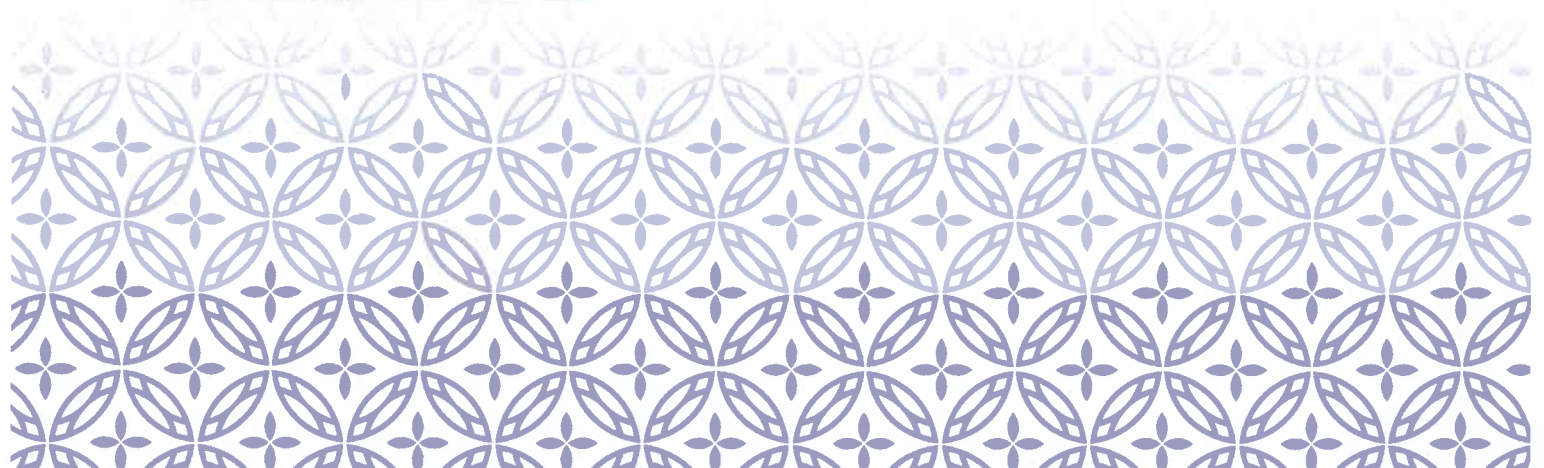


Towards a non-disabling New Zealand

The annual report from the Minister for Disability Issues
to the House of Representatives on implementation of
the New Zealand Disability Strategy

December 2018



Author

Office for Disability Issues, Ministry of Social Development

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Minister's foreword

As the Minister for Disability Issues, I am committed to building a more inclusive and accessible society and supporting disabled people to live their lives to their fullest potential. That's why I am pleased to release this annual report on the implementation of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-



Hon Carmel Sepuloni

2026. This is an opportunity to celebrate what we have accomplished, acknowledge areas where further work is needed and consider what the next steps are.

Over the last six months I have been taking opportunities when I visit the regions to meet with disabled people, families, and those working in the disability sector. These meetings have reinforced for me the many barriers faced by disabled New Zealanders in their daily lives, including schooling issues for disabled children, lack of employment opportunities, challenges associated with low income, lack of accessible transport and housing.

As Minister for Disability Issues, I will continue to drive change to reduce these barriers preventing disabled New Zealanders from having equal opportunities.

However, when I have met with people I have also heard so many positive achievements, as well as suggestions for the future. There has been no shortage of ideas of how we can keep making progress. This is particularly important as we develop the Disability Action Plan 2019-2022, which will inform the next steps for how we can continue to improve the wellbeing of disabled people.

Over this last year we have made great progress and had some notable achievements. These achievements include: the on-going development of the New Zealand Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework indicators and measures, the comprehensive reform programme being undertaken in education, the launch of the transformed disability support system prototype, and the announcement of an additional 600 learning support staff to support children with disabilities and additional learning needs in schools.

Another major achievement has been the launch of Mana Whaikaha in the MidCentral District Health Board region in October, which represents a major innovation in the delivery of disability support services. The use of co-design in the transformation of disability support services is a fundamental change in the agency/service provider-client relationship. A key principle of co-design is that users, as experts on their own lived experience, become central to the design of any service. On top of that, we will continue to be responsive and innovative through the “try, learn, adjust” approach taken to the prototype, so we can make sure the best system possible is developed.

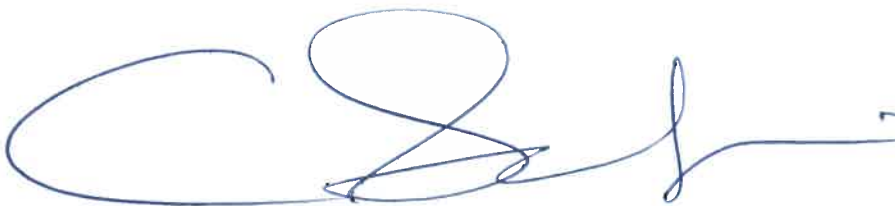
As we look to the future I am excited about our next steps to improving accessibility in Aotearoa. Accessibility is a fundamental issue that underpins many of the barriers faced by disabled people, such as employment, education, housing and transport. That’s why it is a priority outcome in the New Zealand Disability Strategy and an enabler for improving many of the other outcomes required for ensuring everyone can participate in their communities.

The public sector is already taking a leadership role in recognising accessibility as an enabler of inclusion. In February, the Ministry of Social Development launched the Accessibility

Charter, developed in consultation with Disabled People's Organisations, which has been signed up to by 34 agencies.

I am also excited that this Government has committed to exploring how we can make Aotearoa more accessible, including considering the role of legislation, through collaboration with key stakeholders.

I look forward to working with my fellow Ministers, disabled people, their families and disability organisations in the year ahead to continue striving towards the goals set out in the New Zealand Disability Strategy. Together we can continue to make progress to enable disabled New Zealanders to fully participate in our diverse society and live their lives to their fullest potential.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Sepuloni', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Minister for Disability Issues

Introduction

In New Zealand, there are several frameworks to address the barriers disabled people experience in living the best quality of life they can. These are:

- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). This is a United Nations treaty that the Government ratified in 2008. The CRPD is the most comprehensive global tool that outlines the human rights of disabled people.
- Revised New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026. The revised Strategy was launched in November 2016.¹ The New Zealand Disability Strategy represents New Zealand's approach for implementing the CRPD in the New Zealand context.
- Disability Action Plan 2014-2018. This has been the primary vehicle for implementing actions to realise the first New Zealand Disability Strategy (launched in 2001) in New Zealand. The Disability Action Plan 2014-2018 brought together key priorities and actions that require cross-agency collaboration. Consultations are currently underway for the development of the new Disability Action Plan 2019-2022.

These frameworks are supported by several governance, monitoring and coordination mechanisms, including:

- Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee
- Ministers' Leadership Group on Disability Issues
- Chief Executives' Group on Disability Issues

¹ The New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 is available on the Office for Disability Issues website at: <https://www.odi.govt.nz/nz-disability-strategy/about-the-strategy/new-zealand-disability-strategy-2016-2026/>.

- Senior Officials' Group on Disability Issues
- Disabled People's Organisations Coalition (DPO Coalition)²
- Independent Monitoring Mechanism³

Every year, the Minister for Disability Issues reports to Parliament. The purpose of the Minister's annual report is to comment on progress with implementing the New Zealand Disability Strategy. Given that the Disability Action Plan 2014-2018 has been the primary vehicle for implementing actions to realise the first New Zealand Disability Strategy, this report comments on progress in implementation of the DAP 2014-2018. The report also comments on other activities and work programmes contributing to disabled New Zealanders' wellbeing and the progressive realisation of their human rights.

