undergoing a continued process of change. Following the 2008 OECD report on the Irish public service and the subsequent Task Force report **Transforming Public Service**, there is now an increased emphasis on results; on value for money and use of shared services; on building partnerships and avoidance of duplication; and on performance and outcomes measurement.

The NDA continues to deliver more effective and efficient ways of working, for example, engaging in joint partnerships with other bodies to maximise the value achieved. The NDA will continue to identify opportunities for partnership on projects and activities with other relevant bodies to maximise what can be achieved with finite resources. The NDA continues in its commitment to achieve value for money and more effective use of resources.

All of these factors have been considered in developing this Strategic Plan, in setting out the Strategic Priorities and the individual objectives listed.

NDA's Strategic Priorities and Objectives 2010 – 2012



Strategic Priority 1

Strategic Priority 1

To provide support and evidence-based advice to government departments and public bodies by:

- supporting the effective implementation of the National Disability Strategy
- monitoring the impact of the National Disability Strategy

The National Disability Strategy is a whole-of-Government approach towards improving services to people with disabilities, and removing barriers to their inclusion in the mainstream of Irish life. A key element of the NDA's Strategic Plan 2007-2009 was support to Government and public bodies to implement the National Disability Strategy. In the current period, the NDA will continue to focus on supporting the delivery of the National Disability Strategy, and on how to deliver in a practical way on these commitments during a period of recession and of exceptional pressures on the public finances.

This support is delivered through developing evidence-based advice and guidelines; working in partnership with individual agencies or groups of agencies; membership of working groups on progressing individual elements of the Strategy; membership of the individual advisory committees in each of the six Sectoral Plan Departments, and of the National Disability Strategy Stakeholders Monitoring Group. The NDA also provides the secretariat to the Disability Stakeholders Group. Because the work of supporting individual departments and sectors, and monitoring delivery of the National Disability Strategy is interwoven, NDA's Strategic Plan has combined these two elements in a single strategic priority.

1.1 The NDA will advise on and support the implementation of the National Disability Strategy and undertake research to underpin this work, including:

- implementation of the Disability Act 2005
- implementation of the Education for Persons with Special Education Needs Act 2004
- review of the operation of the Disability Act 2005
- implementation of the Sectoral Plans of
 - Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources
 - Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
 - Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government
 - Department of Health and Children
 - Department of Social and Family Affairs
 - Department of Transport
- resources to support the National Disability Strategy
- cross-functional issues arising from the National Disability Strategy

Key Performance Indicators

- Effective engagement with government departments and public bodies around implementation of the National Disability Strategy
- Advice to the Office for Disability and Mental Health, including research, policy analysis and consultation to inform that advice
- Effective engagement with disability stakeholders and people with disabilities to inform NDA's advice and guidance
- Effective engagement with the social partners around delivery of the National Disability Strategy, particularly in the area of employment
- Timely response to requests from government departments and relevant agencies for advice, guidelines or other supports to implement the National Disability Strategy
- Public consultation and advice delivered on the review of the operation of the Disability Act 2005

1.2 The NDA will produce and promote appropriate Code(s) of Practice, technical guidance and other supports to enable improvements in access to public services, and will monitor compliance with Code(s) of Practice and provide guidance on issues arising.

Key Performance Indicators

- Guidance and support activities on Code(s) of Practice, including an annual conference for Access Officers
- Implementation of Code(s) of Practice under Part 3 of the Disability Act 2005 monitored on a two-yearly cycle and results of the monitoring exercise disseminated and issues arising followed up

1.3 The NDA will advise in partnership with other bodies on standards for programmes and services for people with disabilities.

Key Performance Indicator

- Engagement with relevant partners such as the Health Information and Quality Authority, the Health Service Executive (HSE), and the Mental Health Commission to promote quality standards for services

1.4 NDA will advise on the universal design approach to deliver on appropriate elements of the National Disability Strategy.

Key Performance Indicator

- NDA advice incorporates Universal Design approaches

1.5 The NDA will monitor implementation and impact of the National Disability Strategy.

Key Performance Indicators

- Written reports on implementation issues prepared in advance of each twice-yearly meeting of the National Disability Strategy Stakeholder Monitoring Group
- Partnership with the Central Statistics Office to develop consistent statistical information for monitoring the impact of the National Disability Strategy
- Report delivered on impact of the National Disability Strategy on the lives of people with disabilities

1.6 The NDA will continue to monitor compliance with Part 5 of the Disability Act 2005 and promote good practice in employment of people with disabilities and will develop Code(s) of Practice in this area if requested.

