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Feedback Form

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Transcriber's Notes: The logo at the top of the page is Whaikaha–Ministry of Disabled People.

The visual details of the logo are described in the alt text.

The selectable options are all aligned to the left.

Page breaks are used to ensure the selectable options remain together throughout the document.

Select box next to the option that applies, or remove the options that don't apply.

Feedback Form

The Ministry of Disabled People—Whaikaha is consulting on the draft New Zealand Disability Strategy 2026-2030.

We welcome your feedback and comments on the draft strategy. There are four sections. You can complete the whole form or the sections that are of most interest to you. Please complete section 1: About you.

Once you have completed the form please:

- email to disabilitystrategy@whaikaha.govt.nz
- post free of charge to:

New Zealand Disability Strategy Consultation

Whaikaha—Ministry of Disabled People

Reply paid 262204

PO Box 1556

Wellington 6140

Section 1: About You

1. Are you giving feedback as:

- ☐ Yourself
- ☐ Someone else
- ☐ A group
- ☐ An organisation

2. What is the name of the group or organisation you are submitting feedback on behalf of?

Please complete the following questions as though you are the person you are completing the form for.

3. Do you identify as a disabled person?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

4. Do you identify as tāngata whaikaha Māori?

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. If yes to question 3 or 4, what types of impairment or lived experience apply to you?

☐ Physical

☐ Hearing or auditory

☐ Visual

☐ Speech

☐ Learning, cognitive or neurological

☐ Other: _____

6. Are you a carer or family member of a disabled person?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. What is your age group?

☐ Under 15 years

☐ 15–29 years

☐ 30–44 years

☐ 45–64 years

☐ 65–74 years

☐ 75 years or over

8. What is your gender?

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Another gender

☐ Prefer not to answer

9. Which ethnic group(s) do you belong to?

☐ New Zealand European

☐ Māori

☐ Samoan

☐ Cook Islands Māori

☐ Tongan

☐ Niuean

☐ Chinese

☐ Indian

☐ Other: _____

Section 2: Vision and Principles

The strategy will have a vision. This is a statement describing the future that disabled people want to achieve through the strategy.

The proposed vision

New Zealand is an accessible and equitable society for disabled people and their whānau—a place where disabled people thrive, lead and participate in all aspects of life.

10. How much do you agree with the following statements about the **vision**?

- The **vision** is clear and easy to understand.

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Disagree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Agree

☐ Strongly agree

- The **vision** aligns with the values and aspirations of disabled people.

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Disagree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Agree

☐ Strongly agree

- I feel confident the **vision** will lead to meaningful change.

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Disagree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Agree

☐ Strongly agree

11. Do you have any further comments or suggestions about the **vision**?

Seven Proposed Principles

Principles are the key values, ideas and commitments that underpin this strategy. The principles will help make sure the strategy reflects the things that are important to disabled people.

Seven **principles** have been proposed for the strategy. These are summarised below.

Accessibility

Fundamental to participation and inclusion. Accessible environments and services benefit everyone, not just disabled people.

Choice and control

Recognises that disabled people are experts in their own lives, and have the same right to self-determination as everyone else.

Equity, cultural inclusion and intersectionality

Acknowledges that disabled individuals have their own unique identities, and belong to diverse whānau, communities, and cultures.

Human rights

Anchor the strategy to international human rights frameworks, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Participation and inclusion

Recognises disabled people's right to be active members of their communities and cultures in all aspects of life.

Respect and dignity

Emphasises that everyone deserves to be treated with respect, and acknowledges that societal attitudes can be a significant barrier for disabled people.

The Treaty of Waitangi | Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Establishes the relationship between Māori and the Crown, recognising the unique position of Māori as tāngata whenua, and ensuring partnership, participation and protection for tāngata whaikaha Māori.

12. How important is each of the following **principles**?

- Accessibility

☐ Not at all important

☐ Not important

☐ Neutral

☐ Important

☐ Very important

- Choice and control

☐ Not at all important

☐ Not important

☐ Neutral

☐ Important

☐ Very important

- Equity, cultural inclusion, and intersectionality

☐ Not at all important

☐ Not important

☐ Neutral

☐ Important

☐ Very important

- Human rights

☐ Not at all important

☐ Not important

☐ Neutral

☐ Important

☐ Very important

- Participation and inclusion

☐ Not at all important

☐ Not important

☐ Neutral

☐ Important

☐ Very important

- Respect and dignity

☐ Not at all important

☐ Not important

☐ Neutral

☐ Important

☐ Very important

- The Treaty of Waitangi Te Tiriti o Waitangi

☐ Not at all important

☐ Not important

☐ Neutral

☐ Important

☐ Very important

13. Is there anything you would like to add or remove from the list of **principles**?

14. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the proposed **principles**?

