

# **Disability Action Plan**

## **Of the Public Health Agency**

**What we did and what we plan to do.**



**Easy to read**

**December 2012**



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You can also get a copy of this disability action plan by looking on our website:

[www.publichealth.hscni.net/disability-action-plan-and-equality-action-plan](http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/disability-action-plan-and-equality-action-plan)

If you want us to send you a paper copy of this disability action plan you can contact the Public Health Agency.

Contact:

	Telephone: 028 90321313
	For Text Relay use 18001 028 90321313
	Email: <a href="mailto:edmond.mcclean@hscni.net">edmond.mcclean@hscni.net</a>



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You can get copies in:

- Braille
- Audio CD, mp3 or Daisy
- Large print
- Other languages
- Other formats

by contacting the **Public Health Agency**



Telephone: 028 90321313

We would like you to tell us what you think about our disability action plan.

We would need you to tell us by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013.

We tell you how you can do this on Page 13



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## Message from the Chief Executive

My name is Mr Eddie Rooney. I am the Chief Executive of the Public Health Agency.

The Chief Executive makes sure that all our work gets done.

We want to make things better for people with a disability who use our services.

We want to make things better for staff with a disability.

The Chief Executive makes sure that day to day work in relation to disability actions gets done.



### **This book is about our Disability Action.**

We want people with disabilities to be treated fairly and have the same chances as people who don't have a disability.

This is a plan about what we are going to do over the next 5 years.



This is to help make things better for people with a disability.



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## About the Public Health Agency



This is our logo

## What do we do?

The **Public Health Agency** is part of health and social care in Northern Ireland.

We were set up in April 2009.

### We do things like:

- We find out what things people need to protect them from diseases and other hazards.
- We find out what services people in Northern Ireland need to keep healthy.
- We do not provide the services but work with other organisations that are called Trusts and other voluntary and private organisations that do so.
- We buy services from Trusts including, for example, hospital services.
- We organise and buy screening services. This is about finding out at an early stage whether a person is ill or is at risk of becoming ill.
- We try to make it easier for people to make healthier choices, for example in what they eat.
- We work with other organisations to try and reduce the big differences between different groups of people in Northern Ireland in how healthy and well they are.



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- We develop and run campaigns for the general public in Northern Ireland on important health topics, for example on smoking.
- We develop websites on a number of health topics, for example on drugs, alcohol and smoking. Some sites are for specific groups such as young people or health professionals.
- We support research. We also buy and pay for research. We carry out some of the research ourselves.
- We make sure we learn from when something goes wrong in how health care is provided in Northern Ireland.
- We work with other organisations to improve the range and quality of services, for example for people of all ages with learning disabilities.
- We need to make sure services are good quality and check out that they are.
- We work with other health and social care organisations to improve how they engage with those who use their services, with carers and with the public.
- We also employ staff.
- We have to make sure that we obey the laws about employment, services, equality and rights.



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## Why are we doing this work?

The law says that we need to have a disability action plan.



This law is the Disability Discrimination Order 2006

We must think about different people with disabilities when we plan our services for the public.

We also must think about staff who have a disability.



The Equality Commission checks out each year what we are doing to make sure we obey the equality laws.



Each year we will write up what we have done.

In 5 years we will check to see what else we could do.



Our plan says that we will listen to the views of people with a disability.





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## How we made our disability action plan



The first thing we did was ask staff with disabilities and carers to join our group.

We looked at both services we buy and our role as an employer of staff.

We looked at how the things that we do affect people with disabilities.



We made a list of things where we could do things better.



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## What is in our Disability Action Plan?

### What will we do?

Our Action Plan says that we will do things like:

- ✓ Look at the images we use to show disabled people.
- ✓ We will look at how we can make our information easier for people to get.
- ✓ We will look at how we can make our information easier for people to understand.
- ✓ We will use plain language.
- ✓ We will look at ways to make our website easier to use.
- ✓ We will produce information in different ways.
- ✓ We will train our staff to tell them about disability issues.
- ✓ We will work with disabled people to provide guidance to help staff to do things better.
- ✓ We will try to find out how many staff have a disability.



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## What is in our Disability Action Plan?

### What we will do?

- ✓ We will try to find out how many people look after someone with a disability.
- ✓ We will make sure that our meetings suit people with disabilities and carers.
- ✓ We will provide more information about our work.
- ✓ We will offer work placements, including for disabled people.
- ✓ We will look at better ways to get more disabled people to apply for work with us.
- ✓ We will look at how we can support staff with disabilities.
- ✓ We will work with disabled people to check out how well we are doing.



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## **What change or difference will it make?**

Our information will have more positive images of people with disabilities.

Disabled people will find it easier to get information that they understand.

Meetings will be better suited to the needs of people with disabilities.

There will be better information on the numbers of staff with disabilities.

There will be more support for staff with a disability.

People with disabilities will be better involved in decisions that are important to them.

People with disabilities will get a better chance to work with us in work placements.

When people find out what we do they may they want to apply for jobs with us.



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**We would like you to tell us what you think about our action plan.**

If you would like to tell us what you think you can meet or contact:

Mr Ed McClean: Director of Operations

	Telephone: 028 9032 1313
	For Text Relay use 18001 028 90321313
	Email: <a href="mailto:edmond.mclean@hscni.net">edmond.mclean@hscni.net</a>

**Please tell us what you think by**

**1st March 2013**

**Thank you**



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## **About what you tell us**

**The Public Health Agency** may want to share what you tell us with others.

We will usually put the comments we get into a report that others can see.

If you want to keep what you tell us private please tell us why you think we should do this.

We will think about your reasons for keeping your information private if we are asked to share information but we cannot promise to keep it private.

## **Artwork**

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To contact Inspired Services: [www.inspiredservices.co.uk](http://www.inspiredservices.co.uk)



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