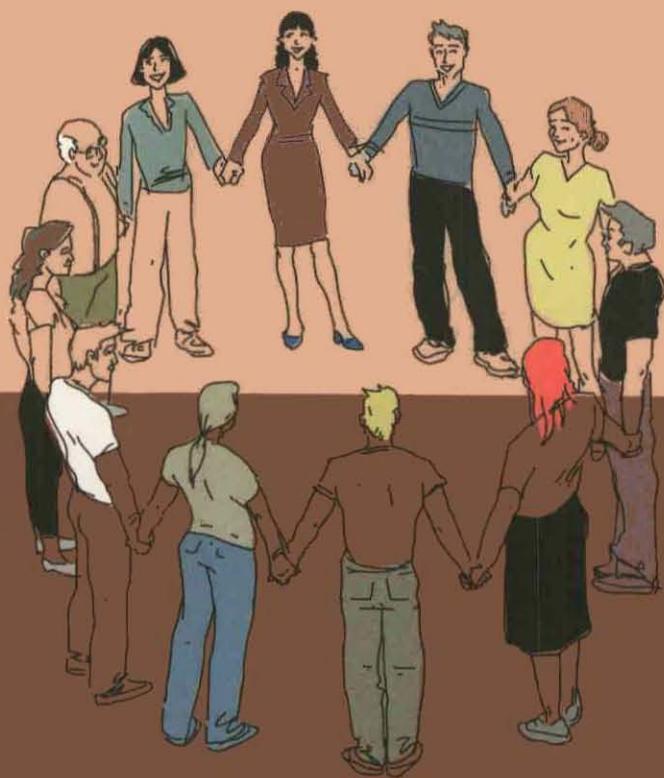


National Disability Authority



A Matter of Rights

Strategic Plan 2001 - 2003

Easy to read version



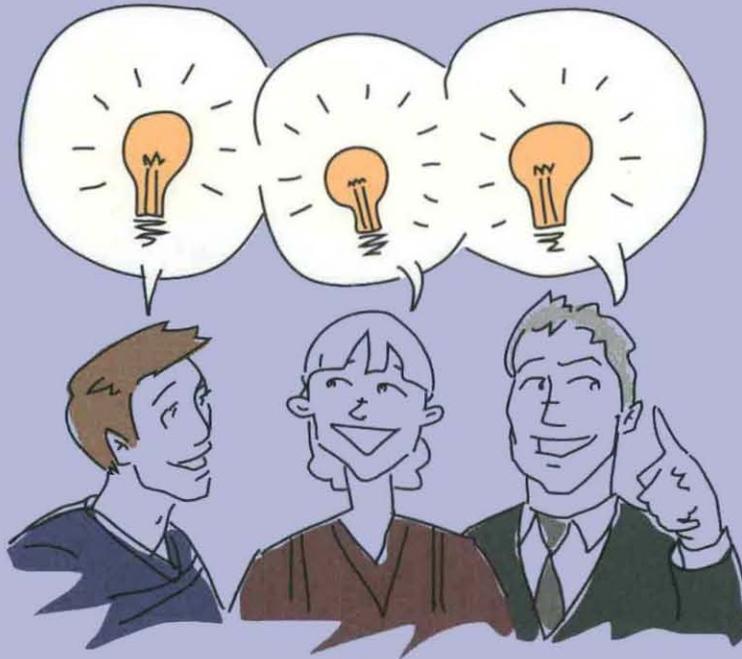
NATIONAL DISABILITY AUTHORITY
ÚDARÁS NÁISIÚNTA MÍCHUMAIS

This is the easy to read version of **A Matter of Rights**, the NDA's Strategic Plan 2001 - 2003. The full version is available in standard print, in Braille, in large print, on tape, on computer disk and on the NDA website (www.nda.ie).

Design: Red Dog



Introduction



A few years ago the Government asked people with disabilities what should be done to make things better.

- The people came together at meetings and talked things over.
- They had a lot of ideas.
- One of the main ideas was that we are all equal people.
- People with disabilities wanted the same rights as everybody else.



The Government listened and decided to make a lot of changes.

- They made some new laws.
- They changed around some Government services.
- The Government said that all people are equal and all people are to be treated equally.

But for this to happen many things need to change.

So the Government set up the National Disability Authority (NDA) to make sure things changed in the way that people with disabilities wanted.



