



The MEAL Strategic Framework



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About this document



This document is from **Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**.



Enabling Good Lives



Whaikaha is a new part of the New Zealand Government that is:

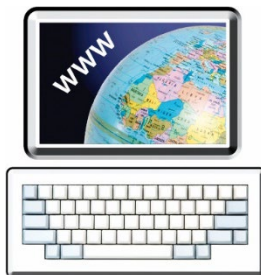
- using an **Enabling Good Lives** way of doing things
- working with other government agencies to better support disabled people
- making disability support services better.

Enabling Good Lives



Enabling Good Lives is about disabled people having:

- choice and control in their life
- the support they need and want
- a good life.



You can read more about the Enabling Good Lives ideas at this **website**:

www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/about-egl/egl-approach/principles/

In this document we will also call Enabling Good Lives **EGL**.

Enabling Good Lives



This document is about something called the **MEAL Strategic Framework**.



A **Strategic Framework** is a document that sets out a plan for how an agency will work on things.



The letters in **MEAL** stand for the work that will be done including:

- **Monitoring**
- **Evaluation**
- **Analysis**
- **Learning.**



Monitoring means checking how things are going.



Evaluation and Analysis are ways of:

- understanding the information we get from monitoring
- finding out more about:
 - what is happening
 - why things are happening the way they are.

The MEAL Strategic Framework was made together by:

- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori / Māori disabled people
- whānau / family
- the **Crown**.



The **Crown** means:

- the Government
- the people who work in government departments.



The MEAL Strategic Framework is based on the Enabling Good Lives ideas.

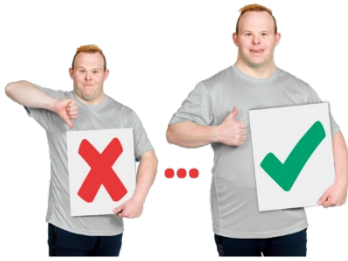


The MEAL Strategic Framework uses ideas from Enabling Good Lives to:

- check how things are going
- understand what is happening
- learn from what we find out.



Why are things changing?



People have been saying for a long time that the way disability support works needs to change.



Enabling Good Lives

Some different ways of doing things have been tried out.

The Government has now agreed to use Enabling Good Lives for disability support in all of New Zealand.



It is not just disability support that needs to work in an Enabling Good Lives way.



MEAL work also needs to be changed to fit with Enabling Good lives.



Some of the ways MEAL is done now do not work to give disabled people / tāngata whaikaha Māori control over their lives.

How should we do things differently?



Working in an Enabling Good Lives way means moving things over to:

- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori / Māori disabled people
- whānau / family.



Moving things over means changing things like:

- who makes decisions
- **resources.**





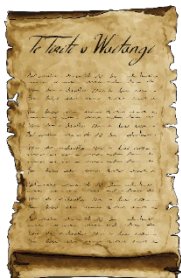
Resources are things you need to do a job well like:

- money
- information
- people to do the work.

Disabled people / tāngata whaikaha Māori need to be part of all parts of MEAL including **leadership**.

Leadership means:

- making decisions
- showing people good ways to do things.



MEAL that is a good fit with Enabling Good Lives needs:

- resources
- leadership by **and** for:
 - disabled people
 - tāngata whaikaha Māori / Māori disabled people
 - whānau / family
- people working together following the **principles** of **Te Tiriti o Waitangi**.

Principles are rules that tell people how to act / behave.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi / Treaty of Waitangi is an important agreement between Māori and the British Crown.



Te Tiriti o Waitangi / Treaty of Waitangi is about Māori and the New Zealand Government:

- making decisions together
- protecting things that are important to Māori.

MEAL that is a good fit with Enabling Good Lives also needs a **tripartite approach**.

A **tripartite approach** means 3 different groups share duties / goals to:

- make sure things happen
- sort things out if they go wrong.



The 3 groups that are part of the tripartite approach are:

- disabled people and the whānau / family of disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori / Māori disabled people
- the Crown.

Other important parts of making MEAL work in an EGL way are:

- MEAL work playing a part in making the disability support system fairer for Māori
- having **independent voice mechanisms**.

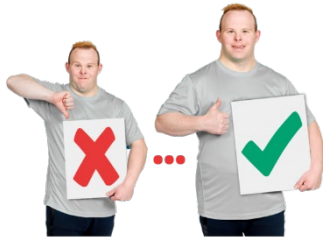


Independent voice mechanisms

are a way of finding out what people in the disability community think.

