



Cabinet Office



Easy
Read

Disability Action Plan



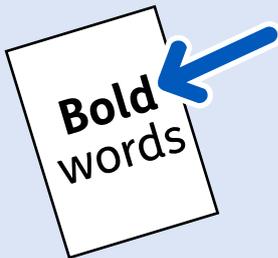
Easy Read



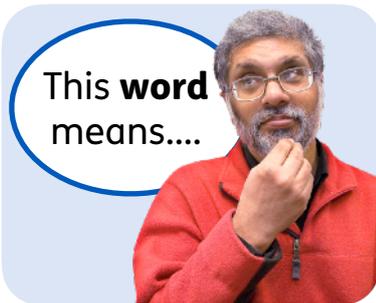
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet

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About this booklet



The government is working to improve the lives of disabled people.



This booklet is called our **Disability Action Plan**.



It explains what we are going to do to improve disabled people's lives in 2024.

A message from the Minister



Mims Davies is the Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work.

She is a member of the government.

She said:

“Last year we asked people for their thoughts about what we should put in this plan.

We have listened and I would like to thank everyone who helped us to write this plan.

Together, we can change disabled people’s lives for the better.”



Disabled people in the UK



In the UK, more than 1 in 5 people are disabled.



The government wants to make this country the best place in the world for disabled people to live and work.



To do this, we need to work on the things that can stop disabled people from living well.

What we are doing



We have worked hard to make sure that disabled people get the same chances in life as everyone else.



We have already written a plan, called the **National Disability Strategy**.

It explains how we will help disabled people to live better lives in the future.



The Disability Action Plan explains what we are going to do this year to improve the lives of disabled people.

We call the things we plan to do **actions**.



This plan will help us to make bigger changes in the future.

Our draft plan



Last year, we asked people what they thought of our **draft plan**.



A **draft plan** is a plan that is not finished and might change.

The draft plan explained:



- What we did last year.



- What we plan to do for the next year.

There were 4 main parts to the draft plan:



Include people

1. Including disabled people in government work more.



New projects

2. Working on new projects to help disabled people with the things they need most.



Work together

3. Getting different parts of the government to work together better.



Learn more

4. Learning more about disabled people and what they need.



We asked people what they thought of the draft plan.



We also asked what else the government could do to improve the lives of disabled people.

What people told us



More than 1,300 people told us what they thought.



We spoke to people across the UK at events.



There were 7 main things that people told us:

Here is how you can speak up



1. The government should listen to disabled people when we make choices about what to do.

Because of this, we will make it clearer how we will support disabled people to speak up about what we do.



People also told us:

2. We should be clear about what we are doing, so people can see if it is going well.



Because of this, we have made our plans clearer. We will also write reports about how our plans are going after 6 months and 1 year.



3. We should think about whether disabled people have enough money to pay for the things they need to live.



Because of this we added plans to speak up about the things disabled people told us they find hard to pay for.



4. We should make sure we have enough money to pay for the actions in our Disability Action Plan.

Because of this, we have checked that we will be able to pay for all our actions.

People also told us:



5. We should include all disabled people in our plans.



Because of this, we have thought about all disabled people when writing this plan.

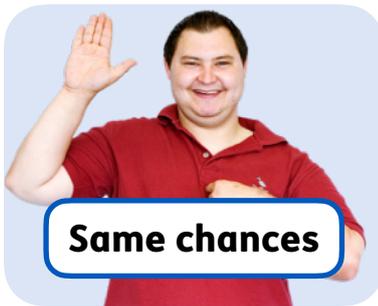


6. We should improve how we tell people about government services and support for disabled people.



Because of this, we have added plans to create more information in ways that disabled people can understand, like **British Sign Language (BSL)**.

People also told us:



7. Disabled people should get the same chances in life as everyone else.



Because of this, we are making sure that we listen to disabled people when we make choices about what to do.



You can read the full list of things people told us on the government website:

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/disability-action-plan-2023-to-2024#feedback-received

Actions



Our plan has 32 actions. These are the things we are going to work on in 2024.

Elected office



Elected office means working as a councillor or Member of Parliament. To work in elected office, people need to vote for you.



We want to support more disabled people to work in elected office.

Our actions are to:



- Create a new service to help disabled people pay for things they need to apply to work in elected office.



We will work with disabled people to decide how to do this.



We will start this service in 2025.