There are two broad sections in the report:

- key achievements contributing to disabled people's improved wellbeing in 2018
- looking forward to activities and work programmes in 2019 and beyond that will continue to improve disabled people's wellbeing and quality of life.

It is important to understand that addressing the barriers impeding disabled people from fully participating in society extends beyond the government actions and work programmes outlined in this report. Overcoming these barriers is equally

² The DPO Coalition is a collection of seven Disabled People's Organisations. Members include: Disabled Persons Assembly (New Zealand) Incorporated, People First New Zealand Incorporated, Kāpō Māori Aotearoa/New Zealand Incorporated, Association of Blind Citizens of New Zealand Incorporated, Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand Incorporated, Balance Aotearoa and Muscular Dystrophy Association of New Zealand.

³ The Independent Monitoring Mechanism (IMM) is a three-way partnership between the Human Rights Commission, the Office of the Ombudsman and the DPO Coalition. The IMM is designated by Cabinet to provide independent monitoring of New Zealand's implementation of the CRPD.

dependent on the attitudes, commitments and actions of all New Zealanders.

Section one: Key achievements contributing to disabled people's wellbeing in 2018

Several initiatives in 2018 have continued work towards improving the identification and removal of barriers that disabled people experience, and ensuring they have the same opportunities and life-outcomes as other New Zealanders.

These include:

- progress against the Disability Action Plan 2014-2018
- development of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 Outcomes Framework indicators and measures
- development of the Accessibility Charter and the Accessibility Guide
- Cabinet committing to a work programme on accessibility
- Ministers' Leadership Group on Disability Issues
- Minister for Disability Issues' regional visits across New Zealand
- Minister for Disability Issues' attendance at the Conference of State Parties
- system transformation prototype- implementation of the new disability support system prototype in MidCentral
- Enabling Good Lives - Christchurch
- Waikato demonstration of the Enabling Good Lives approach
- completion of both the New Zealand Sign Language Board's five-year Strategy 2018-2023 and the New Zealand Sign Language Fund's fourth funding round

- reform programme in education
- Budget 2018: New disability focused funding.

This section outlines what has happened with each of these initiatives and what has been achieved in 2018.

Progress against the Disability Action Plan 2014-2018

Ensuring disabled people are involved in decision-making that concerns them is very important. This is because disabled people themselves are experts on their own lives and are best-placed to advise on issues and solutions to barriers they experience in their everyday lives.

The principle of involving disabled people in decision-making that concerns them is also included in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) Article 4(3) as a specific obligation for governments.

The Disability Action Plan 2014-2018 (DAP 2014-2018), approved by the Ministerial Committee on Disability Issues and, later by Cabinet in mid-2014, was co-designed by government agencies working together with disabled people through their representatives in the DPO Coalition. The refresh of the DAP 2014-2018 in 2015 was also a joint effort between government agencies and the DPO Coalition. This collaborative way of working is an example of putting Article 4(3) of the CRPD into practice.

The DAP 2014-2018 prioritises actions to put into effect the first New Zealand Disability Strategy (2001), and actions that require more than one government agency to work together. The Plan also ensures that the DPO Coalition and other organisations with relevant expertise in the area are involved.

Given that many of the barriers disabled people confront span different government agencies' and disability organisations' responsibilities, this collaborative approach is vital.

Implementation of the Disability Action Plan 2014-2018

The DPO Coalition and members of the Senior Officials' Group on Disability Issues meet every three months to provide joint governance over implementation of the DAP 2014-2018.

There are 28 actions in the DAP 2014-2018⁴. Each action has a lead agency that provides regular updates on how their action is being implemented at the three-monthly joint meetings of the DPO Coalition and the Senior Officials' Group on Disability Issues.

As shown in Figure 1 below, the most recent Disability Action Plan 2014-2018 Progress Report⁵ summarises that:

- Seven actions are blue ("complete").
- Nine actions are green ("on track").
- Seven actions are considered orange ("with minor risks to achieving milestones").
- Five actions are considered red ("with major risks to achieving milestones").

⁴ The DAP 2014-2018 is available on the Office for Disability Issues website: <http://www.odi.govt.nz/nz-disability-strategy/disability-action-plan/disability-action-plan-2014-2018-update-2015/>.

⁵ Disability Action Plan 2014-2018 Progress Report (September 2018).

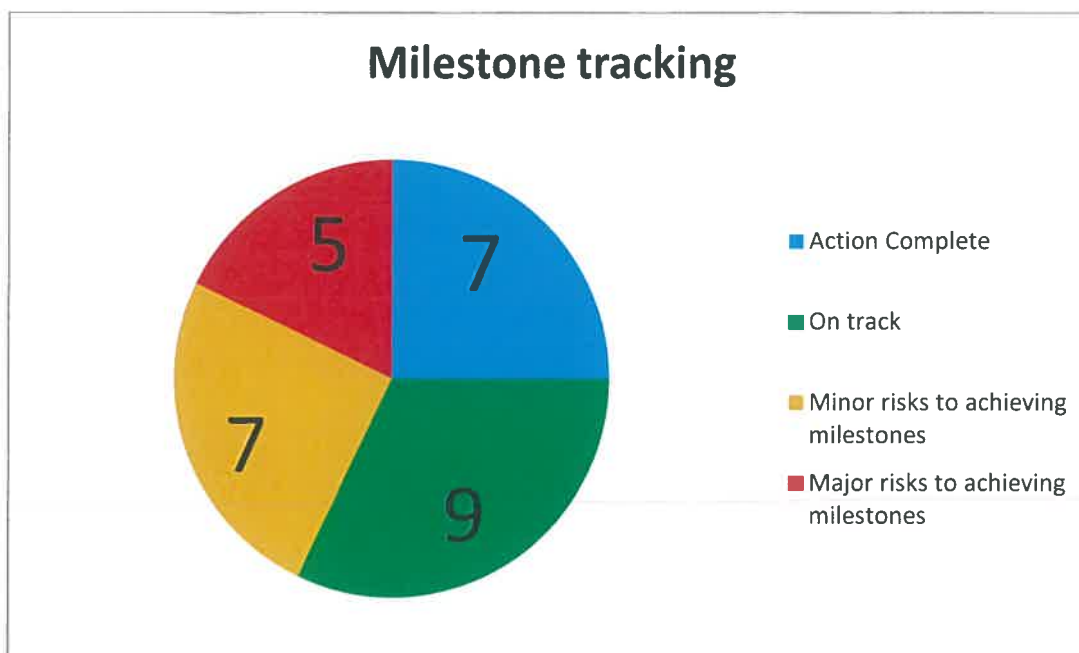


Figure 1: Implementation of actions in Disability Action Plan 2014-2018

The seven actions completed are as follows:

2A: Long term work programme to improve employment outcomes for disabled people (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

4A: Disabled People's Organisations work with government agencies and the National Enabling Good Lives Leadership Group to support changes to the disability support system (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

6A: Implement effective ways for disabled people and Disabled People's Organisations to provide feedback on service and support providers (Lead agency: Ministry of Health).

8A: Review the current care and support processes for disabled children who are (or are likely to be) subject to care under the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1989 (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

9D: Explore how the Mental Health Act 1992 relates to the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and the CRPD (Lead agency: Ministry of Health).

11A: Stocktake of opportunities to promote disabled people participating in political and civic processes (Lead agency: Office for Disability Issues).

12A: Investigate the feasibility of introducing a companion card programme in New Zealand (Lead agency: Ministry for Culture and Heritage).

The nine actions on track are as follows:

1A: Improve transitions (Lead agency: Ministry of Education).

