



INCLUSION IRELAND

National Association for People with an Intellectual Disability

**Pre-Budget
Submission 2021
Easy to Read
Inclusion Ireland**

August 2020

**This document is written in font 12 Verdana in line with Inclusion
Ireland plain English guidelines**



Inclusion Ireland Easy to Read Pre-Budget 2021

In October, the government will announce the Budget for 2021.



The Budget is the government's plan about how it will spend money next year.



Inclusion Ireland believes the government should make budget decisions that will protect the rights of people with disabilities.

Inclusion Ireland is asking for the following to be included as part of the Budget:

1. Invest in Education



- Make class sizes smaller and train teachers so that they can include all people with disabilities in their classes.

- Start the law which says that a child must be offered a place in a local school if they cannot find a suitable place anywhere else.



- Start the EPSEN Act (2004) so that students can easily get assessments and supports

2. Invest in Health and Disability Support Services



Make it easier for people with an intellectual disability to use primary care services like doctors and therapy.

- Give €100 million to Primary Care and €500 million to the new plan for health. (Slaintecare)



There are very long waiting lists for therapy like speech and language and physiotherapy.

- Give money for 100 more therapists this year.



Many day services do not give people much choice about the support they get to live more independently in the community.

- Give more money from the disability budget to improve this support.
- let more people apply to the Personalised Budget pilot project



Covid-19 has had a very bad effect on some people's mental health.

- Make more funding available for the HSE National Mental Health Intellectual Disability (MHID) Programme.



3. Support Community Inclusion

- Give more money to support people to move from institutions to homes in the community
- Increase the number of accessible houses that people with disabilities can rent
- Increase the funding for people with disabilities to get services and support to live independently in houses in the community.
- Make it easier to get these support services.



- Fund job coaches for Intreo offices to help people with high support needs get a job and keep a job
- Introduce a cost of disability payment



- Invest money to make sure public transport is accessible
- This includes making sure that information is easy to get and easy to understand
- Give more money for the Travel Assistance Scheme and Local Link transport in rural areas



4. Participation and Rights

The Assisted Decision Making Act was passed in 2015.

- Invest the money needed to fully open the Decision Support Service.



The HSE has a plan to get people with disabilities much more involved in making decisions about plans and policies.

- Invest the money needed to make this plan work.



There are many gaps in the advocacy support available for people with a disability and for parents of children with a disability

- Consult with disabled people and others about a National Advocacy Strategy
- Make funding available for a National Advocacy Authority (NAA).



Inclusion Ireland receives support from the Scheme to Support National Organisations (SSNO) for this work. The SSNO is government funding administered by Pobal.



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Government of Ireland