April 2024

**To Finance Select Committee**

Please find attached DPA’s submission on Government Budget Policy Statement 2024

For any further inquiries, please contact:

Mojo Mathers

Chief Executive

policy@dpa.org.nz

# Introducing Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

**We work on systemic change for the equity of disabled people**

Disabled Persons Assembly NZ (DPA) is a not-for-profit pan-impairment Disabled People’s Organisation run by and for disabled people.

**We recognise:**

* Māori as Tangata Whenua and [Te Tiriti o Waitangi](https://www.archives.govt.nz/discover-our-stories/the-treaty-of-waitangi) as the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand;
* disabled people as experts on their own lives;
* the [Social Model of Disability](https://www.odi.govt.nz/guidance-and-resources/guidance-for-policy-makes/) as the guiding principle for interpreting disability and impairment;
* the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html) as the basis for disabled people’s relationship with the State;
* the [New Zealand Disability Strategy](https://www.odi.govt.nz/nz-disability-strategy/) as Government agencies’ guide on disability issues; and
* the [Enabling Good Lives Principles](https://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/about-egl/egl-approach/principles/), [Whāia Te Ao Mārama: Māori Disability Action Plan](https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/whaia-te-ao-marama-2018-2022-maori-disability-action-plan), and [Faiva Ora: National Pasifika Disability Disability Plan](https://www.moh.govt.nz/notebook/nbbooks.nsf/0/5E544A3A23BEAECDCC2580FE007F7518/%24file/faiva-ora-2016-2021-national-pasifika-disability-plan-feb17.pdf) as avenues to disabled people gaining greater choice and control over their lives and supports.

**We drive systemic change through:**

**Rangatiratanga | Leadership**: reflecting the collective voice of disabled people, locally, nationally and internationally.

**Pārongo me te tohutohu | Information and advice**: informing and advising on policies impacting on the lives of disabled people.

**Kōkiri | Advocacy**: supporting disabled people to have a voice, including a collective voice, in society.

**Aroturuki | Monitoring**: monitoring and giving feedback on existing laws, policies and practices about and relevant to disabled people.

## United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

DPA was influential in creating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD),[[1]](#footnote-2) a foundational document for disabled people which New Zealand has signed and ratified, confirming that disabled people must have the same human rights as everyone else. All state bodies in New Zealand, including local and regional government, have a responsibility to uphold the principles and articles of this convention.

The following UNCRPD articles are particularly relevant to this submission:

* **Article 9 Accessibility**
* **Article 19 Living independently and being included in the community**
* **Article 24 Education**
* **Article 25 Health**
* **Article 27 Work and employment**
* **Article 28 Adequate standard of living and social protection**

## New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026

Since ratifying the UNCRPD, the New Zealand Government has established a Disability Strategy[[2]](#footnote-3) to guide the work of government agencies on disability issues. The vision is that New Zealand be a non-disabling society, where disabled people have equal opportunity to achieve their goals and aspirations, and that all of New Zealand works together to make this happen. It identifies eight outcome areas contributing to achieving this vision.

The following outcomes are particularly relevant to this submission:

* **Outcome 2 – Employment and Economic Security**
* **Outcome 3 – Health and Wellbeing**
* **Outcome 5 – Accessibility**
* **Outcome 7 – Choice and Control**

# The Submission

# DPA welcomes the opportunity to give feedback to the Finance Select Committee on the Budget Policy Statement 2024 - 2025.

# DPA notes that the Budget Policy Statement for 2024 (BPS 2024) has five overarching goals:

* Delivering meaningful tax reductions to provide cost of living relief to New Zealanders.
* Identifying enduring savings across government departments and agencies.
* Improving public services by shifting spending to higher-value areas and focus on results.
* Keeping tight control of government spending while funding a limited number of priority Government commitments and urgent cost pressures.
* Developing a long-term, sustainable pipeline of infrastructure investments.

DPA is concerned about a number of these proposals and their impact on our disabled community throughout New Zealand.

## Impact of government fiscal and tax policies

DPA is concerned that the proposed tax cuts and funding of tax rebates for landlords will have a negative impact on the government’s ability to provide essential services that disabled people rely on across health, education, welfare and support services.

The 6.5% to 7.5% spending cuts being implemented across the public sector are already having a detrimental and disproportionate impact on disabled people and their families and whānau.