3A: Government to take a lead in employing disabled people and providing paid internships (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

3B: Progress employment of disabled people in the private sector (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

4B: A good start in life: Develop policy options to improve government supports for parents, family and whānau of disabled children aged 0-8 years (Lead agency: Ministry of Education).

5A/B (now combined): Joint Disabled People's Organisations and the Government work programme on involving these organisations in decisions that affect disabled people, and improve their capability (individually and collectively) to engage with government agencies and their wider community (Lead agency: Office for Disability Issues).

7A: Ensure disabled people can exercise their legal capacity, including through recognition of supported decision making (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

9A: Increase accessibility of information across government agencies (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

9E: Implement the work programme of the Disability Data and Evidence Working Group, including a focus on Māori and Pasifika (Lead agency: Office for Disability Issues).

10A: Implement the recommendations agreed by the Chief Executives' Group on Disability Issues, which were identified through the stocktake on the accessibility of public transport (Lead agency: Ministry of Transport).

The seven actions considered ORANGE (with minor risk identified to achieving milestones) are as follows:

2B: Building on work in Action 2(a) (long term work programme to improve employment outcomes for disabled people), identify better alternatives so that the minimum wage exemption process can be removed (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development).

Summary: Action 2(a) is behind original timeframe, but progressing.

6B: Ensure providers are responsive to disabled people and provide choice and tailoring of services. Explore how provider performance should be assessed, including through accreditation, provider performance measurement, and contract monitoring systems (Lead agency: Ministry of Health).

Summary: A scope is being developed for testing with Disabled People's Organisations and senior officials.

7B: Explore the framework that protects the bodily integrity of disabled children and disabled adults against non-therapeutic medical procedures, including the issue of consent. This action

will focus initially on options to protect against non-therapeutic sterilisation without fully informed content of the individual (Lead agency: Ministry of Health).

Summary: This action has experienced significant delays due to on-going resourcing issues, competing work priorities, and the change of government. Two new staff members are now in place to progress the work.

9C: Increase access to health services and improve health outcomes for disabled people with a specific focus on people with learning/intellectual disabilities (Lead agency: Ministry of Health).

Summary: The project is being re-scoped in line with discussions with the new government on their policy priorities, and work associated with the Disability Support Services System Transformation project.

9F: Undertake a stocktake to identify any legislation that is not consistent with the CRPD and explore options to improve consistency (Office for Disability Issues).

Summary: This action has been delayed due to a revision of scope and capacity constraints.

9G: Investigate opportunities for technology to increase disabled people's participation in work, community and political life, including through both assistive technology and access to mainstream technology (Lead agency: Accident Compensation Corporation [ACC]).

Summary: Progress has been delayed since June 2018 due to significant resource pressures at ACC. The work remains substantially complete, and new resource has been allocated to ensure completion by the end of 2018.

10B: Implement the Accessibility Plan: Public Buildings (Lead agency: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment [MBIE]).

Summary: MBIE has reallocated resourcing to ensure it makes significant progress on key phases of the Accessibility Plan, but action is behind original timelines. Further decisions on rephrasing/reprioritising aspects of the Plan will be considered by early 2019.

The five actions considered RED (with major risks identified to achieving milestones) are as follows:

8B: Explore options to reduce violence, abuse (all types, including bullying) and neglect of disabled people and understand the impact of different cultural contexts (Lead agency: Ministry of Social Development). This work will include:

- building on previous work to educate disabled people about their rights
- ensuring the needs of disabled people are built into the Family Violence work programme
- scoping a new work programme for abuse by non-family members.

Summary: There have been delays in resource identification and scoping as a result of recent changes proposed by the Family and Whānau Violence Legislation Bill.

9B: Understand the journey through the justice sector for disabled adults, disabled children and their families (Lead agency: To be determined).

Summary: The scope of this action was not clearly understood or agreed when it was added to DAP 2014-2018. However, progress has been made towards understanding the interactions of disabled people with the justice system.

9H: Develop a framework for understanding the costs of disability and mechanisms for meeting these (Lead agency: To be determined).

Summary: The Office for Disability Issues will pursue discussions with government agencies and Disabled People's Organisations on opportunities for this action.

9I: Investigate how the Government can utilise a whānau ora approach for disabled persons who prefer a whānau and community inclusive approach to government services (Lead agency: To be determined).

Summary: Options are being explored between the Ministry of Health and Disabled People's Organisations to look at what can be gained from Māori focused work in the transformation of the disability support system.

10C: Understand the impact of disability on housing needs and influence the social housing reform programme to meet the needs of disabled people (Lead agency: Office for Disability Issues).

Summary: The Housing and Urban Development team is working with the Office for Disability Issues to scope out how to improve housing outcomes for disabled public housing tenants.

Development of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 Outcomes Framework indicators and measures

The revised New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 (the Strategy), launched in November 2016, is the primary vehicle for progressive realisation of the CRPD in New Zealand. The vision underpinning the Strategy is that: "New Zealand is a non-disabling society – a place where disabled people have an equal opportunity to achieve their goals and aspirations, and all of New Zealand works together to make this happen".

Implementation of the Strategy will be guided by:

- the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
- the principles of the CRPD
- the principle of ensuring disabled people are involved in decision-making that impacts on them
- a long-term approach to investing in disabled people's lives
- a twin-track approach comprising of:
 - mainstream services, developed within an universal design framework, accessible to everyone
 - specific services required by a disabled person for part or all of their lives.

The Strategy will provide the mandate for and guide the work of government agencies to identify and remove barriers faced by disabled people until 2026.⁶

During the 2016 public consultation on the revision of the first New Zealand Disability Strategy (2001), the importance of monitoring and implementing the new Strategy was emphasised. There are strong expectations in the disability sector relating to measurement and accountability.

Of paramount importance in the development of the Outcomes Framework was devising a set of population-level indicators that are well-defined and meaningful to disabled people. It is also important to track changes in these indicators over time to demonstrate what change or progress is occurring against the Strategy's eight broad outcome domains/priority areas. The eight key interconnected outcome domains for targeted action in the Strategy are:

⁶ The relationship between the CRPD, the Strategy and the Disability Action Plan is illustrated in Appendix one.

- education
 - employment and economic security
 - health and wellbeing
 - rights protection and justice
 - accessibility
 - attitudes
-
- choice and control
 - leadership.

Over the course of 2017 and 2018, the Office for Disability Issues (ODI) worked with the New Zealand Disability Strategy Revision Reference Group⁷, relevant government agencies and the three Independent Monitoring Mechanism partners (DPO Coalition, Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Ombudsman) to develop and refine indicators. Twenty-eight indicators have been developed that align well with the eight outcome domains in the Strategy.⁸ These indicators are reflective of what disabled people think will demonstrate progress in the implementation of the Strategy. For some of the indicators, meaningful monitoring of progress will require a comparison with non-disabled populations.

Robust data is required to measure the 28 indicators. Stats NZ, in collaboration with ODI, has proposed some measures for the

⁷ The New Zealand Disability Strategy Revision Reference Group was disestablished in May 2018, once the work on the identification of indicators for the Outcomes Framework had been completed. The members of the Reference Group brought expertise and leadership in working with the disability sector, providing strategic advice, building connections between the government and the community sector and skill in collaborative approaches. The Reference Group included members who brought the perspectives of Māori, Pasifika, older people, young people, families and whānau and service providers.

⁸ The outcome domains and a description of the indicators for each domain are shown in Appendix two.

indicators. The 58 proposed measures identified, so far, are based on the best understanding of what was intended for each indicator by ODI and the New Zealand Disability Strategy Revision Reference Group. The number of measures against each indicator varies from one to five, given that some indicators are broader in scope than others and need more measures to address them adequately.

