

The Farrelly Commission Report – Inclusion Ireland's Statement



'Grace' is a woman with an intellectual disability who lived with a foster family for 20 years.

The Farrelly Report found that the foster parents who were supposed to care for Grace did not do their job well.

Grace is a fake name used to protect the woman's identity.



The report did not find proof that Grace was hurt in a sexual or emotional way.

But they found proof that there was neglect in how she was cared for like with her clothes and hygiene.



The foster parents did not take care of Grace's health and did not use Grace's money properly. The people in charge did not check on Grace enough.



The report said there was a big failure by the South Eastern Health Board and HSE to care for Grace.

They did not do their job to make sure she was safe and let her down.



The report said there will not be a second investigation into the many other children who lived in the same home.

The foster parents who abused and neglected Grace have died, and it would cost a lot to continue. The investigation will end after this final report.



The Government will do a new exercise to help make better safeguarding rules. People mentioned in the report can join this exercise and share their experiences.

This will help improve safeguarding policies and practices.

The Government said they want to make sure people are safe and protected.



What should happen next?



Inclusion Ireland

The National Association for People with an Intellectual Disability.

At Inclusion Ireland, here is what we think needs to happen to make things right:



- The state should do right by Grace by using the new National Disability Strategy. This is a chance to make things better for everyone.
- Every disabled person who might be hurt or not looked after should have an advocate to support their rights.
- The National Advocacy Service for adults needs more money. This will help adults with intellectual disabilities get the support they need. We also need an advocacy service for disabled children to be set up in Ireland.
- We need to change how we all think about people with intellectual disabilities. Instead of treating them like they are in institutions, we should focus on their rights. This means helping them live safely and freely.