Key Performance Indicators

- Annual statutory reports on Part 5 of the Disability Act 2005 delivered
- Guidance to public bodies on good practice in employment of people with disabilities, including an annual good practice conference



Strategic Priority 2

Strategic Priority 2

To provide evidence-based policy advice to promote independence and the quality of daily life for people with disabilities across the lifecycle

The NDA's mandate on advice, research and standards addresses the inclusion of people with disabilities in the economic, social and cultural life of the community. Many of the broad suite of issues that this encompasses are now coming to the fore with work on a new European Disability Strategy underway at EU level; the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** emphasising independent living in the community; and the issues emerging from the HSE's reviews of adult day services and of congregated settings. The NDA will advise across an important range of topics relevant to supporting and sustaining independence and promoting the quality of daily life, informed by the lifecycle perspective which underpins **Towards 2016**.

2.1 The NDA will provide evidence-based policy advice to promote community and independent living for people with disabilities.

Key Performance Indicators

- A series of research papers and policy advice to promote independent living
- Advice on universal design of key everyday products relevant to quality of daily life

2.1 The NDA will work in partnership with relevant agencies on issues of importance to children and young people with disabilities.

Key Performance Indicator

- Research/policy papers and policy advice on issues for children and young people with disabilities

2.3 The NDA will develop guidelines to support family life of people with disabilities.

Key Performance Indicators

- Guidance to the HSE and maternity services on support for people with disabilities during pregnancy and early motherhood
- Guidance for service providers on supports to parents who have disabilities
- Analysis and policy advice on issues relating to informal and family care

2.4 The NDA will work in partnership with relevant agencies to advise on issues around ageing and disability.

Key Performance Indicators

- Advice on issues at interface of ageing and disability
- Development of guidance on lifetime adaptable housing

2.5 The NDA will undertake and/or promote research to identify levels of participation of people with disabilities in social, cultural and sporting activities, and in civic life, and will provide advice on policy and practice to overcome the barriers to participation in these areas.

Key Performance Indicators

- Research conducted on aspects of social, sporting or cultural participation
- Analysis of National Disability Survey results on social participation
- Guidance offered to sporting bodies, and to other social, civic and community organisations, on supporting participation of people with disabilities
- Guidance developed for electoral authorities on supporting participation of people with disabilities

2.6 The NDA will provide advice on the implementation of mental capacity legislation and as appropriate on the development of guidance and Code(s) of Practice in this area.

Key Performance Indicators

- advice on implementation issues including Code(s) of Practice under the mental capacity legislation

2.7 The NDA will raise awareness and promote positive attitudes to disability

Key Performance Indicators

- Disability awareness materials developed and embedded in the public service
- Partnership with other bodies on appropriate questions on disability in surveys of public attitudes

2.8 The NDA will support research on the experience of people with disabilities of physical, sexual, psychological and emotional abuse and neglect, to guide policy advice in this area.

Key Performance Indicators

- Analysis of experiences of people with disabilities who have experienced abuse
- Policy advice and guidance given on issues relating to abuse

2.9 Advice on the issues facing people with disabilities within the criminal justice system.

Key Performance Indicator

- Review and synthesise research on experiences of people with disabilities in the criminal justice system

2.10 The NDA will partner with the Central Statistics Office on consistent statistical information to identify the quality of life of people with disabilities and issues arising.

Key Performance Indicators

- Advice on consistent disability indicators to be incorporated in official datasets
- Analyses of data from the National Disability Survey
- Advice to relevant government departments and public bodies on the implications for policy and practice from analysis of available data



Strategic Priority 3

Strategic Priority 3

To promote inclusion through accessibility and universal design

The NDA will continue to work to promote accessibility of public services, facilities and information and to advance the achievement of excellence in universal design of the environment - the design of environments, products, services and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) so they can be readily used, accessed and understood, without the need for further modification, by people of any age, size, ability or disability.

