

# Social inclusion and people with disabilities

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[www.nda.ie](http://www.nda.ie)

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**The National Disability Authority is the independent state body providing expert advice on disability policy and practice to the Minister, and promoting Universal Design in Ireland.**

# **Social inclusion and people with disabilities**

**Lets consider how do people with disabilities experience:**

- **Educational attainment**
- **Earnings/ jobs**
- **Poverty/cost of disability**
- **Social participation- access to .....**
- **Health General**
- **Transport**

# How we do our work: Research

- We often start with research
  - How do they do it in other countries?
  - Has something been previously tested?
  - What is best practice?



# How we do our work: Policy Advice

- Using the research results, we develop advice for Government
  - We **consult with people with disabilities**
  - We consult with **representative bodies**
  - We have **discussions with government departments** about what they can do

These steps are very important in how we do our business



# How we do our work: Reviewing

- We keep up-to-date on the impact of our advice
  - What has improved?
  - What has got worse?
  - Sometimes we are asked to measure how departments are doing in making improvements happen



# Policies for people with disabilities are changing

- Ireland is now committed to helping people with disabilities live ordinary lives in ordinary places
- This means people with disabilities can make choices about where to live, what to do and what kinds of help they need each day
- The NDA is working on lots of different projects to help make this goal a reality



# NATIONAL DISABILITY INCLUSION STRATEGY

## Background

- National Disability Inclusion Strategy (NDIS) is a whole-of-government commitment to improving the lives of persons with disabilities
- Launched in July 2017, extends to end 2021
- **Primary instrument for delivering progressive realisation of Ireland's commitments under UNCRPD**
- Dept of Justice & Equality is the **coordinating body** for the Strategy
- Steering group comprising departmental officials and the Disability Stakeholders Group oversee progress and delivery, chaired by MoS McGrath
- NDA has a role to carry out independent assessment of progress, including through measurement of suite of agreed indicators



# NDIS in practice

- Strategy comprises 114 actions, arranged under 8 themes:
  1. Equality and choice
  2. Joined up policies and public services
  3. Education
  4. Employment
  5. Health and well-being
  6. Person-centred disability services
  7. Living in the community
  8. Transport and accessible places
- Provision for NDIS to be a living document, with actions renewed/ revised/added over time

# NATIONAL DISABILITY INCLUSION STRATEGY

## Progress in first 18 months

- Ratification of UNCRPD
- On-going work to facilitate commencement of Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015, including NDA work to draft Codes of Practice, establishment of DSS
- Publication of the Make Work Pay Report by DEASP, with 24 practical recommendations to ensure work is seen to pay for persons with disabilities
- Implementation of AIM supports for children accessing ECCE
- Introduction of new ballot papers for referendum to facilitate private voting
- Report of Task Force on Personalised Budgets
- Development of next 3-year plan under CES

## Areas where further focus is required

- Review of Mental Health Act, and review and implementation of Vision for Change
- Development of legislation regarding Deprivation of Liberty
- Improved progress on process of decongregation
- Continued implementation of Progressing Children's Disability Services policy
- Improving structures and supports to facilitate cross-departmental working
- On-going importance of collecting high quality data and analysing same
- Selected points under each theme include:

# Equality and Choice

NDA Welcomes	NDA advises
Ratification of UNCRPD	Ongoing progress required to allow ratification of optional protocol
Establishment of DSS and delivery of 9 draft CoPs to Director	Full commencement of legislation required at earliest opportunity
	Need for review of Mental Health Act 2001
	Measures to facilitate implementation of the EU Victims of Crime Directive
Review of Section 25 of the Disability Act bringing a welcome focus to accessibility on part of public bodies	Need for greater momentum on bringing public buildings into compliance with Part M by 2022
Work to implement WAD in Irish context	
	Requirement for more work to translate actions for 'all public bodies' at local level to ensure delivery and accountability

# Joined up policies and public services

<b>NDA Welcomes</b>	<b>NDA advises</b>
Commitment to joined up policies and services, noting that the NDIS is a whole-of-government Strategy	Further work required to ensure transitions are effective at all key life-stages
Good examples include development and roll-out of AIM, and improving links between NCSE and HSE to support school leaving process	Development of protocols helpful as a key tool to support all responsible parties in managing transitions
	Need for additional mechanisms to support cross-departmental working, e.g. budget and over-sight approaches where more than one department involved
Work progressed to develop approaches to engaging persons with disabilities in the design and delivery of services	

# Education

<b>NDA Welcomes</b>	<b>NDA advises</b>
Development and implementation of AIM	Further work required to ensure transitions are effective at all key educational stages
NCSE work to review in-school support provision, including SNAs	Development of protocols helpful as a key tool to support all responsible parties in managing transitions
Development of Social Inclusion unit at SOLAS to track data on participation rates etc.	