Section 3: Priority Outcome Areas

The strategy has five priority outcome areas: education, employment, health, housing and justice.

Each area has a goal, a description of what success means, a case for change, and a set of proposed actions to which the Government will commit to achieve success for disabled people.

You can provide feedback on all priority outcome areas or those of most interest to you.

Education

The goal for education

Every learner is supported to attend, participate and progress in education. There is a high expectation that all learners—including disabled learners—will achieve their potential in the education setting of their choice.

15. How much do you agree with the **goal** for education?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Summary of what success in education means

Educators plan for diverse learners to succeed. The education system has high expectations for all disabled learners, focusing on their strengths and aspirations. Learning support is responsive, timely and effective, easy to navigate, and delivered by a skilled workforce. Early intervention happens at the right time and is effective.

Kaupapa Māori education settings have access to the right resources delivered by a capable workforce. Data is

gathered to support and understand the progress of learners. Tertiary education providers are supported to implement disability action plans, with progress monitored.

16. How much do you agree with the description of **what success in education means**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

17. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the **goal** or the **description of what success means**?
(please write your response below):

Nine Proposed Education Actions

In the draft New Zealand Disability Strategy there are **nine proposed education actions**.

18. How much do you agree with each **action**?

Education Action 1

Invest \$266 million to expand early intervention services to support the identification of learning support needs early in a child's life and reduce wait times for assessments and services.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 2

Explore new options for targeted and specialised support and provisions to reduce wait times using private providers and non-government organisations (NGOs).

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 3

Make improvements to the learning support system so it is easier to navigate for educators, families and learners through: funding all schools with Year 1-8 students for a Learning Support Coordinator; and by reducing the complexity and accessibility of the application process.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 4

Invest funding in additional learning support classrooms to provide choice for parents.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 5

Work with the Ministry of Disabled People—Whaikaha to develop improvements in teacher training and guidance that support teachers to meet the needs of disabled students.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 6

Work with the Ministry of Disabled People—Whaikaha to explore opportunities to improve accountability for schools through reporting on learning and achievement outcomes for disabled learners.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 7

Support kaupapa Māori settings, within the existing Education budget, to access the resources, knowledge and capability to deliver high quality kaupapa Māori educational programmes that meet the needs of disabled ākonga (students) in a kaupapa Māori setting.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 8

Work with the Ministry of Disabled People—Whaikaha to explore opportunities to identify disabled learners in education data collections.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Education Action 9

Continue implementation of the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) mechanism for reviewing provider progress in implementation of disability action plans (which will be integrated into Investment Plans from 2027). The TEC will consult with disabled student representative groups, including the National Disabled Students' Association, on how the mechanism will be implemented.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

19. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the proposed **actions**?

Employment

The goal for employment

Disabled people will have meaningful career opportunities, equal to non-disabled people, and be valued the same way. Disability-confident employers will recognise disabled people's talents and will provide accessible and inclusive workplaces throughout the employment lifecycle.

20. How much do you agree with the **goal**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Summary of what success in employment means

Disabled people have meaningful career, employment and self-employment opportunities, equal to non-disabled people. They have the right resources and support, and confidence their employer can help them to thrive at work, whether they are urban or rural, in a workplace or working remotely. Better work outcomes give disabled people more economic security, dignity, self-determination and choice.

21. How much do you agree with the description of **what success in employment means**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

22. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the **goal** or the **description of what success means**?

Six Proposed Employment Actions

In the draft New Zealand Disability Strategy there are **six proposed employment actions to reach the goal**.

