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 **Whaikaha**
Ministry of Disabled People



Refresh of the New Zealand Disability Strategy

Adapted in 2025 by Accessible Formats Service,
Blind Low Vision NZ, Auckland

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.

To support accessibility, links are labelled with the corresponding webpage headings, followed by shortened URLs.

Refresh of the New Zealand Disability Strategy

Kia hiwa rā kia hiwa rā. Kia kōkiri ake, kia mataara. He karanga atu ki te ao whānui, ki te ao whaikaha. Haere mai ōu whakaaro rangatira ki tēnei kaupapa whakahirahira nau mai e te iwi e.

Be watchful, be alert. Rise up, come forward, be counted, be alert. A call going out to the world, to the disabled world. We welcome your chiefly thoughts to this important discussion. We welcome all.

In this document find:

- read the draft strategy 2026-2030
- how to have your say
- why we need a disability strategy
- what has happened so far
- what happens next
- useful links

Read the draft strategy 2026-2030

The draft New Zealand Disability Strategy 2026-2030 is for five years. We are now asking for feedback on this draft.

The draft strategy is available in the following alternate formats on our website under the heading "Read the draft strategy 2026-2030".

[Refresh of the New Zealand Disability Strategy whaikaha.govt.](https://www.whaikaha.govt.nz/read-the-draft-strategy-2026-2030) [short url: <https://shorturl.at/18ALN>]

- Easy Read Draft NZ Disability Strategy 2026-2030
- Braille Draft NZ Disability Strategy 2026-2030
- Audio Draft NZ Disability Strategy 2026-2030
- Large Print Draft NZ Disability Strategy 2026-2030

You can also see the draft NZ Disability Strategy 2026-2030 in NZSL on this page [draft NZ Disability Strategy 2026-2030 in NZSL](https://www.nzsl.org.nz/draft-nz-disability-strategy-2026-2030) [Short url: <https://shorturl.at/v7RsK>]

How to have your say

There are lots of ways to have your say on the draft strategy listed below.

- complete our feedback form on an accessible online platform
- download a Word feedback form and email it to us

Links to the forms above are available on our website under the heading "How to have your say".

[Refresh of the New Zealand Disability Strategy whaikaha govt.](https://shorturl.at/18ALN) [short url: <https://shorturl.at/18ALN>]

Please find links to other ways you can have your say:

- attend a Zoom meeting online. Find times, dates and how to register on this page [zoom meeting online whaikaha govt.](https://shorturl.at/zuF06) [Short url: <https://shorturl.at/zuF06>]
- attend a meeting in-person. Find times, dates, locations and how to register on this page [attend-in-person-meetings-Whaikaha govt.](https://shorturl.at/zuF06) [Short url: <https://shorturl.at/zuF06>]
- make a three-minute video with videomail.io and email it to us
- email us for a consultation toolkit you can use at your organisation.

Our email is: disabilitystrategy@whaikaha.govt.nz

The closing date to provide your feedback is **Sunday 28 September 2025.**

Why we need a disability strategy

The strategy gives direction to government agencies on issues disabled people, tāngata whaikaha Māori and whānau say are important. It shows where change is needed so they can lead, thrive, and take part fully in their communities.

By having a vision for the future and clear actions for the Government to take, the strategy is also important to how New Zealand gives effect to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

You can find information about the convention on this page [About the Convention Whaikaha.govt.](https://shorturl.at/7bkgj) [short url: <https://shorturl.at/7bkgj>]

We will also use the strategy to measure progress towards improving the lives and upholding the rights of disabled people and tāngata whaikaha Māori.

What has happened so far

During the first half of this year we:

- did targeted engagement with disabled people's organisations, tāngata whaikaha Māori groups and family/whānau representatives to refresh the vision and principles of the strategy

- established working groups to develop goals, outcomes, actions, and the case for change in the priority outcome areas of:
 - education
 - employment
 - health
 - housing
 - justice

You can find more information about the working groups here: [New Zealand Disability Strategy working group members](#). [Short url: <https://shorturl.at/bWJDf>]

What happens next

Once the consultation is complete, feedback will be reviewed, and the draft will be updated to a final strategy.

This document will then go to Cabinet for approval.

Cabinet is the central decision-making body of the Government. Meetings are attended by key government ministers.

The aim is to publish the strategy in early December.

Useful links

The existing New Zealand Disability Strategy guides the work of government agencies on disability issues. You can find that information here: [New Zealand Disability Strategy](#) [short url: <https://shorturl.at/oEB9X>] It will be replaced by the New Zealand Disability Strategy 2026-2030.

Data insights were created as part of our work towards refreshing the strategy. You can find that information here: [Data Insights in education, employment, health, housing and justice](#) [Short url: <https://shorturl.at/dfqoK>]

Cabinet papers on the New Zealand Disability Strategy can be found here: [Cabinet Papers and information releases](#) [short url: <https://shorturl.at/ulCM0>] Alternate formats are available on the page.

End of Refresh of the New Zealand Disability Strategy.