

**NATIONAL DISABILITY ASSOCIATION WELCOME
TAOISEACH'S RESHUFFLE**

The latest reshuffle of the government cabinet and the re assigning of responsibilities to junior ministers has been a strategic move by the recently appointed Taoiseach Mr Brian Cowen according to IASE (Irish Association of Supported Employment) who have lobbied for cross departmental co-operation concerning disability issues following the introduction of the Disability Act 2005.

The IASE Chairperson Greg Barry said the appointment of John Moloney as Minister of State in the Department of Health and Children with a role across other Departments namely the Department of Education and Science; the Department of Enterprise, Trade Employment and Department and Justice, Equality Law Reform will assist with cross cutting issues that affect the lives and employment prospects of people with disability through out Ireland. Mr Barry went on to say that he would like to see the Department of Social and Family Affairs included in this remit as the "*benefits trap*" is a significant barrier for people with disabilities access mainstream employment.

The IASE was formed in 1994 and to-date the Organisation has played a significant role in campaigning for the equal rights of people with disabilities in accessing mainstream employment opportunities with the provision of appropriate supports; facilitating the exchange of information for all interested parties and promoting and influencing best practice standards in the delivery of employment for all people with disabilities in Ireland.

For further information about IASE contact IASE National Office on 097 82894 or visit www.iase.ie.

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