DPA is very aware that disabled people, their whānau, and their carers feel besieged by many of the changes that have been made over the last few months including the reduction in the annual benefit adjustment formula, the purchasing rules and equipment and modification services cuts fiasco, the removal of subsidies for public transport, and the real terms reduction in the minimum wage to name just a few.

Placing yet more burden on disabled people and their families by further cuts to their supports or by imposing unrealistic and unfair work ready expectations would be completely unfair.

## Government has stated that cuts will not impact the provision of frontline public services, but we have seen reports that some of the roles being impacted are, in fact, frontline service roles. For example, the Ministry of Education will likely see the disappearance of 38 jobs involved in supporting the learning needs of disabled children.[[3]](#footnote-4)

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 1:** That all funding cuts for education, health, MSD and disability support are fully reversed and funding for these increased to account for both population growth and inflation. |

## Impact of Disability Support Services cuts on disabled people

DPA views the cuts made to Disability Support Services (DSS) funding from Whaikaha-Ministry of Disabled People as a reduction in frontline services to our disabled community. These cuts were made without prior consultation or notice to our community and have deeply impacted many disabled people and their families/whānau.

DPA acknowledges that due to the significant public outcry, Government has provided funding to Whaikaha to cover the Ministry’s DSS budget deficit until the end of the financial year on June 30.

However, despite the temporary funding and some recently announced reversals, disabled people still have significant concerns including:

* the flexibility which previously came with Individualised Funding (IF) through the purchasing rules has not been fully restored;
* that funding for wheelchair and equipment services (including housing modifications) is still constrained meaning significant rationing and prioritisation; which in turn has serious implications for the health and safety of disabled people;
* restrictions around carer support funding are affecting the ability of family/whānau to provide options around this for disabled children and adults.

Recently, DPA conducted a survey of our members which saw 180 responses from disabled people and their families/whānau around Aotearoa.

The key findings of this survey revealed the impact that these cuts were having on disabled people and whānau in terms of:

* reduced social wellbeing;
* poorer health and safety outcomes;
* loss of ability to purchase, replace or repair needed equipment;
* loss of options for carer support and respite care;
* concern about mental health and wellbeing.

Our survey asked people to comment about how the changes had impacted them as well.

Here is a snapshot of the responses which paint a picture of anxiety, desperation, frustration and despair:

“I am concerned my support to access rehab activities will be cut, that my ability to manage a meaningful life will be greatly restricted.”

“EGL has allowed me to contribute fully and not be left behind. With this change we are back to bureaucracy holding the power and the pen.”

“I will be affected by the inability to put massages or physio on the respite funding - this is the only way that I can continue to work because of neck, head and shoulder pain.”

“Wheelchair is already too small, now the wait will be longer and damage to hips, pressure sores etc will increase.”

We have fed these survey results to relevant stakeholders, which now include this select committee.

DPA recognises that the Minister of Finance, Hon. Nicola Willis, has stated that more funding will be given to the Ministry of Disabled People in the upcoming budget.

DPA welcomes this commitment for increased funding provided it is sufficient to enable the previous cuts to be reversed, full flexibility restored and addresses the chronic underfunding of disability support that has happened for many years.

Flexibility in what disability funding covers allows it to be used in ways that align with the principles of the Enabling Good Lives (EGL) approach that promotes disabled people having greater choice and control over their lives.

Where it has been rolled out, EGL has been successful with a great deal of uptake amongst disabled people and whānau and it has enjoyed broad cross-party support since the principles and associated trials were first rolled out under the former 2008-2017 National-led Government.

Going forwards, ensuring a more sustainable approach to disability support funding will require a cross-government approach to be taken to support the disability support system so that the responsibility does not fall on Whaikaha alone.

This means that more funding for disability support needs to be sourced from the budgets of, for example, the Ministries of Education, Health, Social Development and others to support disabled people in a way that is consistent with the principles of EGL.

DPA’s asks for Budget 2024 around disabled support funding are:

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 2:** that Government re-prioritise its budget to properly resource funding for disability support in line with the principles of ELG across the Health, ACC, Education, MSD and Whaikaha sectors  |
| **Recommendation 3:** that the recent effective cuts to disability support funding are fully reversed. |
| **Recommendation 4:** that the Government’s forthcoming review of disability support funding fully involve disabled people and whānau within it. |

## Employment and Welfare

DPA is very concerned about the Government’s proposed changes to the welfare system and expectations for beneficiaries to be ‘work ready’. The Welfare Expert Advisory Group outlined in 2018 that approximately 54% of disabled people and people with health conditions received a main benefit.[[4]](#footnote-5)

We also know that unemployment and inequitable access to employment has a detrimental impact on health and wellbeing for many disabled people. Data shows that 74% of disabled people who are unemployed want to work.

