



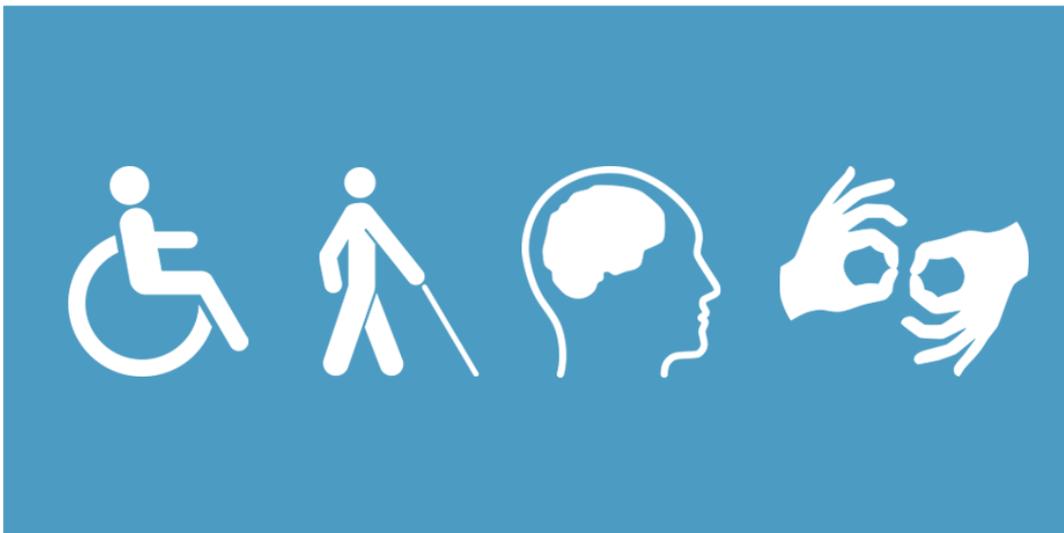
**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH**  
**SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Sligo.**

# **Sligo County Council**

## **Disability Inclusion & Access Strategy**

### **2024 – 2027**



**This is an Easy to Read version of  
the Strategy.**

# What is this information about?



This information is about the Sligo County Council Disability Inclusion and Access Strategy.



A Strategy is a plan.  
This plan will run from 2024 to 2027.



Inclusion means making sure everyone can be part of our communities.



Access is the way we use places and things.



In this Strategy, we talk about how Sligo County Council will make buildings, services, and information accessible.



Accessible means that everyone can use and understand them.



Disabled people are important members of our communities.



Our Strategy will be guided by the UNCRPD – the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

# What will the Strategy do?



The Strategy aims for better inclusion and access to Sligo County Council services for disabled people.



The Strategy will make sure that disabled people have the same rights as other people.



Disabled people should have an equal chance to be part of work, social, and cultural life.



Disabled people should be able to use the same public services as everyone else in Sligo. For example, public buildings, parks and playgrounds, or community activities.

# How did we put the Strategy together?



The Council's Disability Consultative Committee put the Strategy together.

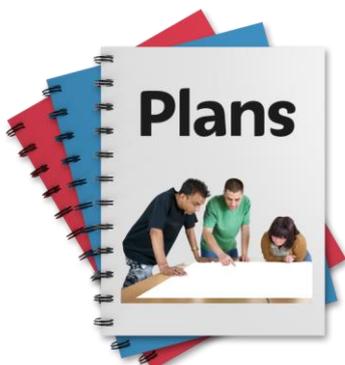


We listened to the experience of disabled people in the Sligo community.

We listened to information from organisations that work with disabled people.



We listened to what they said about the Council's services.



We have actions from the National Disability Action Plan and the Disability Inclusion and Access strategy 2019-2022.



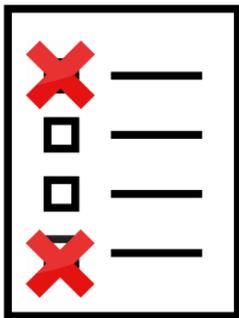
We looked at plans and policies for Ireland and for countries around the world.

For example, policies from the Government, the European Union, and the United Nations.



We looked at local policies and plans too.

For example, Sligo 2030 One Voice One Vision.



We showed the public a draft of the new Strategy.



We asked the public to send us their views and ideas.

This is called a submission.



The Disability Consultative Committee looked at the submissions.

They thought about how the different views and ideas could be part of the new Strategy.



We used data from the Census 2022 for County Sligo to help us plan.