The NDA's Centre for Excellence in Universal Design will work with the relevant national and international bodies and stakeholders with a role in planning and designing the environment, to advance a Universal Design approach. The Centre will also work with educational and professional bodies to ensure Universal Design is built into the training, education and examinations for all the relevant professions and job roles.

3.1 The NDA will promote the accessibility of specific services to people with disabilities through development of guidance and advice.

Key Performance Indicators

- Guidance and related supports developed to support accessibility
- Information given which raises awareness of the difficulties encountered by people with disabilities in the environment

3.2 The NDA will promote standards of excellence and recognise achievement of accessibility and Universal Design through award schemes.

Key Performance Indicator

- The strategic impact of the NDA's own award and of any other award schemes in which the NDA participates

3.3 The NDA will engage in promotion and awareness-raising of Universal Design as defined in the Disability Act 2005.

Key Performance Indicator

- The NDA will establish or support Universal Design networks or champions involving a mix of skills to work at strategic and implementation levels to promote Universal Design

3.4 The NDA will gather information and evidence to demonstrate in a concrete manner how to achieve Universal Design.

Key Performance Indicators

- Data on size diversity (anthropometrics) in Ireland
- The NDA will identify and establish Irish examples of excellence in Universal Design
- Identify key barriers in relation to different elements – age, size, disability and ability

3.5 The NDA will promote and develop Universal Design curricula in continuous professional development and academic courses in collaboration with key stakeholders.

Key Performance Indicators

- Development of framework and strategy for engagement around inclusion of Universal Design in relevant curricula
- Curricula developed on Universal Design for undergraduate, Master's and continuous professional development in engineering, architecture and ICT
- Engagement with national bodies on the inclusion of Universal Design within recognised certificate examinations

3.6 The NDA will promote and develop Universal Design standards, guidelines and policies which promote people's quality of life in collaboration with national and international bodies.

Key Performance Indicators

- Promotion and dissemination of **Building for Everyone**
- Development of guidance on Lifetime Homes
- Strategic collaboration with National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) on standards that promote quality of life
- Provide practical and supportive information to bodies in the field of ICT in relation to assistive technology



Strategic Priority 4

Strategic Priority 4

To build the NDA's capacity to deliver on its strategic goals

To deliver on this Strategic Plan in a rapidly-changing environment will require an organisation which is flexible, adaptable and responsive, and which deploys its resources of staff and finance to greatest effect. The NDA will continue to rigorously examine established working methods to maximise effectiveness. The NDA's Partnership Committee is an important resource supporting the management of change. This strategic priority sets out how NDA's staff will be developed and supported to deliver on the NDA's strategic objectives through effective systems and processes, formal training and staff development. Achievement in full of this Strategic Plan will depend on the level of staff and other resources available to the NDA over the period of the plan. Working effectively with other agencies to maximise what can be achieved jointly will be a critical feature of success. Effective communication, including the NDA's website, is key to delivering the NDA's advice where it is required.

4.1 The NDA will deliver training and development to staff which facilitates responsiveness and flexibility to ensure effective delivery of the strategic priorities.

Key Performance Indicator

- The NDA will develop and implement an annual training and development plan

4.2 The NDA will embed, streamline and deploy financial and human resources, information and communications technology and project management systems to maximise their effectiveness.

Key Performance Indicators

- Systems reviewed and adapted
- A Human Resources Strategy developed and implemented

4.3 The NDA will ensure organisational effectiveness and efficiencies particularly in relation to available resources (human and financial), structures, work practices, and value for money initiatives.

Key Performance Indicators

- Organisational needs reviewed and resources deployed to support the needs identified
- Cost saving initiatives identified, analysed and implemented

4.4 The NDA will foster and develop partnerships, teamwork and collaboration to best effect.

Key Performance Indicators

- The NDA's Partnership Committee operating effectively
- Effective teamwork across the organisation

4.5 The NDA is committed to organisational excellence and will seek independent accreditation.

Key Performance Indicator

- Achievement of a recognised award by 2012

4.6 The NDA will deliver on its statutory obligations as a public body as set out in the Disability Act 2005 and other legislation, as appropriate, in addition to adhering to best practice governance and financial accountability and work to be a best practice employer of people with disabilities.

