

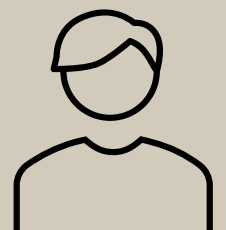


An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,  
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige  
Department of Children, Equality,  
Disability, Integration and Youth

# The Disability Participation and Consultation Network



This is an Easy to Read Guide on  
how to be a Member.



# What is this information about?



This information is about the Disability Participation and Consultation Network.



This Network is for persons with disabilities and the organisations that support them.



Participation means taking part in something.



Consultation means asking people for their views and ideas.



A network is a group of people that join up and work together.

# Why is this Network happening?



Ireland is putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into action.



The Convention is sometimes called the UNCRPD.



It says that children and adults with disabilities should get a say when laws and policies are written.



Persons with disabilities, and the organisations that support them, should give their views and ideas.

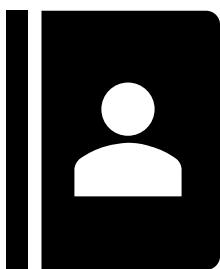


They should take part in checking how the Convention is working in Ireland.

# Taking part in the Network



The Government is setting up the new Participation and Consultation Network.

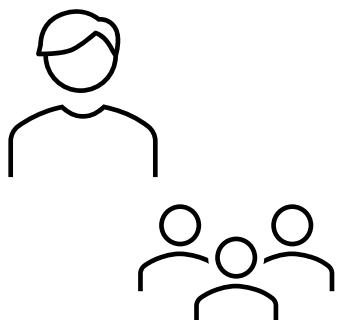


There will be an Organising Member.  
This organisation will set up and manage the Network.



Some organisations, run by persons with disabilities, will get money from the Government to be part of the Network.

These are called Grant-Funded members.



Individuals with disabilities, and their organisations, can also be members of the Network.

# What will Members do?



Members will work with others in the Network.



You will make sure that persons with disabilities are listened to when laws and policies are put together.



Members will take part in workshops and meetings. This could be in person or online.



You might need to talk to other members about some issues.

A hand is shown filling out a survey form. The form has a title 'Questions' and two question marks in speech bubbles. Below the title, there is a question: '1. What do you think about it?'. There are three radio button options: 'Good', 'Bad', and 'Not sure'. The 'Not sure' option is selected with a blue checkmark.

You might be asked to answer questions on a form.

# What will Members do?



Members will talk to persons with disabilities that are not in the Network.

You might gather their views on different things.



Members will share their ideas on how the Network will run.

You will have a say in how the Network is managed.

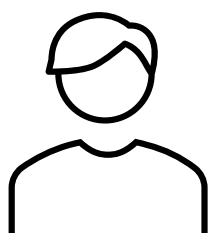


Members will carry out a consultation on the UNCRPD.

# Who can be a Member?



We want around 20 members for the Network.  
We want people from different parts of Ireland.



We want individuals.



We want Disabled People's Organisations,  
sometimes called DPO, and other disability groups.



We need persons with different disabilities;  
Intellectual Disabilities, Physical and Sensory  
Disabilities, Autism, Mental Health, Brain Injury.



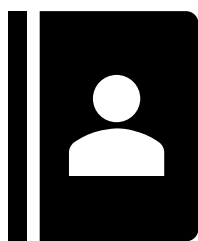
It is important that you really want to be a member  
of the Network.

You must show that you will bring the views of  
persons with disabilities into the Network.

# Training and support



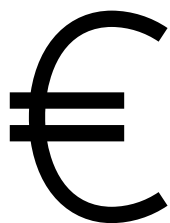
You will be given training and support to help you in your role.



The Organising Member will set up this training with help from others.



You will learn about the UNCRPD, and find out the best ways to give your views on policy and law.



You may get money for travel costs or other things you pay for as part of being a member.



The Network may be able to help you with technology or other equipment to support you to take part in the Network.



# When will the Network start?



The Disability Participation and Consultation Network will start in November 2020.



The Network will run until October 2021.

# How to apply to be a Member?

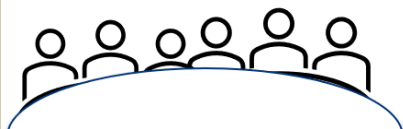


Individuals or Organisations can ask to be members.

This is called an expression of interest.



You will fill out a form with information about yourself or your organisation.



This form will be checked to see who is most suitable to join the Network.

We want persons from different places in Ireland and with different disabilities.



We will decide by:

- Looking at the answers on your form
- Thinking about where in Ireland you are from
- Thinking about the type of disability you have.

# How to apply to be a Member?



If the application form is not accessible to you, please contact us at [dpacnetwork@dcya.gov.ie](mailto:dpacnetwork@dcya.gov.ie)  
We will get a different type of form to you.



Please read our Easy to Read Guide on making an application.  
This explains what you have to do.



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If you are chosen to be a member, you will need to sign a Membership Agreement with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

# More information



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,  
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige  
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 leaflet together.