



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Active Disability Ireland Announces Six New Directors to the Board and Paralympian Appointment to Board Subcommittee

Dublin, Ireland – 15th August 2025

Active Disability Ireland is delighted to announce the appointment of six new directors to its Board, strengthening the organisation's leadership and capacity to deliver on its vision to create an Ireland where people with disabilities have equal opportunities to be active. The growth of the board will further strengthen the work of Active Disability Ireland to support the empowerment of people with disabilities involvement through sport, physical activity, and inclusive community engagement.

The new directors bring a wealth of expertise across key areas:

- Peter McCartney – *Finance Director*
- Sarah Hewitt – *Health Director*
- Nora Peters – *Education Director*
- Elizabeth (Lizzy) Broderick – *Sport and Physical Activity Director*
- Lisa Lowry – *Human Resource Director*
- Teri Kelly – *Marketing and Communications Director*

These appointments mark an exciting step forward in Active Disability Ireland's growth, ensuring a strong governance structure and a diverse skillset at Board level to guide the organisation's strategic direction.

In addition, Kerrie Leonard, Paralympian archer and passionate advocate for disability rights, has joined the Board's Advocacy and Communications Subcommittee. Kerrie will bring her living experience, sporting excellence, and advocacy expertise to support the organisation's voice and visibility on issues impacting people with disabilities in Ireland.

Speaking about the appointments, Brian O'Callaghan, Chairperson of Active Disability Ireland, said:

“We are thrilled to welcome such a talented and committed group of individuals to our Board. Their combined expertise, leadership, and passion for inclusion will be invaluable as we work to break down barriers, create opportunities, and ensure that sport and physical activity are accessible to all. We are equally honoured to have Kerrie Leonard join our Advocacy and Communications Subcommittee, bringing her unique perspective as a Paralympian and role model for athletes with disabilities.”

Brenda O’Donnell, CEO of Active Disability Ireland, added:

“The strength of our Board is a direct reflection of the values we stand for – as an organisation including collaboration, valuing living experience and striving to make a difference. Each new director brings not only professional expertise but also a genuine commitment to making Ireland a more inclusive place for people with disabilities. I look forward to working closely with all the new Board Directors and Sub Committee members in the months and years ahead.

Active Disability Ireland remains committed to its purpose of listening, supporting, challenging, and building capacity so that people with disabilities have equal opportunities and choice to be physically active. These appointments reaffirm the organisation’s dedication to building a strong, inclusive future for people with disabilities.

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New Directors from Left to Right

Elizabeth Broderick, Sport and Physical Activity Director, Nora Peters, Education Director, Brian O'Callaghan Chairperson, Brenda O'Donnell, CEO, Sarah Hewitt, Education Director, Peter Mc Cartney, Finance Director and Lisa Lowry, Human Resource Director.

Missing from Photo Teri Kelly, Marketing and Communications Director



Chairperson Brian O'Callaghan with Peter Mc Cartney Finance Director



Chairperson Brian O'Callaghan with, Sarah Hewitt, Education Director,



Chairperson Brian O'Callaghan with Nora Peters Education Director



Chairperson Brian O'Callaghan with Lizzy Broderick Sport and Physical Activity Director



Chairperson Brian O'Callaghan with Lisa Lowry Human Resource Director



Teri Kelly, Marketing and Communications Director



Kerrie Leonard, Advocacy and Communications Sub Committee