It is of great concern to DPA that the most recently available data from 2023 shows unemployment rates rising for disabled people (from 9% in 2022 to 10.7% in 2023) and that the labour workforce gap between disabled people and non-disabled people is also rising with 39.4% of working-age disabled people employed in the June 2023 quarter – which is less than half the employment rate for non-disabled people(81.7%).[[5]](#footnote-6)

As Aotearoa is now in recession, we expect that more disabled people will become unemployed, particularly from the public sector due to government-imposed cuts.

A major reason for the high numbers of disabled people being on a benefit is that there are many barriers to employment for disabled people.

These include: negative attitudes from employers, inaccessible workplaces, lack of transport to get to and from work and the digital divide that exists for many disabled people.

All these factors seriously impact on the ability of disabled people to find appropriately paid, sustainable employment, a problem that can only be addressed through taking a comprehensive approach.

**Impact of Traffic Light System for disabled New Zealanders on Jobseeker Support**

DPA is particularly concerned that the proposed traffic light system for Jobseeker recipients will unfairly impact disabled people and those with work limiting health conditions who are receiving the Jobseekers Support payment.

It is vital that disabled people and the disability sector are consulted on the design of the traffic light system to ensure it is equitable, fair and workable before it is announced to avoid a repeat of the fiasco over the sudden announcement by Whaikaha of the changes to purchasing rules.

Currently over 40% of Jobseeker recipients are in the ‘Health Condition or Disability’ subgroup and many Jobseeker recipients in the ‘Work Ready’ category will also have disabilities and/or impairments.

The existing jobseeker obligations system can already be inequitable and unfair for disabled people. For example, a disabled person reliant on disability support to assist them to get up and ready in the morning, may be unable to attend a job seeker meeting or other requirements of Jobseekers obligations due to the scheduling of support workers.

Additional obligations and more stringent enforcement risks people who are entitled to help not receiving it because the right support is not available for disabled people or expectations are not appropriate or feasible for their individual situation or circumstances.

We are concerned that pressure to get beneficiaries off the benefit will specifically target the ‘Health Condition or Disability’ as a seemingly ‘low-hanging fruit’ for cost savings, given the average continuous duration on benefit for that subgroup is ten times longer than for the ‘Work Ready’ subgroup.

As has been noted by many experts, the name ‘Jobseeker – Health Condition or Disability’ is a misnomer that creates the false impression that recipients are ready and able to work, when most actually have serious conditions that prevent them from being able to take on most employment positions.

While the ‘Health Condition or Disability’ subgroup is intended for people with short-term conditions, the fact is, many disabled people who should really be on the Supported Living Payment are, instead, on Jobseekers, expected to repeatedly get medical certificates for ongoing conditions and meet work obligations, when they are unable to sustain employment. This is a primary cause of long duration on the Jobseekers benefit, not a refusal to work by those who are able to do so.

Fundamentally, DPA does not accept the proposition that the issue is that people with health conditions and disabilities are not working when they could. The real issue is that either

1. they should not be on jobseekers but on supported living instead; or
2. they are willing and able to work at least part time but face inaccessible or unaccommodating workplaces or discrimination by prospective employers who are often reluctant to employ disabled people.

New Zealand has one of the highest levels of adults in work in the developed world and getting on a benefit already requires meeting stringent conditions. Furthermore, we note that there must be jobs for people to go into, and this is currently not the case with unemployment rising at present.

Increasing the pressure on disabled people to work by tightening the screws on recipients of the ‘Health Condition or Disability’ Jobseeker will not get more disabled people into work.

It will only make lives that are already difficult even harder when there are no jobs for them to go into or employers won’t employ them or there is not the right support for them to be able to apply or keep their jobs.

DPA urges Government take a supportive, rather than punitive approach. We are aware that the Active Labour Market Programme (ALMP) review found a lack of consistently funded accessible and appropriate employment supports for disabled people and there is a particular lack of support for people with intellectual disability, neurological, learning or cognitive impairments, or who are neurodiverse and face complex barriers to work.

We also note that that New Zealand has agreed to actions under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities’ 2022 concluding observations to incorporate concrete measures in the Disability Employment Action Plan, with resources, time frames and monitoring mechanisms that ensure the transition from segregated employment to the open labour market.