# Health and Well-being

NDA Welcomes	NDA advises
	Importance of progressing actions relevant to mental health, including implementation of Vision for Change, and consideration of its next iteration
Launch of Slaintecare 2019 Action Plan as key mechanism to develop access to mainstream health services at local level	Importance of ensuring health services in the community are supported to be disability competent and welcoming

# Person-centred disability services

NDA Welcomes	NDA advises
Plans to test implementation of person-centred-planning framework in selected services	Would be helpful to ensure demonstration phase includes different types of service
On-going work to achieve de-institutionalisation	Progress has been slower than planned, and continued focus is required to achieve stated objectives of reducing numbers in congregated settings by one third by 2021
Implementation of interim standards for New Directions services	Successful implementation of New Directions requires additional investment and support for staff
	Progressing Children's Disability Services requires further focus to establish and train multi-d teams in all CHO areas
	Further action and reporting required on actions relevant to mental health for young people and adults
Completion and publication of report of Task Force on Personalised Budgets	Further work ongoing to test variety of approaches to provision of personalised budgets
	Greater focus required on building inclusive communities and providing mechanisms to report on same



# Living in the Community

NDA Welcomes	NDA advises
	Further work to increase rate of decongregation
Work done to review HAG schemes and their operation	DHPLG could identify next steps to build on this work, and evaluate impact of same
	Further consideration of issues relevant to building inclusive communities, involving input from local authorities and other groups as appropriate

# Employment

NDA Welcomes	NDA advises
Commitment to implementation of CES, including development of next 3 year action plan	Importance of progressing cross-departmental initiative on Action 5.1, as key enabler to improving employment outcomes – i.e. provision of employment supports
Improved numbers accessing FET and HEI	Agreement of targets to support inclusion of particular groups, e.g. those with ID
Publication of MWP report and implementation of its recommendations, e.g. earnings disregard, medical card, ready reckoner, fast track return etc.	Progress of actions 104 and 53, requiring cross-departmental consideration
Increased target	Importance of public sector achieving target of 6% of employees being persons with disabilities on or before 2024

# NDA recent work: Employment

- NDA has actions in this strategy to make sure people with disabilities are supported to find and keep jobs if they want to work
- The NDA reports on activity Comprehensive Employment Strategy for people with disabilities
- The NDA recommends areas for further activity



# Some of our recent work:

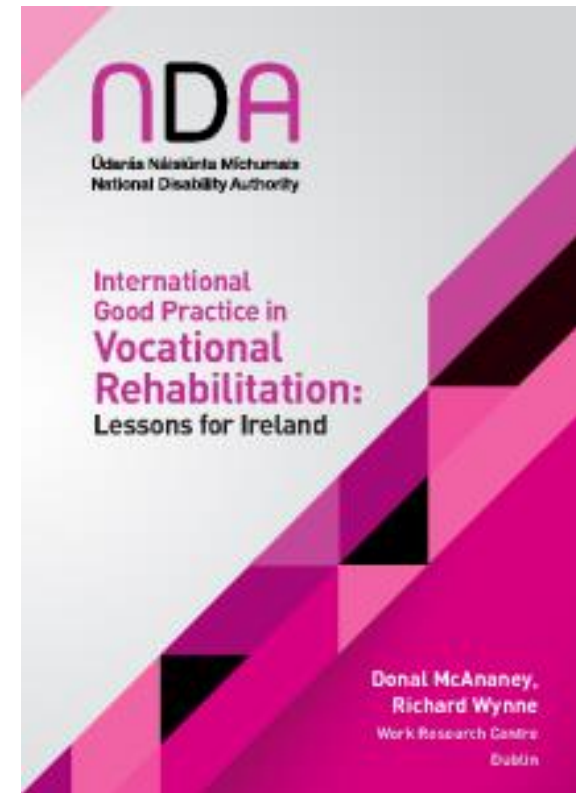
## Employment

- We are helping to develop a policy to make sure even people with very high support needs can get the help they need to find work
- We are advising Enterprise Ireland on ways to support people with disabilities to become entrepreneurs



# COMPREHENSIVE EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

- Part 5 monitoring –  
3.6% of public sector employees are people with disabilities
- Research on international practice in Vocational Rehabilitation



# COMPREHENSIVE EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

- Participation in Make Work Pay group
- Research on transitions in and out of employment based on QNHS data
- Research on good practice in employment of people with disabilities in the public sector
- Facilitation of working group on CES Action 5.1



# Key facts and figures

How many people have a disability in Ireland?

**643,131**

According to the 2016 Census

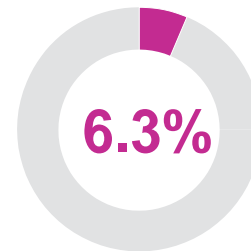


That's **1 in 7** people,  
a slight increase since 2011

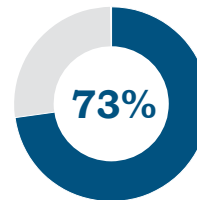
# Key facts and figures

## Employment

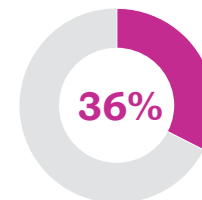
Only 6.3%(120,775) of all workers have a disability



%of people without a disability aged 20-64, who are working



%of people with a disability aged 20-64, who are working





The logo for the National Disability Authority (NDA) features the letters 'n', 'D', and 'A' in a stylized, rounded font. The 'n' and 'A' are colored in a vibrant magenta, while the 'D' is black. The letters are spaced out horizontally.

**Údarás Náisiúnta Míchumais**  
**National Disability Authority**