The selection of measures was informed, to some extent, by an understanding of available relevant data and the possibility of collecting further relevant data in the near future. Stats NZ, in collaboration with ODI and other agencies, has identified relevant data generated or expected to be generated from the Washington Groups Short Set of questions on disability included in Census 2018 and in regularly run existing government surveys (eg, New Zealand General Social Survey, Household Labour Force Survey, New Zealand Health Survey).⁹ These data sources may be useful in setting baselines and providing on-going data points to show change over time against some of the indicators. The data (available at the time of writing) would address, in full or part, 17 of the 28 indicators.

It is important to note that there is an intention that the data collected relates to all disabled people, including people in residential services, prisons and the homeless.

⁹ The Washington Group measuring instrument has been designed to identify individuals who are “at greater risk” than the general population of experiencing restricted social participation (eg, paid employment) because of difficulties undertaking basic, universal activities (eg, climbing steps). This “at risk” group should comprise individuals who experience difficulty with one or more of the six core functional activities included in the Washington Group Short Set: seeing, hearing, walking, cognition, self-care and communication.

Development of the Accessibility Charter and the Accessibility Guide

The public sector is taking a leadership role in recognising accessibility as an enabler of inclusion. In February 2018, the Accessibility Charter was launched. The Charter was developed in consultation with Disabled People's Organisations: Deaf Aotearoa, People First, Association of Blind Citizens and Kāpō Māori. The Charter sets expectations for government agencies to make information technology and communications accessible. Thirty-three agencies, to date, have signed the Charter document.

Signed-up agencies will be expected to develop action plans. Regular reports will be submitted to the Minister for Disability Issues outlining each agency's progress. Examples of good practice from the reports will be shared with all agencies.

In December 2018, the Accessibility Guide (developed in conjunction with Deaf Aotearoa, People First and Association of Blind Citizens) was launched by the Minister for Disability Issues. Each government agency will receive three copies of the Guide. The Guide outlines:

- why we should make information accessible
- the frameworks within which it sits (CRPD, the Strategy)
- accessibility website standards
- best practice universal design
- alternate formats.

A training programme is being developed to support the Accessibility Guide which will be free for all agencies. The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) will facilitate the training

for groups of 15 people to attend each session. The training programme will be trialled by MSD at the beginning of 2019.

Cabinet committing to a work programme on accessibility

Accessibility is important to all New Zealanders, given that it enables us to participate in, and belong to, the world around us. Without access to the physical environment (built environment and public and green spaces), transport, information and communication technology and services, people do not have equal opportunities for participation in society. Inaccessibility leads to social isolation and exclusion.

While accessibility affects everyone, barriers to accessibility particularly restrict some population groups. Disabled people comprise about a quarter of New Zealanders and continue to report many areas of inaccessibility. For example, barriers to participation in everyday life were vividly described by disabled people interviewed for the disabled people-led monitoring report, *Participation and Poverty*, published in 2015.¹⁰ The inability to access buildings, outdoor spaces, transport, digital communications and services is preventing disabled New Zealanders from studying, being employed, getting the services they need and participating meaningfully in community and social life.

On 3 December 2018, Cabinet agreed to commence the design of an approach to achieve a fully accessible New Zealand, including the exploration of the role of legislation. This work programme will involve collaboration with key stakeholders, including: disabled people, Disabled People's Organisations, the

¹⁰ See <http://www.dpa.org.nz/convention-coalition-monitoring-reports-2015>.

wider disability sector, older people, government agencies and business representatives.

Ministers' Leadership Group on Disability Issues

The Ministers' Leadership Group on Disability Issues was established in late 2017 and has met three times since. The Ministers' Group allows Ministers to provide leadership by acting collectively and directing action on disability issues within their respective portfolios. The Group takes a broad cross-government view on issues restricting disabled people's participation in society.

The Ministers' Leadership Group is also a forum for the Independent Monitoring Mechanism and Ministers to communicate directly on disability issues and actions to progress those issues.

In December 2017, the Independent Monitoring Mechanism identified six key issues which, if improved, would make a real difference in the lives of disabled people. The six issues are:

- *Education*: Disabled people are less likely to have educational qualifications, compared to non-disabled people. The *2013 Disability Survey* shows that 33 percent of disabled people had no educational qualification, whereas the equivalent figure for non-disabled people was 15 percent.¹¹
- *Employment*: Unlocking the employment potential of disabled people is vital for their full and equal participation in society. For example, in the June 2018 quarter of the *Household Labour Force Survey*, 22.3 percent of disabled

¹¹ See <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/disability-survey-2013>.

people were working, compared with 70.0 percent of non-disabled people.¹²

- *Housing*: There is a lack of accessible housing in all housing sectors in New Zealand. Adequate housing is a human right recognised in multiple international human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- *Data on disabled people*: There are substantial gaps in disaggregated disability data. Robust disability data is required to inform disability policy development and the planning of services.
- *Seclusion and restraint*: There is on-going concern in the wider society about the overuse of seclusion and restraint in mental health facilities and prisons.
- *Access to information and communications*: Lack of access to information and digital communications in accessible formats continues to impede disabled people from studying, securing employment, getting the services they need and participating in community and social life.

These six key issues will be progressed through the new Disability Action Plan 2019-2022 which is jointly governed by government agencies alongside Disabled People's Organisations.

¹² See <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/disabled-people-three-times-less-likely-to-be-in-work>.

Minister for Disability Issues' regional meetings across New Zealand

Minister Sepuloni has been taking the opportunity, when visiting the regions, to meet with disabled people and listen to their concerns, including their ideas on what might be included in the new Disability Action Plan 2019-2022.

The most frequent issues raised in the meetings include:

- *Lack of accessible transport:* Disabled people are unable to use, for example, inaccessible regional planes and inaccessible buses to hospitals and airports. Inconsistent availability of accessible transport has an impact on all areas of disabled people's daily lives: work, school, recreational activities and so on.
- *Employment:* Various factors are preventing disabled people from taking up employment opportunities such as inaccessible workplaces and the lack of understanding of disabled workers' needs on the part of employers and staff. Better advice and support is needed for disabled people, employers and staff.
- *Schooling issues for disabled children* include:
 - lack of access to school of choice (including to accessible transport to get to a tertiary institution)
 - concerns about the level of bullying experienced by disabled children/young people
 - lack of awareness on the part of teachers about what works for disabled children/young people.

- *Lack of respite care opportunities* relates to:
 - few respite care options, particularly in the far and mid north of New Zealand
 - respite care funds being almost totally used up in the time and cost of transporting the disabled child (often with complex and high needs) to respite care
 - lack of access to consistent and available medical support.
- *Concerns about language*, for example, using “persons with disabilities” versus “disabled people”.
- *The need to improve attitudes towards disabled people.*
- *Difficulties associated with low income and the costs of disability.*
- *Accessible and affordable housing*, including the update of the Building Code.

Minister for Disability Issues’ attendance at the Conference of State Parties

The eleventh Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) took place from 12 to 14 June 2018 in New York. This year’s conference theme was: *Leaving no one behind through the full implementation of the CRPD.*

New Zealand’s delegation was headed by the Minister for Disability Issues, Hon Carmel Sepuloni. The members of the delegation included: the Director of the Office for Disability Issues, Brian Coffey, and officials from the New Zealand Human Rights Commission.

Robert Martin (currently serving on the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) and representatives from New Zealand's civil society were also in attendance.

During the General Debate of the Conference, Minister Sepuloni delivered New Zealand's national statement and a joint statement on behalf of the Group of Friends of Persons with Disabilities. Key issues covered in the national statement included: the collection of high quality data disaggregated by disability status, the progressive realisation of the CRPD through implementation of the New Zealand Disability Strategy, and the use of the co-design approach to transform the disability support system in New Zealand.

