

# Disability Action Plan

2014 – 2018



**New Zealand's plan for making the rights of  
the United Nations Convention on the Rights  
of Persons with Disabilities real**

**Easy Read**

**May 2014**

Office for  
**Disability issues**

Te Tari Mō Ngā Take Hauātanga  
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

# Disability Action Plan 2014 – 2018



Ministerial Committee

The **Ministerial Committee on Disability Issues** is a group of government ministers who work on disability issues.



They talk about what needs to happen to make life better for Disabled people and get government departments to work together.



Disabled people do not always get their rights and some things make it hard for Disabled people to take part in the community.



It is important that government departments work well together to make life better for Disabled people.



To make life better for Disabled people the **Ministerial Committee** has made an **Action Plan** that says what work will happen over the next 4 years.



### **The Action Plan has:**

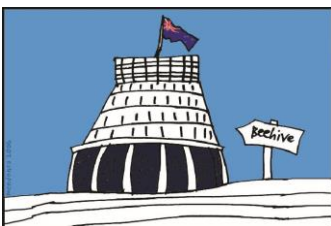
- some new things in it to make life better for Disabled people
- other things in it that the Government is already doing.

## What is the Action Plan about?



### The Action Plan:

- starts in **2014** and ends in **2018**
- says the important things that need to happen to make the rights in the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Disability Convention)** real
- says the important things that need to happen to make sure the **New Zealand Disability Strategy** happens.
- talks about how people working in different government agencies need to work together with **Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs)** and other organisations and agencies
- tries to make sure that Disabled people have the same rights as everyone else who lives in New Zealand.



## Who made the Disability Action Plan?



There was a meeting in July 2013 to talk about disability issues.



People from different groups wanted to change the way that things were done in the disability sector. They wanted everyone to work together to make life better for Disabled people.



The **Chief Executives' Group** is a group of people who work for the government on disability issues.

The **Chief Executives' Group** met with the **Independent Monitors**. These are people who check if New Zealanders are getting the rights in **The Disability Convention** or not.



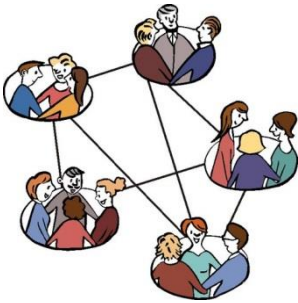
The **Monitors** are people from the:

- Convention Coalition Monitoring Group
- Human Rights Commission
- Office of the Ombudsman.



The **Monitors** asked the Government to work more closely with **Disabled Peoples' Organisations (DPOs)**.

The **Disabled Peoples' Organisations (DPOs)** In New Zealand are:



- Disabled Person's Assembly (DPA)
- Association of Blind Citizens of New Zealand
- Deaf Blind New Zealand Inc
- Deaf Aotearoa
- Ngāti Kāpo o Aotearoa
- Balance New Zealand
- People First New Zealand Inc. Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



**DPOs** are organisations that:

- are led by Disabled people
- have members who are Disabled people
- are set up to talk about things that happen to Disabled people.

## A new way of working well together

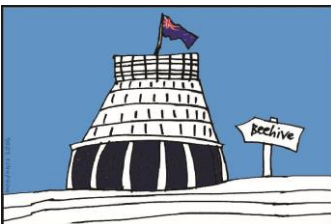


Working with **DPOs** makes sure that:

- the voices of Disabled people are heard
- government agencies work with Disabled people to plan and make policies together.



**Article 4 of the Disability Convention** says this must happen. Articles are like rules and laws.



In August 2013 the **Chief Executives' Group** agreed that government agencies will:

- work with DPOs
- involve the right people, at the right time, in the right work
- value what everyone has to say and make it easy for Disabled people to take part





- keep telling everyone what they are doing and make sure everyone has a chance to take part.

## Office for Disability issues

Te Tari Mō Ngā Take Hauātanga  
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

From September 2013 to March 2014 the Office for Disability Issues talked with government agencies and DPOs.



They made the **Disability Action Plan** together.

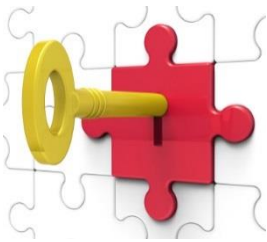


Working together like this:

- will make sure what happens will make a real difference to the lives of Disabled people
- will help DPOs and others to see what is working well
- will show that the money that has been spent is making a real difference.







## 5 key things that must happen

DPOS have talked about **5 key things** that must happen to make sure that Disabled people have the same rights as everyone.

### 1. Safety and autonomy



This means:

- I am safe in my home, community and where I work
- I feel safe to speak up, make a complaint and I am heard
- I am not abused
- people understand what I need and want and I get the support I need.





## 2. Wellbeing

This means:

- I feel respected
- I can take part in my culture and community
- I can earn my own money like everyone else.



## 3. Making my own decisions

This means:

- I can make my own decisions about what I want to do
- I have the information and support I need to help me make decisions in a way that I understand.





## 4. Community

This means:

- I feel part of my community
- what I think is respected
- what I have to say is listened to just like everyone else.