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 5:** DPA asks that Budget 2024 resources MSD to: 1. proceed with developing a framework to support decisions for the design and delivery of Customised Employment targeted to disabled people furthest from the labour market by developing regional contracts with community providers to deliver this in a way that is:
* aligned with disabled people’s aspirations and needs
* facilitates strengths-based delivery which is locally responsive
* utilises and grows existing sector capacity and expertise
* seeks procurement of culturally appropriate provision for Māori, Pacific and Ethnic communities
* allows individuals to choose, self-refer to and/or interact with services they feel comfortable with and understood by
* builds further connections between MSD regional service centres and available tailored employment focused supports for disabled people who want to work but who may have deferred work obligations
* addresses gaps in data and resources with new monitoring and evaluation that takes into account all-of-life outcomes and informs continuous improvement of delivery
1. significantly increase investment in supported employment and vocational rehabilitation for disabled people and those with work-limiting health conditions. These interventions focus on integrating health and employment support and are more effective in returning people with work-limiting health conditions and disabilities to work.
2. resource early intervention in the welfare system for people with work-limiting health conditions and disabilities. Unlike ACC, MSD and MOH do not have a vocational rehabilitation focus on people with health conditions and disabilities and this is needed.
3. fund seamless transitions for disabled young people from school to employment or further education/training.
4. lengthen the transition time for people on Supported Living Payment to trial full or part-time employment.
 |

**Disabled people should be positively supported and encouraged into work, not threatened and intimidated by the risk of sanctions or loss of benefits.**

DPA also opposed the April 1 changes to raise benefits only by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), marking a shift from the previous government’s policy of raising them by the CPI or increases in the average wage, whichever was the highest.

These moves will have a negative impact on the income of disabled beneficiaries who stand to lose thousands of dollars in real income over the next few years.

DPA would also like to see the maximum rates of both the Child Disability Allowance and Disability Allowance raised to ensure that disabled people can meet rising disability related living costs.

DPA’s other asks on Employment and Welfare in Budget 2024 are:

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 6:** significant resourcing for customised employment targeted to disabled people furthest from the labour market and for disabled people led training and employment placement initiatives.  |
| **Recommendation 7**: a significant increase in the maximum rates for both the Disability Allowance and Child Disability Allowance. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 8:** ensuring that MSD Job and Training Support Funds align with EGL principles through making the funds more flexible, raising the current cap and adjusting them by inflation. |

## Housing

Disabled people are at the sharp end of the housing crisis. Many within our community face serious challenges in accessing housing due to the dire lack of accessible housing, high rents, and the limits of current housing support programmes for disabled people.

The various impacts of the housing crisis on disabled people have been reflected in the “My Experiences, My Rights: A Monitoring Report on Disabled Person’s Experience of Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand” (2022) and within the media.[[6]](#footnote-7)

Key amongst them are 2018 figures from Lifemark New Zealand (quoting Statistics New Zealand) showing that disabled people are more likely to rent than non-disabled people with 38% of disabled people renting compared to 30% of non-disabled people.[[7]](#footnote-8)

For all the above reasons, disabled people constitute a considerable number of people on the social housing wait list. Currently, data is not collected on the exact number of disabled people on the list, although the best (and most recent) estimate was provided in an Official Information Act request provided by the Ministry of Social Development in 2021.[[8]](#footnote-9)

Kainga Ora (KO) has also faced pressure from Aotearoa’s disabled community to up its performance in terms of the number of accessible, universally designed houses it constructs. DPA and the wider disability sector have called for 100% of all new builds to be constructed to universal design standards whereas the agency set a lower benchmark of 15% and as of late 2022, only 9% of all recent KO builds had been completed to these standards.[[9]](#footnote-10)

DPA is concerned that the recent changes announced by Government around ending the crisis in the emergency and transitional housing space, while laudable, raise more questions than answers. For example, the tightening up of criteria for accessing emergency and transitional housing grants could potentially deter more people from seeking them leading to greater homelessness, especially amongst disabled people and whānau.

We have also seen recent reports that no funding has been committed to either Kainga Ora or community housing providers for the construction of new social housing units beyond June 30th, 2025, meaning that some planned projects have had to be put on hold.[[10]](#footnote-11)

We also referred earlier to the impact that Whaikaha’s disability support cuts have had on housing modifications for people who are eligible under the Ministry’s criteria. If Government were to substantially increase funding for this and other Whaikaha supports, then disabled people needing home modifications would be able to access housing and exit wait lists.