In addition, Minister Seploni participated in a number of side events:

- She was a panellist in the "If I'm not counted, I don't count: Better data to improve the lives of persons with disabilities" event, chaired by the Disability Rights Commissioner, Paula Tesoriero.
- She participated in a Pacific Disability Forum, "From recognition to realisation of rights: Furthering effective partnership for an Inclusive Pacific 2030". She noted that New Zealand supports disability-inclusive development and humanitarian action.
- She hosted the first "quadrilateral" meeting with the Heads of Delegation from Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom. The meeting focused on issues of accessibility, data and the engagement of Disabled People's Organisations in decision-making processes.
- She co-chaired a meeting of the Group of Friends of Persons with Disabilities alongside Mexico. The Group discussed the

election of members to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, possible themes for future conferences, and progress for the new system-wide action plan that was announced by the UN Secretary-General.¹³

Minister Sepuloni also met bilaterally with a number of other delegations, including ministerial counterparts from Norway, Denmark and Canada to share best practice and lessons learned on a range of disability issues.

System Transformation prototype – Implementation of the new disability support system prototype in MidCentral

On 1 October 2018, after months of hard work by many people, a transformed disability support system prototype, Mana Whaikaha, was launched in the MidCentral District Health Board region. A MidCentral Regional Leadership Group has also been established.

Mana Whaikaha

Mana Whaikaha is a Ministry of Health initiative which had its genesis in Action 4A (to support changes to the disability support system) in the Disability Action Plan 2014-2018, and the Enabling Good Lives approach to the delivery of disability support services.

The new system, Mana Whaikaha, was co-designed over the previous 18 months with disabled people, families and whānau, and others in the disability sector. It aims to:

¹³ In his opening address, UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, announced that the UN would develop a new system-wide plan on the rights of persons with disabilities.

- provide disabled people, families and whānau with more flexible support options
- give disabled people, families and whānau greater decision making over their support
- ensure all disabled people, families and whānau are able to take up the opportunities for change if they want to, including those who need support for decision making and have only paid people in their lives
- improve outcomes for disabled people, families and whānau
- create a cost-effective disability support system.

Disabled people and their families and whānau have been calling for change for a long time because the existing system provides a one-size fits all support, which is fragmented and siloed across government. The current system is about what the system needs (eg, assessments for eligibility), rather than meeting the needs of the disabled person.

The key features of Mana Whaikaha include:

- *People welcomed into the system* in multiple ways, provided with information, and linked with a Connector, peer network, government agency or disability organisation
- *Access to Connectors* who are allies for disabled people, families and whānau and can walk alongside them to help them identify what they want in their lives, how to build that life, and find the range of supports available
- *Easy to use information and processes* that are responsive to meet the diverse needs of disabled people, families and whānau

- *Connected support across government*, with Government Liaisons in the background, supporting access to other government services (eg, benefit applications), and building positive relationships with other parts of government (eg, learning support in school)
- *A straightforward process for accessing funding*, with flexibility about what can be purchased and easy reporting on how funding has been used
- *Capability funding* to build the skills of disabled people, families and whānau in MidCentral
- *Greater system accountability* with disabled people, families and whānau involved in monitoring and evaluating the system, and making recommendations to Ministers about changes to the system.

Since the launch of Mana Whaikaha, there have been high levels of engagement with the new system. In the first week, 175 disabled people, families and whānau in MidCentral asked to work with a Connector. In the first month, more than 320 people had requested access to a Connector.

There have also been some exciting, early changes in people's lives. One woman in her early 30s, who is in a wheelchair, had an extended stay in hospital last year and was then moved into a rest home. She said she "kind of gave up, thought her life was over and this was going to be her new normal". Instead, with the help of her Connector and other supportive people, she has moved into her own unit with the support she needs.

Bearing in mind that Mana Whaikaha is a prototype, there will be a "try, learn and adjust" approach for at least 18 months. This means that there will be on-going evaluation of the workings of the prototype.

Workforce working group

In January 2018, a workforce working group made up of disabled people, unions, providers and officials was established. This group is working together to:

- support the development of the disability sector workforce; safeguard workforce rights, terms and conditions; provide employment information, advice and support for disabled people as employers; and monitor and evaluate impacts for the workforce and make recommendations for change;
- improve flexibility, and remove contract restrictions for providers so they can provide tailored individualised support that meets the needs of disabled people and their families and whānau in MidCentral.

Enabling Good Lives - Christchurch

The Enabling Good Lives (EGL) approach in Christchurch continues to offer school leavers more control and choice over the lives they lead and the supports and services they use. People have access to an Independent Facilitator (also known as a Navigator/Connector), as well as a pooled personalised budget, which the young person and their family can use flexibly to support their good life plans and goals.

There are now approximately 350 EGL Christchurch participants, with over 60 young people leaving school this year. This is a significant increase on previous years, with students more often choosing to leave school alongside their peer group, and transitioning into work, further education, and voluntary opportunities, as well as gaining skills and independence, developing friendships, having fun, and building personal networks.

Over the last few years, young people who left school are continuing to have lives that grow and develop, including moving out of home and flatting, turning work experience into paid employment, developing a hobby into a business, or completing a course and joining a group for further connection with others.

These changes are having an impact on disabled people by encouraging them to focus on what support, funded and unfunded, they want prioritised for the life they want to lead, increasing their ability to participate in the community.

The Waikato demonstration of the Enabling Good Lives approach

The demonstration in the Waikato successfully completed its third year and has been extended until June 2020. The EGL principles remain central in guiding the work of the demonstration and decision making.

There are currently 396 disabled people, families and whānau engaged in the demonstration. Of note, 32 percent of those participating are Māori and 35 percent are aged under 15 years. Forty-seven percent of people live in the many towns and rural areas of the Greater Waikato, including Tokoroa, Putaruru, Taumarunui, Huntly, Ngaruawahia, Te Kuiti, Thames and Paeroa.

There is a great deal of interest from disabled people, families and whānau in doing things differently and high demand to join EGL Waikato. However, due to limited numbers on the demonstration, the waiting list was recently closed off. Currently, 123 disabled people, families and whānau are waiting to join the demonstration. It is hoped many of these people will join before June 2020.

There are, currently, 310 people receiving a personal budget that they can use flexibly to purchase the services, support and items that will assist them to build a good life. Approximately, 85 percent are receiving and managing this budget directly.

There are many stories of disabled people, families and whānau achieving great outcomes in their life. Some of these outcomes were highlighted in the Phase Two external evaluation of the demonstration, with most people indicating these outcomes would not have been possible in the old disability support system.¹⁴

A larger Phase Three evaluation is currently underway and is due to report back in February 2019.

A number of diverse stories from participants have been filmed and are on the EGL website.¹⁵ Learnings continue to emerge from the Waikato and these are being shared with the system transformation team.

Regular forums are being run by disabled people, families and whānau and service providers. These are an important mechanism to build community, share ideas, grow leadership and prepare the Waikato region for full system transformation in the future.

¹⁴ The Phase Two evaluation can be accessed at:
<http://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/current-demonstrations/enabling-good-lives-waikato/waikato-evaluations/>.

¹⁵ See <http://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/current-demonstrations/enabling-good-lives-waikato/>.

Completion of both the New Zealand Sign Language Board's five-year Strategy 2018-2023 and the New Zealand Sign Language Fund's fourth funding round

Background

There are approximately 20,000 New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) users in New Zealand,¹⁶ of whom it is estimated 4,000 are Deaf people who use NZSL as their primary form of communication.

