



Cabinet Paper: Government progress on UNCRPD concluding observations

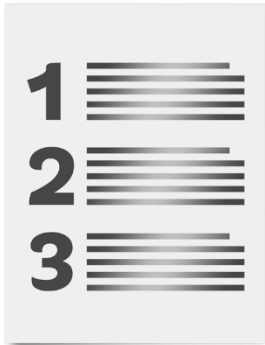


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About this Easy Read



This Easy Read is a **summary** of a **Cabinet paper**.



A **summary**:

- is shorter than the full document
- includes the main points of the information.



A **Cabinet paper** is a document:

- from a **minister**
- asking **Cabinet** to agree to something.



A **minister** is an important person who works in the Government.



Cabinet is a group of ministers that meet to make decisions.



The cabinet paper is about the **progress** the Government is making on the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** concluding observations.



Here **progress** means:

- moving things forward
- changing things for the better.



The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** is a group of rules that lots of countries have agreed to.



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is also called the **UNCRPD**.

It says what governments must do to make sure disabled people get the same rights as everybody else.



The **concluding observations** are the things that New Zealand needs to do better for disabled people.

In this Easy Read the concluding observations are called **recommendations**.



The Cabinet paper is from Louise Upston who is Minister for Disability Issues.

In this Easy Read we will call her **the Minister**.



You can find the full Cabinet paper at:

www.whaikaha.govt.nz/about-us/corporate-publications/cabinet-papers



The full Cabinet paper is not in Easy Read.

What is the Cabinet paper about?



In 2022 the UNCRPD made 63 recommendations for New Zealand to do for disabled people.



The New Zealand Government must:

- watch how the recommendations are being done
- and
- tell the United Nations about their progress.



This Cabinet paper is one of the reports the Minister must make to Cabinet as part of watching the progress.

What does the Cabinet paper say?



In July 2023 the previous government agreed to work on 55 of the UNCRPD recommendations.



This would be done by everyone in government using the **New Zealand Disability Strategy / NZDS**.



The **New Zealand Disability Strategy / NZDS** says what the Government will do to make sure disabled people get their rights.



When the NZDS is revised / changed in 2026 a new **Disability Action Plan / DAP** will be made.



A **Disability Action Plan / DAP** says how the Government will make the NZDS happen.



The Minister says **government agencies** have told her:

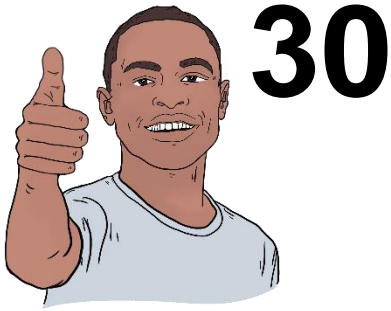
- what they can do about the recommendations
- there are some recommendations which have not had ways to do them planned yet.



Here **government agencies** include:



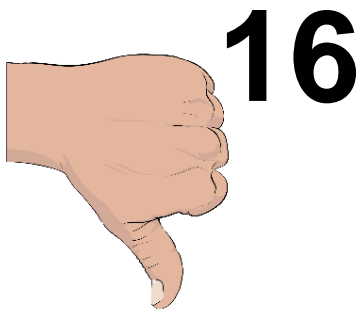
- Ministries like Health
- Departments like Statistics New Zealand.



The Minister says 30 of the recommendations can happen because work is already being done on them.

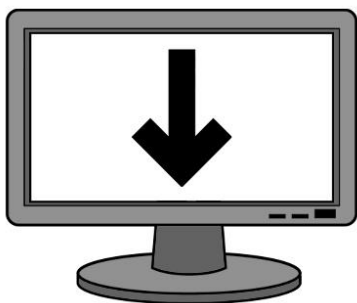


The Minister says 17 of the recommendations need to be thought more about as part of revising / changing the NZDS.



The Minister says 16 of the recommendations do not have:

- plans to happen
- work being done on them.

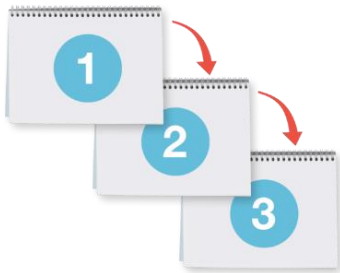


When Cabinet has discussed this Cabinet paper the information from it will be put in the **Human Rights Monitor**.



