

Eithne Fitzgerald	<p>Eithne Fitzgerald was nominated by the National Disability Authority to serve on the Council, and was also a member of the previous Council. Up to mid-2016, Eithne was Head of Policy and Research at the National Disability Authority, the independent statutory body to advise Government on disability policy and practice and on co-ordination of disability policy. A key area of her work was to assist in development of the comprehensive employment strategy for people with disabilities. An economist, Eithne has had a career in the public and the voluntary sectors, in public life, and as a lecturer and researcher. She has also worked in the Department of Finance, in Threshold, and as a lecturer in social policy in both UCD and Trinity College Dublin. She is a former Minister of State for Finance, and for Labour Affairs. She was a member of the Working Group on a Proposed New Model for Allocating Teacher Resources for Students with Special Educational Needs, and of the Focused Policy Assessment review of numbers of Special Needs Assistants. She is a board member of the National Advocacy Service for People with Disabilities, and chairs one of the HSE's Working Groups on implementing the Transforming Lives programme for disability services. She was a member of the Commission on Social Welfare, and chaired the Task Force on Violence against Women. Eithne has also served as a board member of two local schools, Dundrum College, and St. Tiernan's Community School.</p>
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