23. How much do you agree with each **action**?

Employment Action 1

Work to centralise, and make accessible, information and guidance for disabled people to identify and pursue job pathways matched to their skills and interests.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Employment Action 2

Review specialist employment supports to improve employment outcomes, in consultation with disabled people.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Employment Action 3

Work with disabled people, employers and employer networks to develop mentorship programmes connecting disabled people with successful disabled professionals or employers to provide guidance and support in navigating their careers.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Employment Action 4

Partner with disabled people and support providers to create a centralised, accessible repository of practical information and resources for employers and employer networks so they can support disabled people throughout the employment lifecycle and to share knowledge and success stories.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Employment Action 5

Partner with disabled people, employers and employer networks to improve accessibility and inclusion in employment lifecycles for disabled people. This includes promoting and enabling the design of jobs and workplaces to support:

- inclusion of disabled people
- flexible working arrangements and reasonable accommodations
- assessing the accessibility of workplaces.

☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Disagree

☐ Neither agree nor disagree

☐ Agree

☐ Strongly agree

Employment Action 6

Implement a targeted, ongoing awareness campaign publicising guidance and resources for employers and employees on accessibility and inclusion, relevant data and reports, and highlighting the positive impact disabled people have had on workplaces. This action will support employment action 4.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

24. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the proposed **actions**?

Health

The goal for health

Disabled people will achieve the highest possible standard of health and wellbeing. They will decide what this means for themselves and their whānau.

25. How much do you agree with the **goal**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Summary of what success in health means

The health system enhances quality of life for disabled people. Self-determination means disabled people can make informed choices and have their decisions respected. Tāngata whaikaha Māori are understood as part of a collective and can involve whānau in their health in the ways they want.

Accessibility, equity and inclusion are embedded throughout the health system, supported by a skilled and responsive health workforce. This includes disabled people at every level. Better data is collected and used for system improvement.

26. How much do you agree with the description of **what success in health means**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

27. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the **goal** or the **description of what success means**?

Five Proposed Health Actions

In the draft New Zealand Disability Strategy there are **five proposed health actions to reach the goal**.

28. How much do you agree with each action?

Health Action 1

Review and improve policies and practices, so the health journey is equitable, accessible and inclusive. This review will include all interactions with the health system, covering communication, information, technology, decision-making, service design and delivery, and the built environment.

Self-determination should be a key consideration of the review. This includes making tools for self-determination and supported decision-making standard practice in health care—especially for people with different communication, cognitive or psychosocial needs.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Health Action 2

Build health workforce capability to deliver services that are inclusive, culturally safe, and easy to navigate.

Building workforce capability includes increasing the proportion of disabled people across the health and disability workforce, through recruitment and workplace policies, inclusive and accessible work environments, and career development. It also includes embedding disability responsiveness and lived experience into health workforce training and ongoing professional development.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Health Action 3

Create opportunities to build disabled people's skills and knowledge to take up health system roles.

Government agencies will create opportunities to build the capability and capacity of disabled people to carry out health system roles. These roles will include health system design, consultation, monitoring, leadership, advisory and governance roles.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Health Action 4

Identify disabled people in national health data. Identifying disabled people in data will make them more visible in the health system. It will enable better monitoring of population health outcomes and patient experiences.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Health Action 5

Implement systems to enable disabled people to record their accessibility needs against their National Health Index.

Recording people's accessibility needs will mean these needs can easily be shared with health providers. Disabled people will not have to repeat their accessibility needs

each time they engage with health services, and health providers will be better placed to plan and meet those needs.

Work to progress this action should be guided by disability community expectations and data sovereignty.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

29. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the proposed **actions**?

Housing

The goal for housing

Disabled people and their whānau will have affordable, healthy, secure and accessible homes that meet their needs.

30. How much do you agree with the **goal**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

A summary of what success in housing means

Disabled people have a range of suitable housing options in the community, so they can choose where they live. They enjoy secure tenure in housing, can move if they want, and do not experience delays accessing housing when leaving hospital inpatient care.

The housing sector meets accessibility needs, and the supply of accessible housing meets demand, with monitoring in place. Urban design and planning create accessible neighbourhoods. Suitable housing improves

disabled people's outcomes and protects against harm, neglect, violence and abuse.

31. How much do you agree with the description of **what success in housing means**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

32: Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the **goal** or the **description of success**?

Six Proposed Housing Actions

In the draft New Zealand Disability Strategy there are **six proposed housing actions** to reach the goal.

33. How much do you agree with each action?

Housing Action 1

Develop, consult on, and make publicly available, clear definitions of accessible homes, describing the key features of different levels of accessibility (for example, from basic universal design through to fully accessible).