NDA Plan



The Government asked us in the NDA to make a Plan.

A Plan is like a map, which shows you how to get to where you want to go.

First we asked people what they thought the NDA should do.

- They sent us their ideas and we put them in the Plan.
- We think this Plan is exciting.
- We think it will make a difference to the lives of people with disabilities.
- We think it will make their lives better.

The Plan says what we will do in the next three years. Every year we will look at how well we are doing and what we could do better. At the end of three years we will talk to people with disabilities and make a new Plan.

What the NDA Plan says:

- The main part of our work is to make sure that people with disabilities get their rights, and can join in the things they want to do, like everybody else.
- The best ways to make sure that people with disabilities can get their rights is to :
 - Help the Government to make new laws.
 - Make sure that people with disabilities get the best services.

We know that we cannot do this by ourselves so we will work with people with disabilities and with the Government to make the changes.

The NDA will tell everybody that rights are very important for people with disabilities and that no-one should be treated unfairly.





The most important things we will be working on are:

- Equal rights
- Make public services easy for everybody to use
- Help everybody to understand disability better
- Make sure people with disabilities get the best service.

Equal Rights

Help the government to make rules so that people with disabilities are treated equally.

NDA will:

- Look at the laws in Ireland and say if any need to be changed. Help to make sure that people with disabilities have a say when new laws are being made.
- Keep an eye on laws about disability in the rest of the world, so that Ireland can learn from what is happening in other countries.
- Help improve laws to give better services, especially to do with travel, school, income and health.
- Find out the facts about disability and include people with disabilities in doing this.



Using Public Services

- Let people know what we find out.

Make our public services easy for everybody to use.

NDA will:

- Work with the Government to make our public services easy for everybody to use.
- Give prizes to public services that are easy to use.



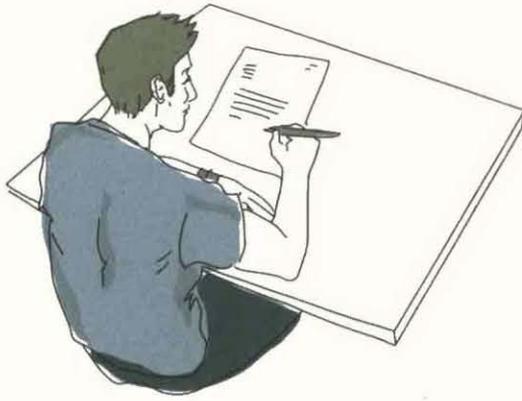
Attitudes

Help everybody to understand disability better.

NDA will:

- Find out how Irish people feel and think about disabilities.
- Help everyone to understand that we are all equal and that no one should be treated unfairly.
- Show the best ways to teach people about disability.



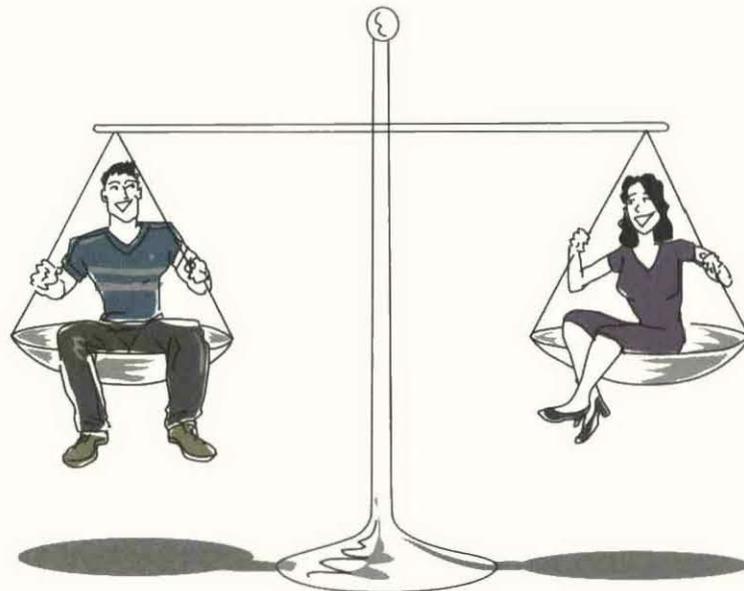


Quality Services

Make sure people with disabilities get the best service.

