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**Public and political participation of disabled people**

**Annual Conference 2023**

**10:00am – 4:15pm, Thursday, 26 October 2023**

**Conference Programme**

**9.30** Tea and Coffee

**10.00** **Introduction to NDA Annual Conference 2023** –

Dr Aideen Hartney, Director, National Disability Authority

**10.05 Welcome Address**  
Kathryn O’Donoghue,

Chairperson, National Disability Authority

**10.10** **Ministerial Address**  
Anne Rabbitte T.D., Minister of State with responsibility for Disabilities, Department of Health and Department of Children, Disability, Equality, Integration and Youth

**10.20** **Session 1: International innovations for accessible voting**

Chair: Annette Costello, Member, Disability Stakeholders Group (DSG).

**10.55 Q&A**

**11:00 Break**

**11.15** **Session 2: Accessibility of voting in Ireland**

Chair: Lorraine Lally, Barrister at Law.

**12.05 Q&A**

**12.10** **Session 3:** **Participation in public life**

Chair: Siobhán McKenna, Head of Equality, Diversity & Inclusion at the Public Appointments Service (publicjobs.ie).

**12:50 Q&A**

**13:00 Lunch**

**13.40** **Session 4:** **Political participation of disabled people in Ireland**

Chair: Dr Tom Clonan, Senator to Seanad Éireann.

**14:25**  **Q&A**

**14.35 Break**

**14.50 Session 5: Political representation of disabled people: international context and initiatives**

Chair: Noelle O’Connell, CEO, European Movement Ireland.

**15:25 Q&A**

**15.35** **Wrap-up: Reflections from elected representatives**

Chair: James Cawley, Business Development Executive, Irish Centre for Diversity.

**16:05 Conference Close - Aideen Hartney**