These ways support disabled people to say what they think without being scared that their disability support / services might be taken away.

What are the MEAL strategic shifts?



The **MEAL strategic shifts** are changes in how MEAL work in the disability system is done.



These changes are to support MEAL work being led by:

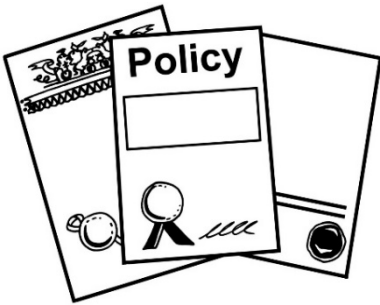
- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori / Māori disabled people
- whānau of disabled people.





This means that things found out by MEAL work in the disability system can be used as part of:

- making **policy**
- changing how disability services work.



Policy is like a set of rules about how an organisation / the Government does things.



There are 4 strategic shifts.



Shift 1 is about:

MEAL work in the disability system being done by / with people all working together with the Crown including:



- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori
- whānau.

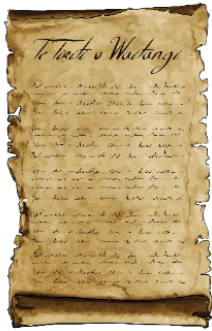


This means people in these groups will:

- lead the work
- work out how the work will be done
- do the work.



Shift 2 is about:



MEAL work in the disability system following the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.



Shift 3 is about:

MEAL work in the disability system being used to make things better for:

- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori
- whānau / family.



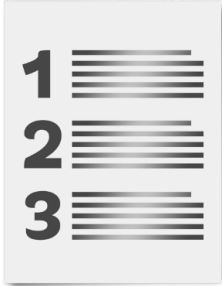
Shift 4 is about:



MEAL work in the disability system
using the right:

- **tools** which are what you use to do things
- **systems** which are how things work together.

What happens next?



The Strategic Plan has a list of things that are likely to happen.



We are working on a plan with lots more information about how things will be done.

Enabling Good Lives

These things will happen at the same time as the changes to make disability support work in an Enabling Good Lives way.



We think it is a good idea for a group called the **Insights Alliance** to work on making the MEAL way of doing things happen.



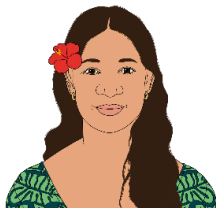
The **Insights Alliance** includes people who know a lot about the kinds of work MEAL is all about.



The people in the Insights Alliance include:



- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori / Māori disabled people
- Pacific disabled people
- whānau
- people who work for the Government.



How do we know we have done a good job?



We will know we have done a good job with making MEAL happen when:

- the leaders in doing MEAL are:

- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori
- whānau / family

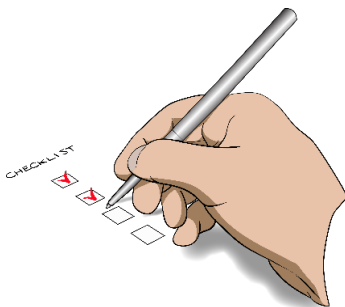


- independent voice mechanisms are linked to things being made better in:



- Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People
- the disability support system.





We will also know we have done a good job with making MEAL happen when:

- monitoring and evaluation that is already done better fits with the EGL ideas
- MEAL systems are **accountable** to:
 - disabled people
 - tāngata whaikaha Māori
 - whānau.

Accountable to means that the people the MEAL systems work for get to:

- check things are going well
- have things sorted out if they go wrong.



We will also know we have done a good job with making MEAL happen when the ways MEAL are done are a better fit for different **cultures**.



Culture is a way of:

- thinking that a group shares
- doing things as a group.



There are many different cultures in Aotearoa New Zealand like:

- Māori culture
- Pacific culture
- Deaf culture.



Where to find more information



You can find more information about the MEAL Strategic Framework on the Whaikaha **website**:

www.whaikaha.govt.nz/about-us/policy-strategies-and-action-plans/meal-strategic-framework



You can also contact Whaikaha by:

- **Email:** contact@whaikaha.govt.nz
- **Phone:** 0800 566 601
- **Text:** 4206
- **Website:** www.whaikaha.govt.nz
- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/whaikaha.govt





This information has been written by Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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