The **Human Rights Monitor** is a website that records what:

- the United Nations has told New Zealand it must do to look after human rights
- the government is doing about those human rights.



More information about the progress on the recommendations will be added to the Human Rights Monitor as it happens.



The Minister will make another report to Cabinet on the progress being made on the recommendations in December 2025.

What did the IMM say about the Cabinet paper?



The **Independent Monitoring Mechanism / IMM** was asked by the Minister to give **feedback** on the Cabinet paper before it was put out.



The **Independent Monitoring Mechanism / IMM** is a group that looks at what the Government is doing to make sure disabled people in New Zealand are getting their rights.



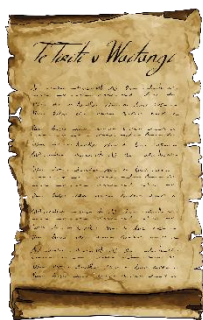
Here **feedback** means telling someone what you think about something.



The IMM said they were pleased that the recommendations they wanted were being done including:



- protection of disabled children in state / government care
- disabled people getting support for making legal decisions
- getting good data / information about disabled people so the government can make better laws.



The IMM said it was very important to do the recommendation that **te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi** be thought about when making:

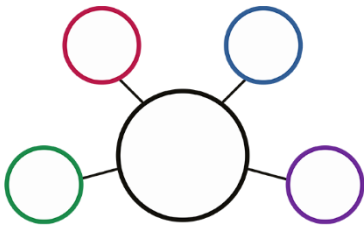
- laws
- decisions with tāngata whaikaha Māori / disabled Māori.





Te Tiriti o Waitangi / Treaty of Waitangi is an important agreement between Māori and the Crown.

It is about Māori and the New Zealand Government making decisions together.



The IMM said it was also important to do the recommendation that says disability systems should be made to work well for different:



- **cultures**
- **disabilities.**



Culture is a way of:

- thinking that a group shares
- doing things as a group.



The IMM said it was very important to do the recommendation that disabled people be part of making programmes that tell disabled people about their rights.



The IMM said they were worried that the Government has not said how **Enabling Good Lives** will go ahead.



Enabling Good Lives is a different way of thinking about disability support.



Enabling Good Lives is about having:

- choice and control in your life
- the support you need and want
- a good life.





The IMM also said they were worried that:

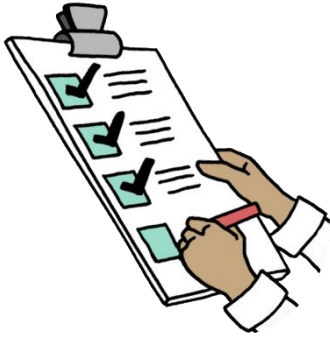
- the disability support systems were being reviewed

and

- there were no ways thought up yet to fix some of the problems with disability support systems.



The IMM said the Government doing lots of work on only some of the recommendations might slow down getting all the recommendations done.



The IMM said they would rather have lots of the recommendations have some work being done on them.

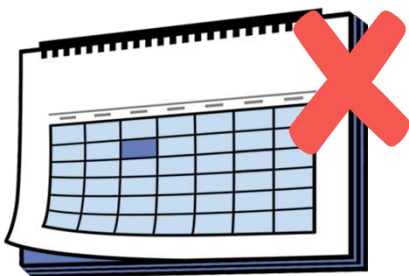


The IMM said they were worried agencies who should be using the recommendations would only do it if they were told to.



The IMM were worried there were lots of recommendations that do not have:

- plans to make them happen
- a time worked out when they will be done.



Where to find more information



You can contact Ministry of Disabled People – Whaikaha by:

- **email** at:

contact@whaikaha.govt.nz

- **phone** on:

0800 566 601



If you find it hard to use the phone the **New Zealand Relay** service is for people who are:

- Deaf / hard of hearing
- deafblind
- speech impaired / find it hard to talk.



Deaf



You can find out more about the New Zealand Relay service at:

www.nzrelay.co.nz



This information has been written by Ministry of Disabled People – Whaikaha.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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