With agreement from the Disability Consultative Committee, we put together a final version of the Strategy.

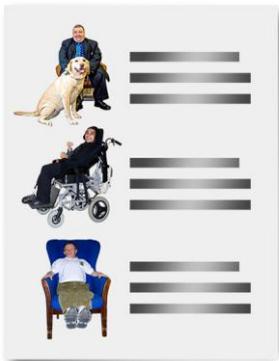


This Strategy was agreed by Sligo County Council.

# The Actions in our Strategy



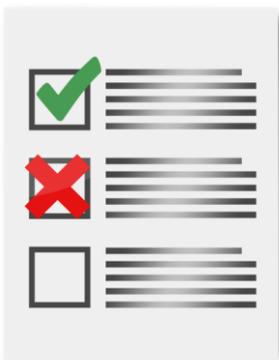
Our Strategy has lots of different actions. These are based on actions set by the Government.



There are some examples of these actions in the next part of this information booklet.



We will have a work programme for each year. This will help us to make progress with the most important actions.



The Disability Consultative Committee will check how we are doing with the actions.

# **Actions in the Sligo County Council Disability Inclusion and Access Strategy**



# Equality and Choice



The Government wants public services to be designed so everyone can use them.

Information should be available in different ways so everyone can understand it.



We will make plans to help us put the UNCRPD into action.



We will follow advice on Universal Design to make information and communication better.

Universal Design is when a building, service, or information is designed so everyone can use it.



We will make the Sligo County Council websites easier for everyone to understand and use.



We will have a policy and guidelines on accessible services and information in Sligo County Council.



Staff in Sligo County Council will get the right disability training.



We will think about autism friendly ways of working.



We will add a promise to have accessible buildings and services into Council plans and policies.



We will follow standards from the Government to make our public buildings more accessible.



We will think about access when we hire and pay people to give us buildings, goods, and services.

# Joined up Policies and Public Services



We will follow advice from Government on how to work with disabled people to plan and design public services given by Sligo County Council.



We will consult with disabled people through the Sligo County Council Disability Consultative Committee and Sligo Public Participation Network.



We will do this at an early stage when we plan and design council services.



We will have a model for consultation.

Consultation is when you ask people for their views and ideas.

This model is called “A Guide for Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making”.

# Employment



We will follow the Government plan to have more disabled people in work.

This Plan is called the Comprehensive Employment Strategy for Disabled People.



The Council want 6 out of every 100 people employed to be disabled people by 2025.

# Person Centred Disability Services



We will follow Government advice to make sure that disabled people can take part in the everyday life and activities of their communities.



We will have projects and plans to help make our communities more disability friendly and welcoming.



We will follow Universal Design rules when we design new buildings for arts, sport, or leisure.

# Living in the Community

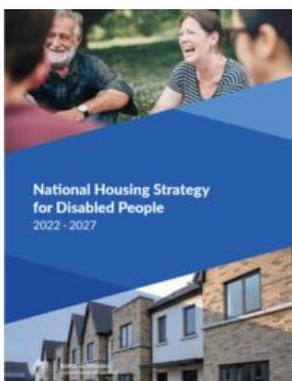


We will follow Government advice, so our services give disabled people the supports they need to live an independent life in a home of their choosing in their community.



This will mean less people living in congregated settings.

This is where a large group of people with a disability live on a campus or in an institution.



The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People, 2022-2027, aims to have more houses for disabled people.



We will keep putting Sligo County Council's Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability into action.

This plan is for 2021 to 2025.

# Transport and Accessible Places



We will follow Government advice to make transport and places more accessible.



When needed, Sligo County Council will work with Bus Eireann and the National Transport Authority to make train and bus stations, and bus stops more accessible.



We will have better access to outdoor areas, especially footpaths and trails.  
Access will be part of the design of new areas.  
We will check which areas we have now need better access.



We will look at the footpaths in Sligo's towns and check if they are accessible.



We will have better access so that disabled people can take part in design and planning.



We will have information on new plans and projects.

We will have this information in different ways so everyone can understand it, take part in consultations, and make submissions.



We will encourage and support disabled people to start and run their own businesses.

# Actions from the Disability Consultative Committee



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The Council will set up an Access Team to help work on the actions in this Strategy.

This team will be made up of people from Sligo County Council.



We will have a plan to make services and information accessible.



We will review the ways that people can make a complaint if buildings, services, or information are not accessible.



We will help to make the public aware of the challenges and barriers that disabled people in Sligo face, for example, with parking or access.



We will follow the law on Public Sector Duty.



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