Research tells us that while NZSL is now more recognised and accepted by society, the numbers of Deaf people learning and using the language are decreasing.¹⁷ This means that NZSL, one of New Zealand's official languages, is considered a threatened language. This situation has highlighted for the NZSL Board the critical and on-going need for effective planning.

New Zealand Sign Language five-year Strategy 2018-2023

In 2017, a review of the NZSL Board's Action Plan 2016-2018 identified that the Plan did not enable the Board to undertake an effective long-term planning approach to maintain and promote New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL). The review resulted in the Board's five-year NZSL Strategy 2018-2023

¹⁶ Statistics New Zealand. 2013. 2013 Census QuickStats about Culture.

¹⁷ McKee, Rachel Locker. 2017. Assessing the vitality of New Zealand Sign Language. *Sign Language Studies*, 17(3), 322-362.

(NZSL Strategy), released by the Minister for Disability Issues on 23 September 2018.¹⁸

The NZSL Strategy is based on five internationally recognised language planning priorities:

- *Acquisition*: The learning of a language by children and adults
- *Use/Access*: The ability to use a language in any or all domains of society, including with families and whānau
- *Attitude*: The beliefs and opinions of language users and others towards that language
- *Documentation*: The systematic recording of language use for research and reference
- *Status*: How a language is regarded by its users and others.

Acquisition and use/access are the NZSL Strategy's key priorities, given the importance of Deaf and other NZSL users being able to learn and use the language in all domains of society. The remaining three language priorities (attitude, documentation and status) play essential supporting roles in facilitating NZSL acquisition and use/access.

Identifying and responding to the NZSL needs of Māori Deaf and Pasifika Deaf people has been incorporated into the five language planning priorities.

The NZSL Board will develop a Plan of Action. Key activities to be progressed under each of the five language planning priorities will be reviewed and published annually to ensure the Strategy is being effectively implemented.

¹⁸ The NZSL Strategy 2018-2023 is available on the Office for Disability Issues website at: <https://www.odi.govt.nz/nzsl/nzsl-strategy-2018-2023/>.

The NZSL Board will continue to work in partnership with key government agencies to develop methodologies for the collation and analysis of NZSL-related data. The Board's goal is to begin reporting against NZSL targets and indicators by 2020. The work programme relating to these targets and indicators will specify:

- targets and indicators for each language priority, along with agreed definitions
- sources of information
- frequency of collection of information
- who is responsible for collecting the information
- identification of proxies and how information gaps will be addressed.

The NZSL Fund

The NZSL Board has an annual appropriation of \$1.25m to assist with implementing the Strategy through the funding of national and local NZSL initiatives. A further \$0.25m per annum is allocated to support the operational management of the Board.

The theme for the NZSL Fund's fourth funding round was: *NZSL in our hands: Our language, our taonga, our identity, our past, our future*. The funded initiatives during 2018 included:

- NZSL Week
- NZSL leadership training camps for Deaf youth
- a national hui for the NZSL Teachers' Association to consider the need for a national registration system

- a national hui for the 13 Deaf Clubs to share information about their priorities and experiences.

NZSL Fund – Commissioned work

Over the past 18 months, the NZSL Board has commissioned various projects (supported by the NZSL Fund) deemed vital for maintaining and promoting a minority language and crucial for achieving the objectives of the NZSL Strategy. Figure 2 below provides estimates of the funding:

Project	Aligns with the NZSL Strategy	Estimated annual costs (\$m, excl GST)
Maintenance of the online NZSL Dictionary	Documentation	0.075
Expanding the NZSL curriculum resources for teaching by NZSL tutors	Acquisition	0.200
Establishing a national system to assess the proficiency of adult NZSL users, including teachers and other deaf education professionals	Attitude, Use/Access	0.200
Supporting and monitoring the quality of NZSL Interpreters through a registration system and regular competency assessment and support	Use/Access	0.200
Funding support for NZSL Week	Attitude, Status	0.255
	Total	0.930

Figure 2 Estimates of funding required for strategic on-going NZSL Board initiatives

The net impact of funding the on-going core projects, estimated at \$0.9m each year from the NZSL Fund, leaves \$300,000 for community-driven initiatives. These community-driven initiatives range from a national meeting

of Deaf clubs with a view to establishing a national Deaf club network to local family NZSL camps.

Reform programme in education

There is a comprehensive reform programme being undertaken in education under the leadership of the Minister of Education, Hon Chris Hipkins, and the Associate Minister of Education, Hon Tracey Martin. A number of reviews and work programmes are underway that will progress opportunities for children and young people with disabilities.

Budget 2018 provided a significant additional investment (\$249.323m over four years) in disability and learning support through the:

- Ongoing Resourcing Scheme
- teacher aide funding
- early intervention services
- sensory schools (including NZSL funding)
- Te Kahu Tōi (the intensive wraparound service).

The Disability and Learning Support Action Plan will explicitly drive progress towards an inclusive education system through:

- improving the way children and young people are assessed for learning needs
- strengthening the range of support for children and young people with disabilities and additional learning needs
- improving how we respond to neuro-diverse and gifted learners

- ensuring that learning support has the resources to increase support and services.

This will also include the funding of Learning Support Co-ordinators in schools as an addition to the current Learning Support Delivery Model. On 4 November 2018, the Prime Minister announced that the Coalition Government will fund the first tranche of Learning Support Co-ordinators in New Zealand schools at a cost of \$271m over four years.

Other initiatives include the development of screening tools to identify early those with learning difficulties, and better use of data for schools to better serve the needs of students.

A finalised version of the Disability and Learning Support Action Plan taking into account public feedback, including confirmed priority areas, actions and timeframes, will be considered by Cabinet in due course.

The broader education work programme includes the:

- Education Workforce Strategy
- Review of Tomorrow's Schools
- Review of the National Certificates of Educational Achievement (NCEA)
- Careers Action Plan
- Early Learning Strategy and review of home-based early childhood education
- Ministry of Education's continued focus on raising achievement for Māori and Pacific students, including a focus on students with disabilities and learning support needs.

A new 30 year vision for education is being developed through the Education Conversation, Kōrero Mātauranga. During the consultation process, disabled people prioritised the concept of “belonging” as a core value within the education system.

Analysis of the responses from the diverse voices included in the consultation shows that access to education, learning support and equity were identified as particular issues raised by disabled people. This included the importance of support staff to enable disabled people to access education and the need to provide environments that cater for all students.

Budget 2018: New disability focused funding

Budget 2018 provided a significant additional four year investment in disability services, supports and work programmes, including:

- Ministry of Health Disability Support Services \$210.628m
- Ministry of Education Learning Support \$249.323m
- Representation at the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \$0.325m.

Section two: Looking forward to 2019 and beyond

What is important looking forward to 2019 and beyond is prioritising those strategic opportunities that will promote positive change for disabled New Zealanders, and enable them to live the best quality of life they can. These strategic opportunities include:

- continuing work on the development of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 Outcomes Framework indicators and measures
- continuing to consult on the new Disability Action Plan 2019-2022 and presenting the Plan to Cabinet
- continuing to evaluate and respond to the “try, learn and adjust” model of the disability support system transformation prototype in MidCentral
- implementing the New Zealand Sign Language Strategy and appointing new members to the New Zealand Sign Language Board
- accelerating progress towards accessibility in New Zealand, including the exploration of the role of legislation
- continuing the Office for Disability Issues’ work on the development of a governance and appointments diversity database
- learning from the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities’ second review of how New Zealand is implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

- considering findings and recommendations in various government reviews/inquiries that could contribute to improving life-outcomes for disabled New Zealanders.

