The Department for Communities and Social Inclusion supports the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The department is committed to safeguarding, promoting and fulfilling the human rights of people with disability by adopting a person centred approach to the provision of services and through active participation and decision making by people with disability.

The department will uphold attitudes and values that honour a person’s unique individuality and perspective and promote their full inclusion. We are focused on the person’s aspirations and wishes. The person and their family are at the centre of all we do. They are supported to make their own choices.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities includes:

“The need to promote, protect and fulfil the human rights of all persons with disabilities.”

“The importance to persons with disabilities of their individual autonomy and independence, including the freedom to make their own choices, and considering that persons with disabilities should have the opportunity to be actively involved in decision making processes about policies and programs, including those directly concerning them.”

**Active Support** assists people with disability to have meaningful and active roles in their lives and communities.

In working with people, not for people, we will champion:

- **Respect for people and families** by listening and responding to their wishes.
- **Family centred practices** by recognising and supporting families in their caring role.
- **Choice and control** by providing information, resources and services to support people to make their own decisions.
- **Inclusion** by working with and promoting the rights of people with disability to access and participate in their community.

We actively promote a community that includes and values all people, offering meaningful choice and participation.

Joslene Mazel
Chief Executive
Department for Communities and Social Inclusion
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