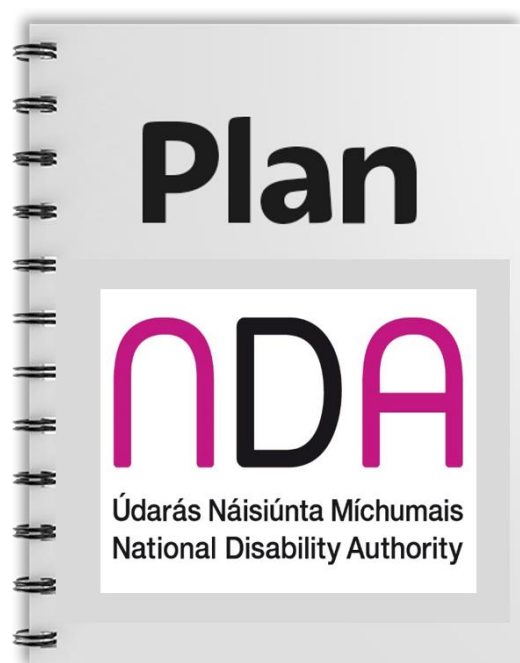




Strategic Plan



Údarás Náisiúnta Míchumais
National Disability Authority





What is in this Plan?



1. The Chairperson says



2. Why are we here?



3. What do we wish for?



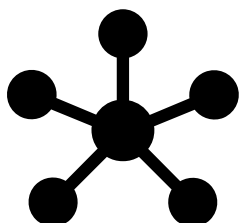
4. The values that guide us



5. What we do



6. Important things to think about



7. Priorities – the important things to work on



8. Resources



9. Finding out if things are working

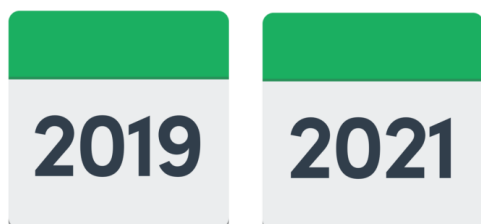
The Chairperson says:



Helen Guinan is the Chairperson of the National Disability Authority (NDA).



Helen is happy to give this Strategic Plan to the Minister for Justice and Equality, Mr. Charlie Flanagan.



This Strategic Plan is from 2019 to 2021.



This plan says how the NDA will give information and advice to the Minister and the Government.



This plan says how the NDA will encourage Universal Design.

Universal Design is about designing buildings, places, products and services in a good way. This means everyone can use them easily.



The NDA will work with others to put the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into action in Ireland.



The NDA will check if new laws and plans bring good changes in the lives of persons with disabilities in Ireland.



These laws and plans are about important things like:

- Rights
- Jobs
- Making information and services easy for everyone to use



The NDA was set up in 2000.

Since then, we have put together a lot of advice, guidance and research.



We will build on and add to this in the next three years.



We will help to make sure that persons with disabilities can take part in society and reach their personal goals.



I would like to thank all those who gave their views and helped to put this plan together.



Why are we here?



The NDA is an independent organisation in Ireland.



Our job is to give the Government advice on things that are important to the lives of persons with disabilities.



We give advice on plans to do with disability.



We encourage the use of Universal Design.
This is good for everyone in our society.



What do we wish for?

We want an Irish society where persons with disabilities:



- have equal rights and chances



- take part in their communities



- have choice and control over their lives



- are supported to be the best they can be



The values that guide us



Independence

We give independent advice and guidance.
This comes from research.



Equality

Equality and human rights are part of all the work we do.

Equality means that all persons have the same rights in society.



Excellence

We promise to do excellent work that makes a difference to the lives of persons with disabilities.



Engagement

We work in partnership with persons with disabilities and those that support them.

We listen to the views of persons with disabilities and those that support them.



Effectiveness

This means working and using resources in the best way we can.

We work as a team and share ideas.



Transparency

This means that we are honest and give clear information about how we work.



Respect

We are professional.

We show respect to each other and to everyone we work with.

What we do



- The NDA carries out good research and encourages others to do high quality research



- We work on ideas and plans that are important to persons with disabilities. We check if these are working well



- We give advice and information to the Government and public organisations



- We put together guidelines on good ways of working with and supporting persons with disabilities



- The NDA checks if persons with disabilities are working in the public sector



- We organise conferences, meetings, events and workshops



- We encourage people to use Universal Design
We explain how it can be put into action



- We work with individuals, groups and organisations to make the best use of our resources



Important things to think about



There have been many important changes in Ireland since 2000.

More changes are needed to improve the lives of persons with disabilities.



- We welcome the agreement on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



- We expect the law on Assisted Decision-Making to be put in place.
This will support persons with disabilities to make their own choices and decisions.



- We will check on the Comprehensive Employment Strategy for Persons with Disabilities 2015-2024.
This is a plan to support persons with disabilities to get and keep a job.



- There are new programmes for disability services.
These offer person-centred supports and more community connections.
They look at new ways to pay for services and supports.



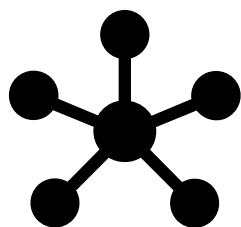
- Ireland needs to work hard to follow EU rules and make public services easier for everyone to use.



- We would like more people to learn about and use Universal Design in their work.



- We want to see good changes in the lives of persons with disabilities and in society generally.



Priorities – the important things to work on



There are five priorities in this plan.

Priorities are the things we think are the most important to work on.

We have an action plan for each priority.

We have a way to check how we are doing with each one.



Priority 1

To give advice to the Government on things that are important to the lives of persons with disabilities.

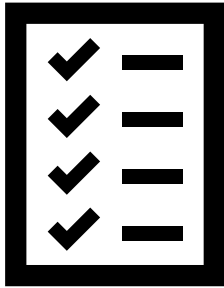
This advice will guide national programmes and plans.

The advice will be based on research.



Priority 2

To understand and give advice on changes in our society that are important to the lives of persons with disabilities



Priority 3

To put together Codes of Practice, standards and guidelines.

To check if these are put into action in services and how they are working.



Priority 4

To encourage people to learn about Universal Design.

To encourage people to put Universal Design into action in Ireland.



Priority 5

To be a well-run organisation that delivers our plan.

To communicate information about our organisation and our work.



Resources



Resources means staff and money.

The NDA needs to have the right staff with the right training and skills to deliver this plan.



We organise our resources so we can work on our priorities each year.

We want to make the best use of the resources we have.



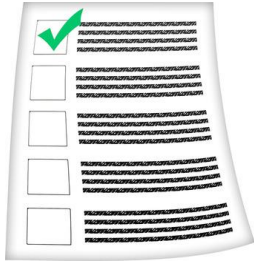
We think about things that are important to persons with disabilities in Ireland and to the Government.



We make sure the organisation is managed well and money is spent on the right things. Sometimes we need more resources to work on certain projects, for example, on research.



Finding out if things are working



We will check if this plan is working.



If our plan is working, we should see good changes for persons with disabilities.



We should see more people using Universal Design in their work.



We will talk to each other, to persons with disabilities, and to other key people about this plan.



We will check how things are going.



This Strategic Plan was put together by the National Disability Authority.



This Easy to Read information was put together by ACE Communication with the help of Experts by Experience.

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