## 5. Nothing about us, without us

This means:

- DPOs speak for Disabled people about disability issues
- changes can be made to make life better for Disabled people.





## What is in the Disability Action Plan?

There are **4 parts** to the Disability Action Plan:



1. More jobs and opportunities



2. Make sure Disabled people are safe and feel safe



3. Changing the disability support system for the better



4. Making the community easy for everyone to access

Each **part** has **actions**.

The **actions** are the work that will be done.



## Part 1: more jobs and opportunities

**Part 1** looks at:

- showing everyone what jobs Disabled people can do and making sure Disabled people have good places to work, job rights, rules and pay like everyone else.



**Part 1** is about making the rights of Articles 24 and 27 of the **Disability Convention** real.

**Action 1** is to make sure more Disabled children and adults do better at school and further education.



**How will this be done?**

By making it easier for people working in education to include Disabled students.

## Who will do it?

The Ministry of Education will make this happen.



**Action 2** is to have more Disabled people in jobs after finishing school or further education.

## How will this be done?

By making it easier for young Disabled people and adults to get jobs.

## Who will do it?

The Ministry of Education will make this happen.



**Action 3** is to have more Disabled people in paid jobs or working for themselves.

### **How will this be done?**

By making a long-term work programme that works towards better job opportunities for Disabled people.



A set of new rules will help this happen.



### **Who will do it?**

The Ministry of Social Development will make this happen.



### **Another way this will be done is:**

By taking away the minimum wage exemption and making better ways to pay Disabled people.



## Who will do it?

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment will make this happen.



**Action 4** is to make sure more employers feel better able to give jobs to Disabled people.

## How will this be done?

The Government will lead this action by giving Disabled people more jobs and having paid training.



Office for  
**Disability issues**

Te Tari Mō Ngā Take Hauātanga  
*Administered by the Ministry of Social Development*

## Who will do it?

The Office for Disability Issues will make this happen.



## Part 2: make sure Disabled people are safe and feel safe

**Part 2** looks at:

- making better systems and ways to work so Disabled children and adults are safe everywhere



**Part 2** is about making the rights in Articles 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 23 of the **Disability Convention** real.



**Action 5** is to make it easier for Disabled people to make their own choices about their lives.

**How will this be done?**

By making sure that Disabled people have their legal and civil rights, like good information and support to make choices.



## Who will do it?

The Office for Disability Issues will make this happen.



**Action 6** is to make sure that less Disabled children and adults are victims of violence, abuse or neglect.

## How will this be done?

By making sure Disabled people know what abuse is and how to speak up about it.



## Who will do it?

The DPOs will make this happen.

## Another way this will be done is:

By looking at how DPOs are funded to have Disabled people speak up for themselves.



## Who will do it?

The Office for Disability Issues will make this happen.

## Another way this will be done is:

By:



- making it safer and easier for Disabled people to go out and about
- helping Disabled people to make and keep good relationships with family, friends and others.



## Who will do it?

The DPOs will make this happen.

## Another way this will be done is:

By finding out if the systems that work to keep all children and young people safe also keep Disabled children and young people safe.





If they do not then work will be done to find out what would keep Disabled children and young people safe.



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
*Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora*



### **Who will do it?**

The Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Health will make this happen.



### **Another way this will be done is:**

By looking at what has already been said about how we can stop abuse of Disabled people.

### **Who will do it?**

The Ministry of Social Development will make this happen. DPOs, the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Health will start work on this in 2015/ 2016.



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
*Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora*



**Action 7** is about making sure that Disabled people are thought about and protected when there are disasters, like earthquakes.



### **How will this be done?**

By talking with local civil defence workers and people who deal with emergency planning about:

- making sure Disabled people are part of emergency planning
- what happened to Disabled people in the Canterbury earthquakes.

### **Who will do it?**

The Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management will make this happen.





## Part 3: Changing the disability support system for the better

**Part 3** looks at:

- making sure that different agencies work with Disabled people and are part of decisions and actions.



**Part 3** is about making Articles 19, 20 and 26 of the **Disability Convention** real.



**Action 8** is to make sure that Disabled people have choice and control about support and services. It is also about making better use of disability support funding.



**How will this be done?**

By looking at what worked well from the Enabling Good Lives work in Christchurch in 2014-2015.





In 2015-2016 work will be done to:

- make it easier to find out what Disabled people want and need
- make sure that the way things are done puts Disabled people first and uses other good ways of doing things, like **Whānau Ora** and **Enabling Good Lives**.



## Who will do it?

The Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health will make this happen.

## Another way this will be done is:

Through a project called **A good start in life** which is about the Government looking at making better supports for parents, family/whānau of Disabled children aged between the ages of 0-6.





## Who will do it?

The Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health will start this work in 2015-2016.



**Action 9** is about DPOs taking part in the setting up and checking of the changes to the disability support system.



## How will this be done?

DPOs and the Government will work together. DPOs will take part in all decisions about Disabled people.



## Who will do it?

The Office for Disability Issues and DPOs will make this happen.



**Action 10** is about making disability support services better for Disabled people.

### **How will this be done?**

By making ways for:



- Disabled people to give feedback about the services and support they have in a safe way
- checking that money for disability services is used well.



