



Scan for
NZSL name



Visual description: A purple Whaikaha logo with a QR scan for the NZSL name.

OIA0574

Rebekah Graham
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22 September 2025

Tēnā koe Rebekah

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 19 August 2025, to the Ministry of Disabled People - Whaikaha (Whaikaha), requesting information relating to the draft New Zealand Disability Strategy (the draft Strategy), which was recently published for public consultation.

You requested:

- **Can you please provide me with the draft list of recommendations from each strategy group to the MDLG? Preferably in table form, with the recommendations from each strategy group and the actual agreed actions by the MDLG for inclusion in the action plan?**

Please find attached in Appendix 1 the document **NZ Disability Strategy Refresh: Working Group Outcome Area proposals**, which presented recommendations from the New Zealand Disability Strategy Refresh Working Groups (the Working Groups) for the outcome areas of education, employment, health, housing and justice.

Further information about the Working Groups can be found here: [New Zealand Disability Strategy working group members | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People](#)

Some information has been withheld from this document under section 9(2)(g)(ii) of the OIA, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of Ministers from improper pressure or harassment; and section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA, to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

It is important to note the views expressed by the Working Groups in the recommendations do not represent an official government position. The Working Groups were composed of independent experts, including disabled people, and government agency representatives who also had a role providing contextual information for other members.



The recommendations from the Working Groups were developed over several weeks through an iterative process. Whaikaha provided secretariat support, templates and advice for prioritising actions. This included the following criteria to prioritise the actions:

- Feasible to deliver over five years, aligned with government priorities and affordable
- Tangible and specific to deliver and measure
- Clear links with the goals and outcomes identified, and good evidence base for impact on the lives of disabled people and tāngata whaikaha Māori
- Advancing Te Tiriti o Waitangi, including addressing equity gaps for Māori
- Value for money and cost-effective.

Working Group recommendations were given to the Ministerial Disability Leadership Group (MDLG) for consideration in June. The MDLG's feedback on this document, along with further advice from agencies, was used to develop the draft Strategy.

Whaikaha does not have a table that contrasts working group proposed actions with the agreed action by the MDLG, as we have not undertaken any such comparisons. However, you will be able to compare the recommendations in Appendix 1 to those laid out in the published draft Strategy, found here: [Refresh of the New Zealand Disability Strategy | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People](#)

Please note, as part of its commitment towards increasing transparency, Whaikaha intends to make the information contained in this letter, and any attached documents, available to the wider public. Whaikaha will do this by publishing this letter on our website. Your personal details will be deleted, and no information that would identify you as the requestor will be released.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, or if you are seeking any further information, please contact OIA_requests@whaikaha.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Emma Williams
Manager, Ministerial and Executive Services