# Supported Decision Making: A Roadmap to Success

This is a text alternative to the Supported Decision Making: A Roadmap to Success poster.

Auckland Disability Law produced an A3 sized, full colour poster to raise awareness around supported decision making.

The poster is especially for those who provide services and support to disabled people when they are making decisions. This includes medical and disability support workers.

General description

The poster depicts a roadmap of a successful journey to supported decision making.

A purple road snakes down the page ending at a text box at the bottom that reads: “Supported decision making for disabled people means making your own decisions about your lives. Sometimes we need support to make this happen.”

Along the road there are 8 road signs, each representing reasons that might impact someone being able to make their own decision. For each road sign there is a detour around the reason with a suggested solution.

ADL’s partners’ are acknowledged in the Supported Decision Making project at the bottom of the poster with text reading “Auckland Disability Law would like to acknowledge our partners”. This text is followed by the logos: Auckland Disability Law, Office for Disability Issues, the Human Rights Commission and Think Differently.

## Reasons impacting decision making and solutions

1. Road sign: Are decisions considered?   
   Solution: Check in with whānau/family member.
2. Road sign: Sensory overload?  
   Solution: Arrange another time or use email to communicate.
3. Road sign: Is information accessible?  
   Solution: Use easy to understand information in the correct format.
4. Road sign: Non-speaking?  
   Solution: Use Augmentative & Alternative communicators.   
   To illustrate this, there is an image of a computer screen, a smart phone, and a talking mat[[1]](#footnote-1). There is also an image of a man thinking: “Not being able to speak doesn’t mean I have nothing to say”.
5. Road sign: Cultural miscommunication  
   Solution: Discuss with people from their community.
6. Road sign: Is the decision out of character?   
   Solution: Photograph talking mats over time.   
   To illustrate this there are images of a smart phone (to be used to take photos) and a talking mat.
7. Road sign: Time to process information?   
   Solution: Take time and use patience.
8. Road sign: Understanding each other?   
   Solution: Involve a support person, circle of support or NZSL interpreter.

1. “A Talking Mat is a simple system using a **mat**, such as a nylon doormat or carpet tile, to which symbols and pictures can be attached by Velcro. Symbols representing emotions are placed along the top to form a visual rating scale. A relevant topic is discussed.” https://sheffield.gov.uk [↑](#footnote-ref-1)