All the above reasons are why more certainty and clarity are needed in Budget 2024 on the future of social housing alongside a commitment to maintain significant spending in this area. Any increased spend should come alongside a commitment by Government to build all new social housing to universal design standards.

DPA’s asks in the housing space for Budget 2024 are:

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 9:** require Kainga Ora and all government contracted social housing providers to construct all their new builds to 100% universal design accessibility standards by 2030 and provide adequate funding for this purpose. |
| **Recommendation 10:** improve access to KiwiBuild and other government housing programmes for disabled people. |
| Recommendation 11: inject urgent funding into Kainga Ora and community housing providers to ensure construction project continuity after July 1, 2025. |

## Health

## Disabled people have long experienced considerable barriers to accessing healthcare. To address these barriers, the previous government introduced the Provisional Health of Disabled People Strategy in 2023.[[11]](#footnote-12)

DPA supports the Provisional Health of Disabled People Strategy as this is the first document of its kind to address an issue that has been long been the subject of much research.

DPA also strongly supported the re-introduction of free prescriptions in July 2023. This move benefitted many disabled people and people with health conditions who were faced with choosing between picking up prescriptions or paying for other essentials like food, power, phone and internet.

Should prescription charges be brought back in Budget 2024 and only Community Services Card (CSC) and Super Gold Card holders become eligible for free scripts then there will still be a considerable number of disabled people and people with chronic health conditions who will be impacted.

When prescription charges were previously in place, disabled people and people with health conditions who were not CSC or Super Gold users faced paying up to hundreds of dollars a year in script fees (even before any high needs user exemptions applied) meaning that people were forced to choose between paying for medications and other essentials, like food, even while working.

DPA fears that the situation where working disabled people were not able to afford essential medications would become a reality once again if prescription charges were re-introduced.

DPA’s main asks for Budget 2024 in the health space are:

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 12**: ensure adequate funding to support initiatives under the Provisional Health of Disabled People Strategy aimed at improving the health and wellbeing outcomes of disabled people. |
| **Recommendation 13:** retain universal free prescriptions for every New Zealander. |

## Education

Equitable access for disabled ākonga/students to the education system from early childhood through to tertiary is vital if disabled people are to acquire the skills and knowledge required to participate within society.

Barriers remain to the full participation of disabled students in our early childhood, school and tertiary education systems.

The previous government aimed to address them through its Highest Needs Review (2022) which outlined the need for a more integrated and inclusive education system, one underpinned by greater choice and control for disabled students and their whānau over educational supports.[[12]](#footnote-13)

If fully implemented, the policies contained in the review would represent a shift away from the current rationing-based Ongoing Resource Scheme (ORS) towards an individualised one where disabled students, schools and whānau would be able to draw upon funding from the Ministry of Education via individualised budgets that would fund any needs identified by disabled students, families and schools.

DPA is disappointed that the policy of fees free tertiary study for the first year of a student’s qualification was changed at the beginning of this year to only apply in the last year of study. The former policy benefitted disabled students given their higher tertiary non-completion rates when compared to non-disabled students.

DPA’s asks for Budget 2024 in the education space are:

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 14:** that adequate funding is provided for implementing the Highest Needs Review. |
| **Recommendation 15:** that additional funding is provided to enable disabled tertiary students to successfully complete their courses through providing greater flexibility in how support is used. |

## Transport

A lack of access to accessible transport and generally just getting around continues to be a significant issue for disabled people.

Accessible, affordable public transport (including modes like buses, rail, ferries and small passenger vehicles/taxis) is essential for many disabled people given that a significant proportion of disabled people do not own or have access to cars or other private vehicles.

In 2021, DPA and transport consultants MRCagney were commissioned by Waka Kotahi to undertake research looking at the travel experiences of disabled people, with a focus on the Total Mobility (TM) Scheme. The report “Transport experiences of disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand” detailing our findings was published in 2022.[[13]](#footnote-14)

This research illustrated the ongoing accessibility challenges faced by disabled people when using public transport. These included, for example, issues around using Total Mobility (TM), the inaccessibility of bus services, lack of footpaths and safe crossing points, and feeling excluded from the planning of sustainable city centres, as well as the ableist attitudes of some transport planners.

The Ministry of Transport recently commenced a review of the Total Mobility (TM) scheme which provides discounts of 75% off the cost of taxi and passenger service vehicle fares for eligible disabled people.[[14]](#footnote-15) We express our concerns about the review’s progress as our organisation (alongside others) has heard nothing more after the initial announcement.

