STATEMENT OF POLICY ON ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSION AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN
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- Accessibility, inclusion and universal design will be at the centre of the architectural profession.

- The implementation of accessibility, inclusion and universal design will be promoted in all aspects of the profession.

- The principles of universal design will be used by RIAI Members, so that their buildings and environments can be used easily, safely, with dignity and enjoyed by all, regardless of age or ability and embracing every background, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity and culture.

- The strategies in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, that call for integrating social, economic and ecological dimensions and, simultaneously put the focus on all human beings and their environment, will be promoted by the RIAI.

- RIAI Members will endeavor to refurbish and upgrade existing buildings and their environments, using the principles of universal design, to ensure that they can be used easily, safely, with dignity and enjoyed by all, regardless of age or ability and embracing every background, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity and culture, without compromising their historic or cultural integrity and intrinsic qualities.

- Awareness of accessibility, inclusion and universal design will be promoted by the RIAI among architects and architectural technologists, in a manner that embeds it as a logical and integral part of architecture and design process.
• The RIAI will cooperate with other organisations, networks and public authorities to create awareness of the importance of accessibility and inclusion, in the built environment.

• The RIAI will use its influence to ensure that the principles of accessibility and inclusion are both functional, holistic and established to ensure architectural and design quality.

• Business opportunities for all architectural practices who specialise in matters relating to accessibility, inclusion and universal design will be highlighted.

• The RIAI will continue to be instrumental in developing the competencies of the membership, through relevant supplementary training in accessibility, inclusion and universal design and where appropriate working with the relevant training institutions to integrate these subjects into their education and training programmes.

• The RIAI will work to assist members to design buildings in Ireland that are socially inclusive and contribute to sustainable development of the highest quality.

• Inclusive practices in training and employment opportunities in the profession will be supported by the RIAI.
Photography

**Front Cover (Left to Right)**

Image left - Elizabeth’s Treehouse at Barretstown Camp by McCauley Daye O’Connell Architects, Joint Winner Universal Design, RIAI Irish Architecture Awards 2017

Image right - Central Bank of Ireland by Henry J Lyons Architects, Joint Winner Universal Design, RIAI Irish Architecture Awards 2017 (Photo: Hufton and Crowe)

**Back Cover (Left to right from top)**

Image left + right top - Malahide Parish Centre by Sean Harrington Architects, UIA Medal for Existing and Historic Buildings, UIA Friendly and Inclusive Spaces Awards 2017 (Photo: Dennis Gilbert)

Image bottom - Coláiste Ailigh by McGarry Ní Éanaigh Architects, UIA Medal for NewBuildings, UIA Friendly and Inclusive Spaces Awards 2017 (Photo: Richard Hatch)