On-going development of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 Outcomes Framework indicators and measures

Over the course of 2019, the Disability Data and Evidence Working Group¹⁹ will be working with the Office for Disability Issues, Stats NZ and relevant agencies to progress the measurement (in full or part) of the 17 New Zealand Disability Strategy Outcomes Framework indicators for which data is available.

Regarding the 11 indicators for which no supporting data is currently available, possible options will be investigated.

Once further work on possible measures, sources of data and reporting frequency has been completed, the final Outcomes Framework will be incorporated into the New Zealand Disability Strategy document.

Consultation on the Disability Action Plan 2019-2022 and presentation of the Plan to Cabinet

The current Disability Action Plan 2014-2018 expires at the end of this year. A new Disability Action Plan 2019-2022, more closely aligned with the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-

¹⁹ The Disability Data and Evidence Working Group, co-facilitated by the Office for Disability Issues and Stats NZ, was established in June 2015. The Working Group has a major focus on the types of data required to underpin the development of sound policy and appropriate services to meet the needs of disabled people in New Zealand.

2026), is being developed to direct the Government's work over the next four years.

Members of the Office for Disability Issues' (ODI) team are currently co-facilitating public workshops, alongside members of the Disabled People's Organisations Coalition (DPO Coalition), around New Zealand to canvass ideas for actions to go into the new Disability Action Plan. There will also be some catch-up meetings in February 2019.

Feedback on actions to include in the new Disability Action Plan is also being sought through the ODI website.

Consultation on the new Disability Action Plan is actively seeking to hear the voices of a broad range of disabled people and communities, including Māori disabled and Pasifika disabled, and youth with disabilities.

Once feedback has been gathered, a report will be provided in early 2019 from ODI and the DPO Coalition to the Minister for Disability Issues on the proposed actions to be implemented in the new Disability Action Plan 2019-2022. The Minister will then take the new Plan to Cabinet in 2019.

Continuation of the "try, learn and adjust" approach to the disability support system transformation prototype in MidCentral

Evaluating and responding to the "try, learn and adjust" model of the disability support system transformation prototype in MidCentral will continue in 2019. This process will involve:

- systematic gathering of feedback from disabled people, families and whānau and others to see if the new system is working

- reviewing of the feedback to identify where things could be improved
- considering recommendations made for changes, implementing of changes and testing again.

Implementation of the New Zealand Sign Language Strategy and new appointments to the New Zealand Sign Language Board

A key activity being planned for 2019, building on the release of the NZSL Strategy in September 2018, is a national series of local meetings to exchange information with the Deaf community.

The NZSL Board will use this planned series of meetings, including a proposed hui focused specifically on the Māori Deaf community, to:

- raise public awareness
- promote the NZSL Strategy
- explain the Board's rationale
- explain how the NZSL Fund will be used to support the Board
- promote membership of the Board.

On 1 June 2019, five NZSL Board member appointments are due to end and will be considered for renewal. A further two members have indicated that they will retire at this time. Hence, up to seven new appointments may be required. In addition, the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair will be open.

The NZSL Board will be promoting the availability of positions on the Board from early 2019.

Acceleration of progress towards accessibility in New Zealand

Following on Cabinet's agreement to commence the design of an approach to achieve a fully accessible New Zealand, the issues to be covered in the work programme include:

- developing a shared understanding of what "full accessibility" means
- considering the potential costs to the public and private sector
- assessing the risks associated with various approaches to achieving "full accessibility"
- exploring the feasibility of legislation to provide for mandatory codes and standards of accessibility
- considering the accessibility domains that might be covered.

Development of the Office for Disability Issues' governance and appointments diversity database

It is well-established that diverse boards and committees work better. Input from diverse perspectives can lead to better decision-making and organisational resilience.

The Government committed to increasing diversity in government appointments in the Cabinet Office Circular, *Government Appointments: Increasing Diversity of Board Membership*. Increasing diversity and inclusion in governance and advisory positions is aligned with Outcomes Two (Employment and Economic Security) and Seven (Leadership) of the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026.

Although 24 percent of New Zealanders identify as being disabled, there is a lack of information about the representation of disabled people in governance and advisory positions. It is important for disabled people to be represented at all levels of employment, including governance and advice. A disability perspective is also important in the formulation of all policy, not just policy that is specific to disabled people. Discrimination is less likely to occur when there is a diversity of leadership and when policy development is informed by representative groups.

There is currently no adequate mechanism in place to fairly and transparently ensure diversity on state sector boards and committees, including representation of disabled people. Moreover, there is a lack of data available to measure progress in increasing diversity and inclusion.

The Office for Disability Issues (ODI) proposed the development of a diversity database in a report to the Minister for Disability Issues in October 2018. This proposed database could be used across agencies to nominate people for governance and advisory positions.

ODI has proposed a three-phased approach to increasing representation of disabled people in governance and advisory positions:

- *Phase one* – Expressions of Interest from disabled people who would like to be on the diversity database
- *Phase two* – The development and launch of a cross-agency governance and diversity database
- *Phase three* – Evaluating and determining how to better facilitate more disabled people into governance and advisory positions.

ODI will commence work on the diversity database when it has the capacity to do so.

Findings/recommendations in various government reviews/inquiries

Some of the findings and recommendations in various government reviews and inquiries currently underway could inform disability policy development and service planning, leading to the improvement of life-outcomes for disabled New Zealanders.

On 28 November 2018, *He Ara Oranga : Report of the Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction*, was presented to the Government. Of the estimated 1.1 million disabled people in New Zealand, 242,000 live with a psychological and/or psychiatric condition.²⁰

Bearing in mind that the Terms of Reference for the *Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction* included “recommending specific changes ... with a specific focus on equity of access, community confidence in the mental health system and better outcomes ...”, the proposed changes will be highly relevant to those New Zealanders experiencing mental health issues.²¹

The Welfare Expert Advisory Group (WEAG) is undertaking a wide-ranging review of the welfare system and will deliver its report to the Government in February 2019. The WEAG will provide advice on a range of issues, including the overall purpose of the welfare system and current obligations and sanctions applied to beneficiaries.

²⁰ See <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/disability-survey-2013>.

²¹ <https://mentalhealth.inquiry.govt.nz/about-the-inquiry/terms-of-reference/>.

Disabled people are more likely to be in low income groups, compared to their non-disabled peers. For example, the June Quarter 2018 *Household Labour Force Survey*²² showed that disabled people were likely to receive some or all of their income from government transfers such as Jobseeker Support, the Disability Allowance and New Zealand Superannuation. Disabled people were also less likely to receive income from wages, salaries and self-employment. Given this situation, the WEAG's recommendations on how to ensure all New Zealanders, including disabled people, have an adequate income and standard of living to live the best quality of life they can will be particularly important.

There will also be targeted public consultation on a wage supplement approach as a substitute for the current Minimum Wage Exemption (MWE). In line with one of the actions in the Disability Action Plan, officials worked with a reference group from the disability sector to consider and shape alternatives to the MWE. Consultation will help identify the level of support for change to the MWE and a wage supplement approach. The feedback received will be used to further refine the proposed approach and ensure it is fit for purpose.

Finally, the New Zealand Health and Disability System Review is considering the overall function of the System to ensure it is better focused on wellness, access, equity and sustainability. The Review Panel will provide an interim report by July 2019 and a final report by 31 March 2020.

As indicated in the *2013 Disability Survey*, disabled people are less likely to feel healthy compared to non-disabled people. In addition, references to negative experiences regarding health services emerged as a significant concern in the disabled

²² <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/labour-market-statistics-disability-june-2018-quarter>.

people-led monitoring 2010 and 2012 reports.²³ Issues raised included disabled people's experience of: lack of dignity, disrespect for difference, lack of autonomy, discrimination and inequality, segregation and isolation, and negative attitudes on the part of health professionals. This being the case, the work of the Review Panel on the Health and Disability System is timely and relevant for disabled people who are high users of health services.