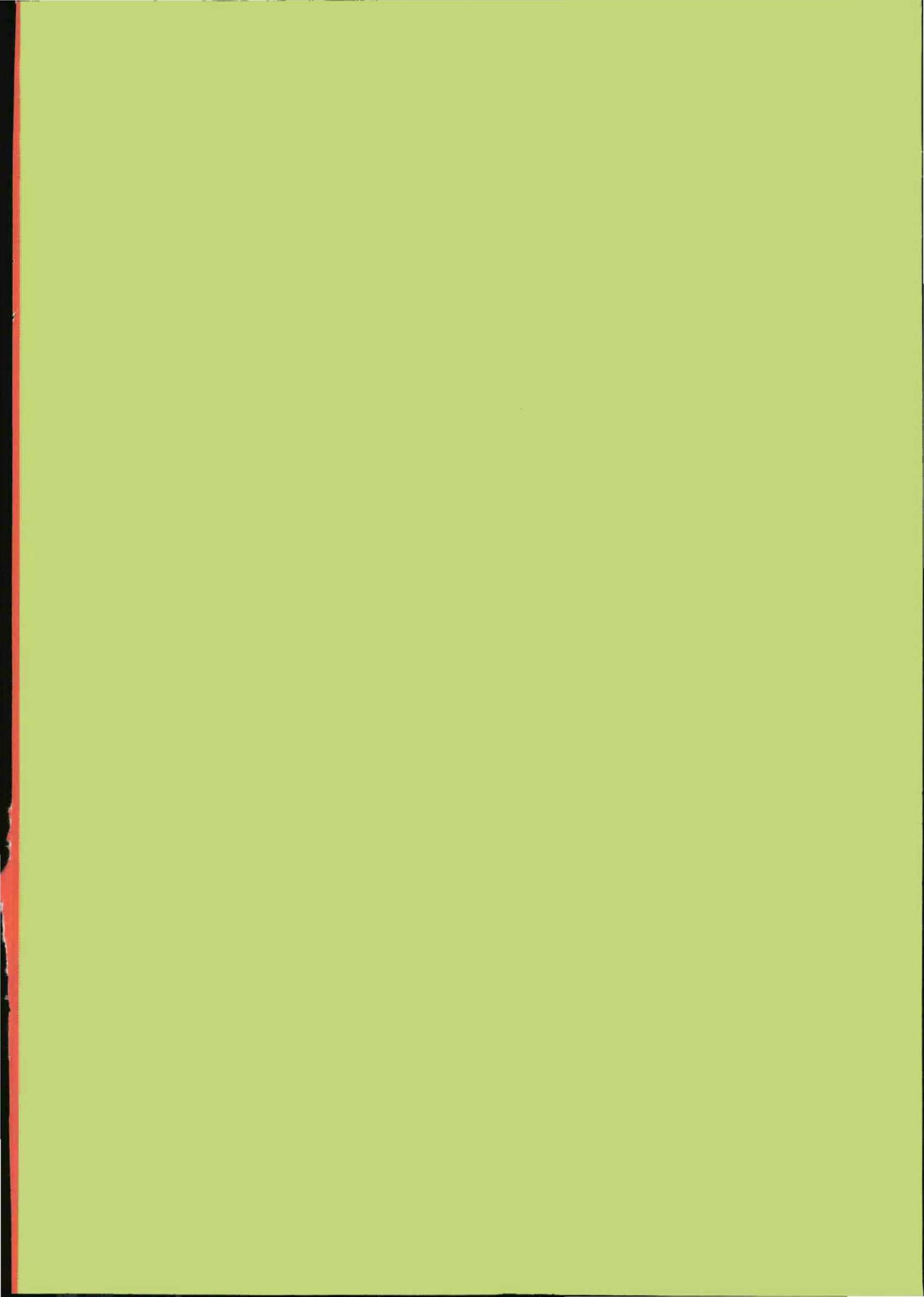
NDA will:

- Talk people to find out which services need to improve most.
- Give prizes to those who are providing good services.
- Tell the government when services are not done well so that they can be improved.



8

The NDA looks forward to all of us working together so that Ireland will be a better and fairer place for everyone.



2007-2008 *Annual Report*

25 Clyde Road, Dublin 4. Tel: 01 608 0400 Fax: 01 660 9935
Email: nda@nda.ie Web: www.nda.ie