### **Who will do it?**

The Ministry of Health will make this happen.



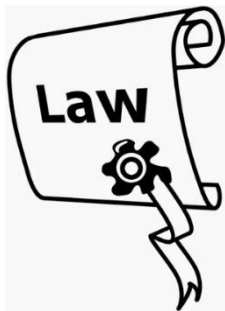
### **Another way this will be done is:**

By looking at how well services are doing and at ways to collect this information.

## Who will do it?



The Ministry of Health will start work on this in 2015-2016.



## Another way this will be done is:

By looking at a law called the **Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992**.



The Ministry will look to see if it fits with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and the Disability Convention.

## Who will do it?



The Ministry of Health will start work on this in 2015-2016.



## Part 4: Making the community easy for everyone to access

**Part 4** looks at:

- **accessible buildings, spaces, transport and urban design**



This means making these things easier for everyone. Disabled people have the right to get into and around buildings and the community.

- **accessible information**



This means information that is easier for everyone. Disabled people have the right to get information in ways they can understand.

- **access to health and justice services**



This means Disabled people:

- can get the same health services as others and the health services they need because of their disability.



- are treated the same as everyone else by the law when taking part in what happens in court.

- **taking part in politics and community issues**



This means that Disabled people have the right to vote and take part in decisions that the Government makes about things that happen in the community.



**Part 4** is about making Articles 5, 8, 9, 21, 25, 29 and 30 of the **Disability Convention** real.



**Action 11** is about making sure government services work better for Disabled people.

### How will this be done?

By telling government agencies how to make their information easy for everyone to understand.

### Who will do it?

The Office for Disability Issues and DPOs will make this happen.



### Another way this will be done is:

By finding out what the issues are in the justice sector for Disabled people and their family/whānau and putting together a **National Data Standard for Disability**.



### Who will do it?

The Ministry of Justice will make this happen.



## Another way this will be done is:

By making sure Disabled people have better access to health services and get the health services they need because of their disability.



This work will make sure that people with learning/ intellectual disability in particular are thought of and helped by this.



## Who will do it?

The Ministry of Health will make this happen.



**Action 12** is about making it easier for Disabled people to use transport and get around in buildings and in the community.

## How will this be done?

By finding out what transport issues there are for Disabled people and looking at what was in the Human Rights Commission's Accessible Journey report.





### Who will do it?

The Ministry of Transport and the New Zealand Transport Agency will make this happen.



### Another way this will be done is:

By looking at the rules for making buildings easy for Disabled people to go into and move around in and if the rules should be better.

### Who will do it?



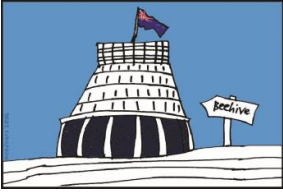
Office for  
**Disability issues**

Te Tari Mō Ngā Take Hauātanga  
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Office for Disability Issues will make this happen.



**Action 13** is to make it easier for Disabled people to take part in politics and community issues the same as everyone else.



## How will this be done?

DPOs will find out what is not working well and work together with the Office for Disability Issues and the Government to make sure voting is easy to do and understand.

Office for  
**Disability issues**  
Te Tari Mō Ngā Take Hauātanga  
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development



## Who will do it?

The DPOs will make this happen.

## Governance



A plan is in place that will make sure that what is in the **Disability Action Plan** happens and that DPOs are part of making it happen.

This is called **governance**.



Ministerial Committee

The **Ministerial Committee on Disability Issues** is in charge of what happens in the Action Plan.



The Committee will have 1 meeting a year with the Independent Monitors of the Disability Convention.



The Monitors are people from:

- Human Rights Commission
- Convention Coalition Monitoring Group
- Office for the Ombudsman



The Chief Executives' Group on Disability Issues and DPOs will work together to make sure that what is in the **Disability Action Plan** happens.



They will meet 4 times a year to:

- look at how the Actions in the plan are going
- tell other people how the Actions in the plan are going.



Government agencies will come to some DPO meetings to support the governance of the **Disability Action Plan**.



## Making the Action Plan happen

People will get together to work on different areas and actions of the Action Plan. They will also look at what else needs to be done. These people will split into **working groups**.

### The working groups will work on the 4 Parts of the Plan:



1. More jobs and opportunities.



2. Make sure Disabled people are safe and feel safe.

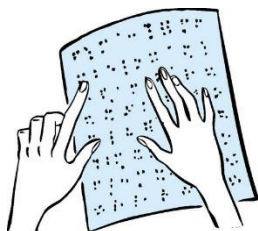


3. Changing the disability support system for the better.



4. Making the community easy for everyone to access.

## How to get more information or copies of the Disability Action Plan 2014 – 2018



**You can get the Action Plan in:**

- Braille



- Maori



- New Zealand Sign language



- Easy Read



**You can find the Action Plan:**

- on this website

<http://www.odi.govt.nz>





This information has been translated into Easy Read  
by People First New Zealand Inc.

**© CHANGE**

WRITE MARK  
PLAIN ENGLISH STANDARD