Key Performance Indicators

- Requirements under the Disability Act (Parts 3 and 5) 2005 and other legislation fulfilled, and an action plan developed for improvements as appropriate
- Adherence to governance and financial accountability, reviewed and updated in line with requirements as necessary

4.7 The NDA will develop, implement and deploy an internal and external communications framework, including our website, to promote and disseminate the work of the NDA.

Key Performance Indicators

- A customer action plan developed for the corresponding period of the plan
- Communications framework developed and implemented
- Regular communication and information briefings to a range of identified stakeholders across government departments and agencies
- Enhanced, accessible and user-friendly website

4.8 The NDA will adapt its library service to best serve the needs of the organisation.

Key Performance Indicator

- Development of library service to support implementation of the NDA's Strategic Plan

4.9 The NDA will develop and regularly monitor key measures of organisational performance.

Key Performance Indicators

- Organisational performance measured and reviewed
- Project management system identifies and tracks outputs

Measuring impact

Through this Strategic Plan, the NDA will provide advice that will inform policies and practices which have real and meaningful impact on the lives of people with disabilities. The NDA also wants to support improvements in how environments, products and services are designed. The NDA will monitor the success of this Strategic Plan in a number of ways, through:

- Regular review of the achievement of the key performance indicators outlined under each strategic priority
- Regular engagement with our stakeholders including, importantly, people with disabilities and their representative groups
- Annual work planning and review process

Appendix

Functions of the NDA under Section 8 of the National Disability Authority Act 1999.

The principal function of the NDA is to advise the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform regarding issues of policy and practice relating to disability and to act as a central, national body which will assist the Minister in the coordination and development of policy in relation to persons with disabilities.

Additional functions:

- To undertake, commission or collaborate in research projects and activities on issues relating to disability and to assist in the development of statistical information appropriate for the planning, delivery and monitoring of programmes and services for persons with disabilities
- To advise the Minister on appropriate standards for programmes and services provided or to be provided to persons with disabilities and to act as an advisory body with regard to the development of general and specific standards in relation to such programmes and services
- To monitor the implementation of standards and Code(s) of Practice in programmes and services provided to persons with disabilities and to report to the Minister thereon
- To liaise with other bodies, both corporate and unincorporated, involved in the provision of services to persons with disabilities and to facilitate and support the development and implementation of appropriate standards for programmes and services for persons with disabilities

- To prepare Code(s) of Practice for the purpose of achieving the aim of good standards and quality in the provision of programmes and services provided or to be provided to persons with disabilities
- To recognise the achievement of good standards and quality in the provision of programmes and services to persons with disabilities including through the provision of a disability equality awards system
- To prepare strategic plans

Additional Functions of the Authority under the Disability Act 2005 include

- To prepare Code(s) of Practice relating to the accessibility of public buildings, services, information and heritage sites at the request of the Minister (Part 3 of the Disability Act 2005)
- To monitor compliance with statutory targets for recruitment and employment of people with disabilities in the public sector, recommend actions to be taken where these targets are not being met, and prepare Code(s) of Practice where requested (Part 5 of the Disability Act 2005)
- To establish a Centre for Excellence in Universal Design in the built environment and information technology which will promote the principles of Universal Design that may be accessed, understood and used to the greatest practicable extent by people regardless of age, size, ability or disability in the most independent and natural manner; in the widest possible range of situations; without the need for adaptation, modification, assistive devices or specialised solution (Part 6 of the Disability Act, 2005)

Statutory Powers

In order to fulfil its statutory functions the Authority has certain statutory powers.

The Authority has right of access to information (including data) of relevance to its functions which is held by public bodies (section 13, National Disability Authority Act 1999) and may seek information on any matter which concerns the provision of programmes or services for persons with disabilities that is provided by statutory duty and that is publicly funded in whole or in part (section 14, National Disability Authority Act 1999).

The NDA can make recommendations for the review, reduction or withdrawal of moneys provided by the Oireachtas for any programme or service where it feels it is being provided in an inadequate or unsatisfactory manner or is not being provided to people with disabilities (section 15(4), National Disability Authority Act 1999).

The NDA can make annual reports and other reports to the Minister with respect to its functions (section 15, National Disability Authority Act 1999).



National Disability Authority

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NDA is the lead state agency on disability issues and universal design, providing independent expert advice to the Government on policy and practice.