DPA asks that Government through New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) – Waka Kotahi continue to adequately fund fully accessible transport infrastructure and services across the country which can include everyone, including disabled people.

DPA’s asks for Budget 2024 in the transport space are:

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 16:** that the Total Mobility scheme is funded to maintain the current 75% fare discount subsidy for its users. |
| **Recommendation 17:** that priority is given to fully accessible public transport infrastructure and services in terms of buses, rail, ferries and taxis/small passenger vehicle services. |

**Emergency Management**

A recent article published by the journal *Nature Climate Change*[[15]](#footnote-16)highlighted that disabled people are disproportionately more at risk of higher mortality rates in climate emergencies. This is underpinned by the fact that disabled people have been treated as lower priority in climate emergencies or other disasters and systemically excluded from receiving emergency healthcare and humanitarian support as a result.

The article also highlighted that slow onset climate change, including sea level rise, more damaging weather events, as well as rising water and food scarcity all exacerbate the existing inequities experienced by disabled people.

Michael Stein, in a Harvard University Center for the Environment (2023)[[16]](#footnote-17) interview elaborated about the impacts of slow onset climate change on disabled people:

“Climate change amplifies the marginalization experienced by persons with disabilities negatively affecting health, reducing access to healthcare services, food, water, and accessible infrastructure. People with psychosocial disabilities have triple the rate of mortality in heatwaves.”

DPA welcomes the recognition by Government that the existing National Emergency Management (NEMA) structure did not perform during last year’s North Island storm events. Many disabled people were impacted by them, and our community wants to be involved as partners in all aspects of planning for future emergency responses.

DPA’s ask for Budget 2024 in the emergency management and climate space is:

|  |
| --- |
| **Recommendation 18:** resource national civil defence and emergency management to fully include disabled people and our communities in planning and preparation for future emergencies including climate emergencies. |

1. United Nations. (2006). *United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.* Retrieved from: <https://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/convention/convoptprot-e.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Office for Disability Issues. (2016). *New Zealand Disability Strategy.* Retrieved from: <https://www.odi.govt.nz/nz-disability-strategy> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/515129/education-ministry-cuts-roles-providing-support-for-disabled-kids-among-those-proposed-to-be-axed> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. <https://www.weag.govt.nz/weag-report/> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/labour-market-statistics-disability-june-2023-quarter/> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. <https://www.donaldbeasley.org.nz/assets/projects/UNCRPD/My-Experiences-My-Rights-A-Monitoring-Report-on-Disabled-Persons-Experience-of-Housing-in-Aotearoa-New-Zealand/My-Experiences-My-Rights-A-Monitoring-Report-on-Disabled-Persons-Experience-of-Housing-in-Aotearoa-New-Zealand.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. <https://www.lifemark.co.nz/news/accessible-housing-by-the-numbers/>    [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. <https://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/official-information-responses/2021/april/20210413-request-to-know-how-many-people-with-disabilities-are-on-the-waitlist-for-housing-and-the-total-number-on-the-waitlis.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/pou-tiaki/131476064/kinga-ora-admits-accessibility-policy-is-confusing> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. <https://newsroom.co.nz/2024/03/26/debt-stricken-kainga-ora-pauses-big-public-housing-projects-sells-land/> [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/provisional-health-disabled-people-strategy> [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. <https://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/changes-in-education/response-highest-needs-review/> [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/research/reports/690/> [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. <https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/review-of-the-total-mobility-scheme/> [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. Stein, J.S., Stein, M., Groce, N. & Kett, M. (2023). The role of the scientific community in strengthening disability-inclusive climate resilience. *Nature Climate Change 13*, 108-109. [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-022-01564-6.epdf](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-022-01564-6.epdf?sharing_token=WG7FDIwxm9EdrpxLpip75tRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0OlD0JgJ93tTQjFULmdry3BVlmuGxD5onmsJt996nkMEGAr2tCBsveYWZXhgtd709bHCKwbcstWptPivtOz4U34R-phYAWEgIDvEDGs0fzjPHcHM0ng8l0DWIje7vQzL10%3D) [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. Harvard University Center for the Environment. (2023, January 19). *Disability in a Time of Climate Disaster*. Retrieved from [https://environment.harvard.edu/news/disability-time-climate-disaster#](https://environment.harvard.edu/news/disability-time-climate-disaster#:~:text=Climate%20change%20amplifies%20the%20marginalization,rate%20of%20mortality%20in%20heatwaves) [↑](#footnote-ref-17)