New Zealand's second review against the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

As a State Party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the Government is committed to participating in a review every four years on their progress with implementation. The review is led by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee). It is focused on disabled people's experience of human rights. As a consequence, the review raises problems and deficits needing attention rather than focusing on overall achievements impacting on disabled people.

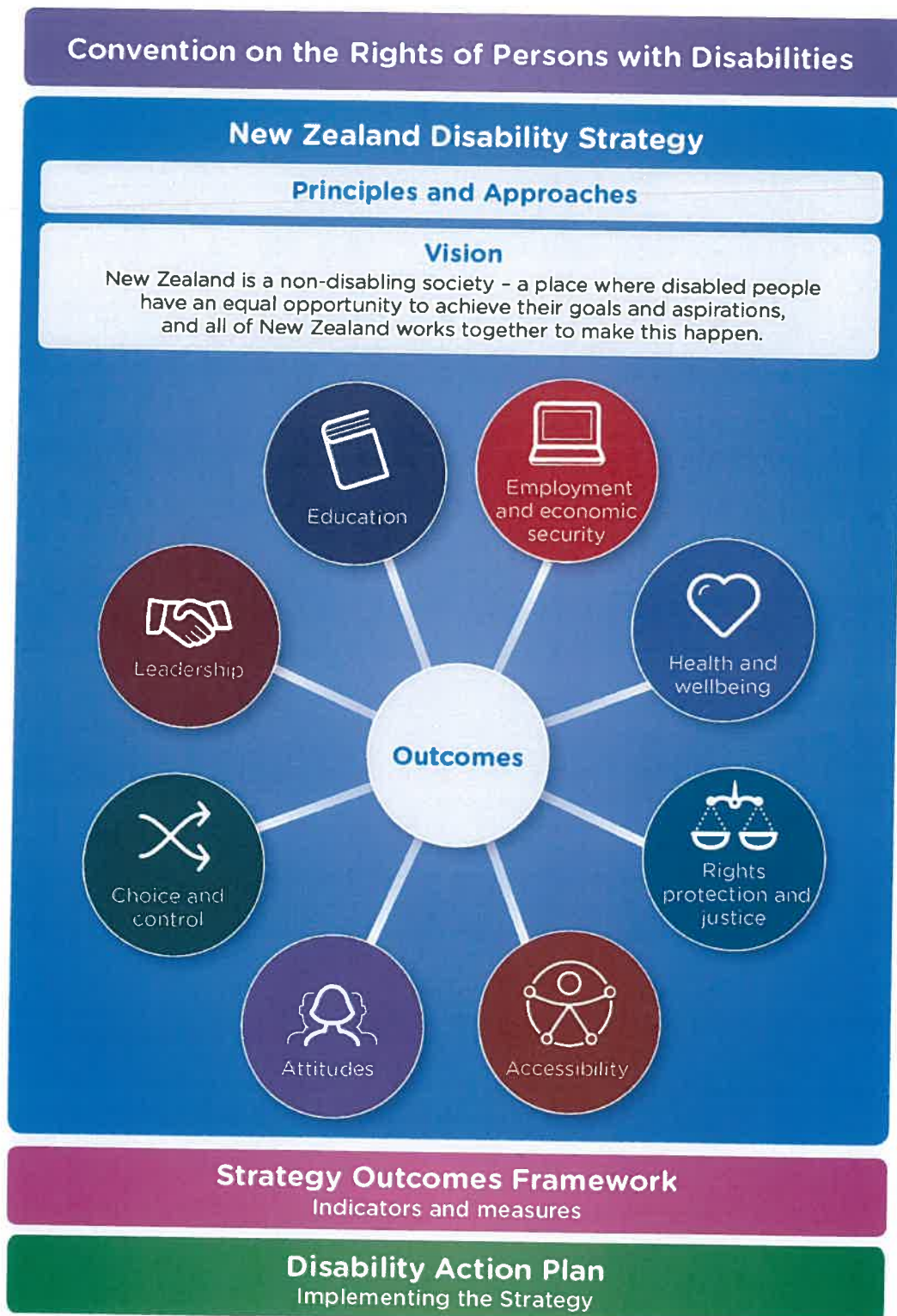
New Zealand's second periodic review commenced in March 2018, when the Committee released the List of Issues (100 questions covering all articles in the CRPD) which it wishes to discuss with the Government. The Office for Disability Issues drafted the State Party Report which was open for public feedback until November 2018. The State Party Report is due to be submitted to the Committee by 9 March 2019.

²³ <http://www.dpa.org.nz/search?q=monitoring+reports>.

Following a Government delegation's examination in front of the Committee in Geneva in September/October 2019, the Committee will release its Concluding Observations (recommendations) in October/November. These are a series of recommendations for action by the Government. The Government will then consider how to respond to the Committee's Concluding Observations from November 2019 onwards.

It will be important for government agencies to learn from and take on board the issues raised in the Committee's Concluding Observations to bring about the progressive realisation of the CRPD in New Zealand.

Appendix one: Relationship between the CRPD, the New Zealand Disability Strategy and the Disability Action Plan



Appendix two: The New Zealand Disability Strategy outcome domains and associated indicators

Outcome domain	Indicator number	Indicator description
1 Education	1.1	Disabled people and their whānau are welcomed at the education setting of their choice
1 Education	1.2	Disabled people participate and are included in the entire education system and extra-curricular activities
1 Education	1.3	Disabled people have positive experiences in education
1 Education	1.4	Disabled people achieve and progress in education
1 Education	1.5	Disabled students, their parents/guardians and whānau are well informed about their education options and rights
2 Employment and Economic Security	2.1	Disabled people and their whānau have economic security
2 Employment and	2.2	Disabled people have equitable access to

Economic Security		employment
2 Employment and Economic Security	2.3	Disabled people are satisfied with their employment situation
2 Employment and Economic Security	2.4	Disabled people have equitable levels of income
3 Health and Wellbeing	3.1	Disabled people have equitable access to quality, inclusive and culturally responsive health services and information
3 Health and Wellbeing	3.2	Disabled people have equitable physical and mental health outcomes
3 Health and Wellbeing	3.3	Disabled people have meaningful relationships in their lives
3 Health and Wellbeing	3.4	Disabled people are satisfied with their lives
4 Rights Protection and Justice	4.1	Disabled people have the support and accommodations needed when interacting with the justice system
4 Rights Protection and Justice	4.2	Disabled people feel safe in their homes and communities and are safe from violence and abuse

4 Rights Protection and Justice	4.3	Disabled people's right to make their own decisions is upheld and they are supported, if required
5 Accessibility	5.1	Disabled people have equitable access to all places, services and information across New Zealand
5 Accessibility	5.2	Government takes the lead in raising accessibility across all areas
6 Attitudes	6.1	Disabled people are treated with dignity and respect by everybody
6 Attitudes	6.2	Disability is portrayed positively in the media
6 Attitudes	6.3	Disabled people are recognised as citizens in their own right
7 Choice and Control	7.1	Disabled people have and maintain control over decisions about their lives
7 Choice and Control	7.2	Disabled people and their whānau have choice and control over government funded services that address their needs

7 Choice and Control	7.3	Disabled people and their whānau have control over who provides services
8 Leadership	8.1	Leadership in the disability sector is effective
8 Leadership	8.2	Disabled people are represented in leadership roles across society
8 Leadership	8.3	The disability community and government partner and take the lead in resolving disability issues
8 Leadership	8.4	Government demonstrates good leadership on disability issues