- Share information with political parties on how they can support their disabled party members to get elected.



- Work with **parliament** to make changes to help disabled people that visit or work there.

Parliament is where politicians meet to talk about the work of the government and make changes to the law.

Planning for emergencies



Emergencies are serious things that can hurt people. They include floods and diseases.

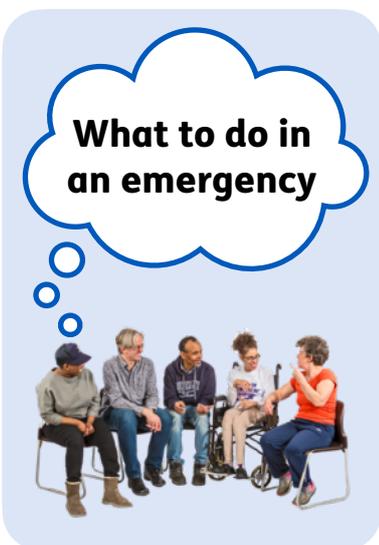


We want to include disabled people more when we plan for emergencies.



Our actions are to:

- Include a disabled people's organisation when we plan for emergencies so that the things that matter to disabled people are thought about.



Disabled people will also help us to write a guide on what local organisations should do to help **vulnerable** people in an emergency.

Vulnerable means you might need help and support to stay safe and well.

Our actions are also to:



- Help the people across government who plan for emergencies to understand how to include disabled people.



- Look at how to improve the way we give people information in an emergency so that disabled people can understand it.

Climate change



We want people working on **climate change** to think more about disabled people.



Climate change is all about big changes in the weather. For example, storms getting worse than they used to be. Or having less rain in some places.



These changes will make the lives of people, plants and animals around the world harder.

Our actions are to:



- Check that new rules about how people use their cars are fair for disabled people.



- Run a big meeting, called a **conference**, about climate change and disability.



- Work with teams in different parts of the government to make sure they know about how to include disabled people.



- Collect more information about disability and climate change.

This information will help the government to make choices that are fair to disabled people.



- Set up a group of people with different disabilities, called a **panel**, to support our work.

Families where someone is disabled



We want disabled children to:

- Be happier.
- Get more chances in life.



We would also like to do more to support disabled parents.

Our actions are to:

- Work with disabled people's organisations to create a panel of people from families where someone has a disability.



Families panel

How can we support families?



This panel will look at ways of supporting families where someone has a disability.

Our actions are also to:



- Create a new web page, called an **online information hub**.

This will have information to help families with disabled members.

- Work with other organisations to create guides about different issues, like:



- A guide for local councils to help them work with disabled parents.



- Training for schools and colleges to help them support young carers.



- Information that teachers can use to learn more about bullying.

We will also:



- Learn more about disability and **domestic abuse**.

Domestic abuse is when you are harmed by a family member or someone you live with.

Accessible playgrounds



Accessible playgrounds are playgrounds that disabled children and children with disabled family members can use.

Our actions are to:



- Create a place online where local councils can get information about creating accessible playgrounds.



- Ask our panel of people from families where someone has a disability to help choose what information local councils need to know.

We will also:



- Look at the best way to write guides for creating accessible playgrounds.



We will write these guides so that more families can use accessible playgrounds.

Making businesses more accessible



We want disabled people to have access to businesses like everyone else, to buy things they want and use the services they need.

Our actions are to:



- Share disabled people's experiences of using different types of companies to help more disabled people see how they can access what they need.

We will also:

- Learn more about different issues that affect disabled customers like:



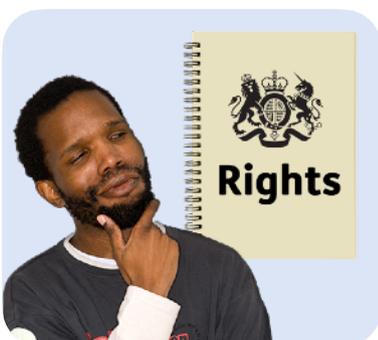
- What training companies might need to help them be more accessible.



- Whether training about disability helps companies and disabled customers.



- What we could do to make shops and other companies easier to use for disabled people.



- Whether disabled people know about their **rights**.

Rights are things that every person should have by law. Like the right to have access to goods, services and facilities.

Special Olympics



The **Special Olympics** is an event where people with a learning disability from around the world play sport.



We are thinking about if the Special Olympics could happen in the United Kingdom in 2031.