Clear definitions of accessible homes can support the development of voluntary guidelines for accessibility for residential dwellings (housing action 6).

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Housing Action 2

Improve data matching between disabled people and social housing properties with accessible features that meet their needs and ensure disabled people and their whānau are prioritised to accessible properties. Data

matching will both identify disabled people's housing needs and social housing that meets those needs.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Housing Action 3

Identify possible barriers to increasing supply of accessible houses in the private market and investigate opportunities to remove those barriers. Understanding barriers to the supply of accessible housing will help target potential interventions to improve supply.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Housing Action 4

Review and explore ways to improve the housing modification system. Addressing inefficiencies in the housing modification system could reduce current problems: inaccessibility of homes, increased costs, and

health and safety issues for disabled people, whānau and carers.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Housing Action 5

Gather annual data on the housing-related needs of disabled people and compare this to what is being built in each region, to influence the housing market to build and make available more accessible housing.

Data will increase developers' awareness of the housing-related needs of disabled people and raise the profile of the demand for accessible homes.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Housing Action 6

Develop voluntary national guidelines on accessibility for residential dwellings. Guidelines would be based on the definitions for accessible homes in housing action 1 and would set out best practice guidance for how to build accessible homes.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

34. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the proposed **actions**?

Justice

The goal for justice

Disabled people's human rights and freedoms will be protected, and their disability rights will be realised.
Disabled people will be treated fairly and equitably by the

justice system. Justice system policies and practices will embed accessibility, inclusion and lived experience.

35. How much do you agree with the **goal**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

A summary of what success in justice means

Disabled children, young people and adults in care are safeguarded from abuse, neglect and violence. Disabled children and young people are supported to avoid the care and protection or youth justice systems.

Disabled people who interact with the youth justice or criminal justice systems have their rights and accessibility needs considered and get support to transition out. Those charged with an offence but unable to stand trial are treated consistently with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act. Justice sector workforces have the skills to uphold disabled people's rights.

Disabled parents in Family Court will have equitable access to family justice services.

36. How much do you agree with the description of **what success in justice means**?

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

37. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the **goal** or the **description of success**?

Seven Proposed Justice Actions

In the draft New Zealand Disability Strategy there are **seven proposed justice actions** to reach the goal.

38. How much do you agree with each **action**?

Justice Action 1

Develop and implement a safeguarding framework for disabled people in long-term detention settings (such as prisons and youth justice residences) and Disability Support Services funded residential facilities. The framework will include preventing, reporting, responding,

and safely removing disabled people from abusive situations.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Justice Action 2

Establish a cross-agency project to identify and address gaps in data and evidence about disabled people's experiences of crime, including for disabled people in residential and secure facilities, and experiences of cyberbullying.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Justice Action 3

Develop a social investment plan for early intervention and support, to reduce the number of disabled children and young people entering the youth justice system.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Justice Action 4

The Law Commission has been asked to undertake a review of the Criminal Procedure (Mentally Impaired Persons) Act 2003 (CPMIP). This review is expected to consider the CPMIP's relationship to other relevant legislation, such as the Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation) Act 2003 and Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Justice Action 5

Review, as work programmes allow, the effectiveness of current protections for disabled people in family law, including adoption, guardianship and personal property rights, to identify gaps where strengthened provisions or

support are needed. Any review should also consider supported decision-making and use of plain language in key justice sector legislation and processes. Consideration should be given to reviewing human rights legislation, as work programmes allow.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Justice Action 6

Integrate lessons from disability-specific safeguarding approaches into the development of the future state for multi-agency responses to family violence, to strengthen outcomes for disabled people experiencing violence and abuse. This includes supporting workforce capability to ensure a coordinated, safe and disabled-person centred response.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

Justice Action 7

Develop and implement a plan to make the justice sector workforce more disability competent, including in the use of mana and trauma informed practices. This plan would include increasing recruitment and retention of disabled people and should consider mandatory professional standards.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

39. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the proposed **actions**?

Section 4: Overall Comments

40. How much do agree with the following statement?

- The strategy will lead to meaningful change.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Strongly agree

41. Is there anything else you would like to see in the **strategy**?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

42. If yes, please write your **response** below:

43. Any other comments or **suggestions**?

End of Feedback Form.