



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

Joining the Disability Stakeholder Group



This is an Easy to Read Guide.



Part A

What is this information about?



The Minister of State for Disability, Ms Anne Rabbitte, is looking for members for a new group.



This group is called the Disability Stakeholder Group or DSG for short.



If you are interested in being a member of the DSG, you can let the Minister know. This is called an Expression of Interest.



This booklet tells you how to make an Expression of Interest.



About the DSG



The Disability Stakeholder Group or DSG is an important group.



The DSG is made up of persons with disabilities that volunteer to be members of the group.



The group working now is DSG number 5.
This group will finish at the end of this year.



The Minister wants to set up DSG number 6.
This group will run for three years, starting in January 2022.



What does the DSG do?



The National Disability Inclusion Strategy supports persons with disabilities to be part of their communities and Irish society. It is called the NDIS for short.



The DSG checks how the NDIS is working.



For example, the NDIS has actions to make transport better for persons with disabilities. The group checks to see if these are achieved.



The group can meet with different government departments. They can ask questions or give their ideas.



There is a Steering Group for the NDIS.
The Minister chairs the group.
There are people on this group from the DSG and government departments.



The DSG brings ideas to this Steering Group.
These are ideas to help put the NDIS into action.



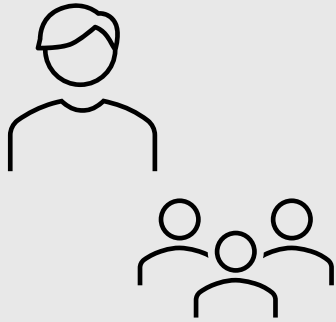
Members of the DSG use their own experience as a person with a disability to give advice.



DSG number 6 will help the Government to put a new plan together when the NDIS finishes.



Who can be a member of the DSG?



A member of the DSG can be an individual.
A member can also be a person acting for an organisation.



It is very important that persons with disabilities and Disabled People's Organisations are part of the DSG.



Members have different types of knowledge and experience.



Members have different disabilities; Intellectual Disabilities, Physical Disabilities, Sensory Disabilities, Autism, Mental Health, Brain Injury.



What do members of the DSG have to do?



Members have to go to 12 meetings each year.



There are:

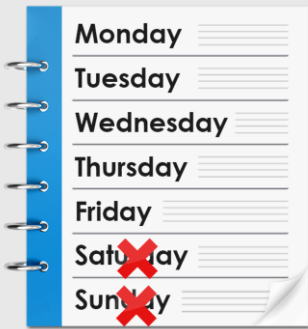
- 4 DSG meetings
- 4 NDIS Steering Group meetings
- 4 meetings with Department Committees.



Members have to prepare for meetings.



Members have to travel to and from meetings.
They will get money for travel costs.



Meetings usually take place during the week and in the daytime.

Members have to be available at these times.



Sometimes, members may go to training to help them in their work for the DSG.



If you are representing an organisation, then they will have to say that they will support you to be part of the DSG.



DSG members can be asked to volunteer to join working groups to do with the NDIS.

Now, there are working groups on Assistive Technology and Transport.



What are the good things about being part of the DSG?



Getting to know and working with more people.



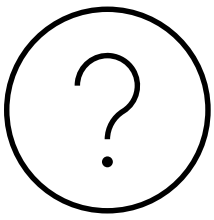
Learning from other people.
Hearing their different experiences and ideas.



Finding out how policies and government departments work.



Talking about different issues and being part of decision-making.



How do I apply to be a member of the DSG?



You need to fill in a form called the Expression of Interest form.



This form is available on the website of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.



Send it to:
disability_policy@equality.gov.ie



5:00

August

23

Send it by 5pm on 23 August 2021.



Part B

How will members be chosen?



The Expression of Interest form looks at 4 key areas:



1. Knowledge and experience of disability in Ireland.

There are a maximum of 25 points for this area.



2. Sharing views, working on teams and with other people.

There are a maximum of 25 points for this area.

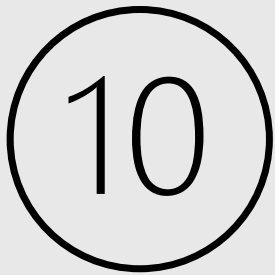


3. Expressing your views and opinions, and giving feedback.

There are a maximum of 25 points for this area.



4. Showing you can make a commitment to the DSG.
There are a maximum of 25 points for this area.



You must score at least 10 points in each area.



All forms will be checked, assessed, and scored.



If there are a lot of applications, there might be an interview also.

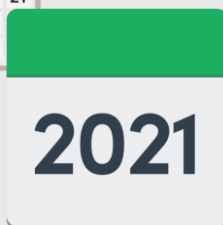


The Department will set up a panel of people to look at the applications.



Their assessments will be given to the Minister for Disability.

All decisions are final.



There are a number of spaces in DSG 5.

The Expression of Interest Form will ask you to say if you would be available to join this DSG until the end of the year.



Filling out the form



Before you fill out the form, please read our guide. It has important information about your application.



You can fill the form out on your own or you can ask someone to support you.



Send the form to:
disability_policy@equality.gov.ie

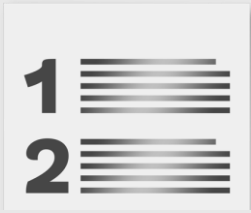


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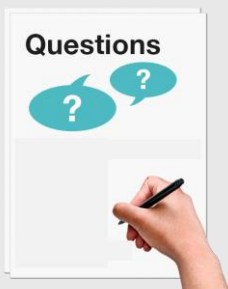


There are two parts to the form.



Part 1 is about your details.

Part 2 is about the 4 key areas for members.



Please answer all the questions.



In Part 2, each answer should not be more than 500 words.



More information



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Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

This information was put together by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.



ACE Communication helped with this Easy to Read information.

Experts by Experience helped to put this booklet together.



You can get more information:

disability_policy@equality.gov.ie