We will work with other parts of government and other organisations to find out more about having the 2031 Special Olympics in the United Kingdom.

Guide and Assistance Dogs



We want to do more to support people who use **guide dogs** and **assistance dogs**.



Guide and **assistance dogs** help people with many different types of disability to get around and live independently.



We will create a new group to look at improving support for people who use guide and assistance dogs.



This group will meet in 2024. After 6 months and 1 year, they will offer ideas to the government.

The group will look at issues like:



- How people use assistance dogs.



- How to speak up about how animals can help people in lots of different ways.



- Teaching companies about the rights of people who use assistance dogs.



- Making it easier to speak up if a company does not give a person with an assistance dog their rights.

Information about disabled people



When we use a project or service to improve the lives of disabled people, we look at information about how the project went.



This helps us to see if we have made a positive difference to disabled people.

Our actions are to:

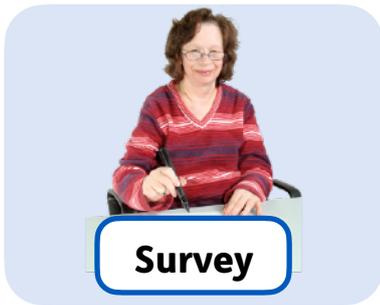


- Write a checklist to understand how much a project or service has improved the lives of disabled people.



- Work with other parts of the government to improve the information we have about disabled people.

Our actions are also to:



- Look at setting up a new survey to understand more about the lives of disabled people.



This will give disabled people the chance to tell us more about their lives, and what we could do differently.



- Carry on learning more about the lives of disabled people.



We will do this by talking to disabled people, to make sure that the information we get about people is right.

The future



We want to look at what issues disabled people might have in 5, 10 and 20 years.



This will help us to:

- Think about what new issues we may need to look at.
- Make plans for the future.



Our action is to start **research** to look at what issues will affect disabled people in 5, 10 and 20 years.

Research means collecting information about something to find out more about it.



Communities



Environment



Money



Technology



UK

This research will look at changes in:

- Local communities, and how many disabled people there are in the UK.
- The environment - this is where we live. It includes the land, the sea, the air and everything that lives in and on it.
- Money and how disabled people pay for things they need.
- Technology - this is gadgets and equipment that help people.

This research will look at people with all types of disability, who live across the UK.

Making government information easier to understand



Disabled people told us that we should do more to make government information easy for disabled people to understand.



The Prime Minister is going to provide British Sign Language (BSL) at big **press conferences**.



Press conferences are where a politician tells newspapers and television stations what the government is doing.

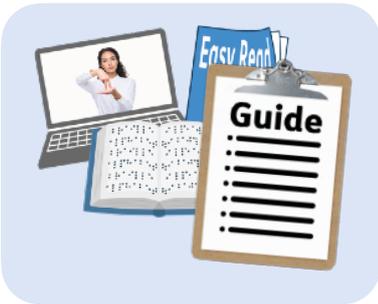


The government will write a report on how often they use BSL when they tell people important things.

Our actions on this are also to:



- Train government staff how to make information easier for disabled people to understand.



- Write new guides for different parts of the government on how to provide information in ways that disabled people can understand.

The cost of living

The **cost of living** means how much it costs for people to buy the things they need to live.



People told us that we should do more to support disabled people with the cost of living.



Our action is to speak up to different parts of the government about disabled people and the cost of living.



We will tell different parts of the government about what disabled people told us.

Rights



The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)** is an agreement on the rights that disabled people around the world should have.



The government has agreed to this.



Our action on this is to help different parts of the government to understand more about the UNCRPD.

Checking our actions



People told us that it was important to see if we were working on our actions.



We will write 2 reports:

- One after 6 months.
- One after 1 year.



The reports will explain what we have done.



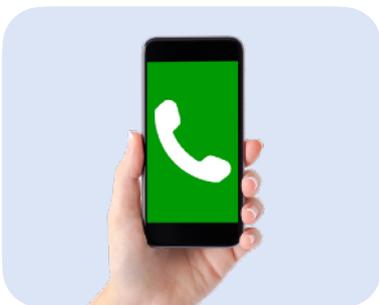
We will put these reports on the government's website.

Find out more

To find out more, you can contact us by:



- Post:
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Disability Unit
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4th Floor, Home Zone 6
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London, SW1A 2HQ



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