



# Things to ask the UK Government about their work to make life better for disabled people



This is about the UK Government's work on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



Equality and  
Human Rights  
Commission





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# What is this report about?



Lots of countries have agreed to make life better for disabled people.



They made a document about this. It is called the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The document says all disabled people should be treated fairly and get their rights.



The UK Government agreed to do what this document says.

The UK is England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.



There are checks to make sure the UK Government is doing what it needs to.



We are called  
**The Equality and Human Rights Commission.**

We are part of a group from  
England, Scotland, Wales and  
Northern Ireland.



The group is called **UKIM.**

We check the UK Government is  
doing what it should do to make  
life better for disabled people.



There is another group that checks  
how **all** governments are doing  
with this work.

This group is called the  
**UNCRPD Committee.**

They will look at how the  
UK Government is doing and  
ask them questions about it.



We will give this group some:

- information about the main problems for disabled people
- questions to ask the UK Government.



We want them to check:

- what the UK Government is doing about the problems
- how well this is working.

This report tells you the main things we want them to ask the UK Government about.

# Things we want the UK Government to be asked about



## Laws, rules and plans

The UK Government must:

- think about what is good for disabled people when they make laws, rules and plans
- make sure disabled adults and children can have a real say in this work.



This should happen for all of the UK.



But we think it is not happening enough.

We want to know how the Government is making sure this happens.



## Disabled women and girls

Disabled women can often be hurt or treated badly. For example, by people they live with.

But it can be very hard for them to get the right support.

We want to know what is being done about this.

## Disabled children and families

Life is very hard for many disabled children and their families.



For example, many disabled children:

- are poor
- do not get the chance to do well at school or join in with things other children do.



We want to know how the Government is making this better.



## **What people think of disabled people**

People often think bad or wrong things about disabled people.

And disabled people are often talked about in a bad way in the newspapers or on TV.

We want to know what has been done to change this.



## **Making things easy for disabled people**

Lots of things are still hard for disabled people like:

- homes that are hard to live in
- transport and buildings that are hard to use
- information that is hard to understand.







We want to know how the Government is making sure these things are better and easier for people.



### **The laws about people making their own decisions**

Some people find it very hard to make their own decisions.

The law should keep them safe and make sure:



- they get the right support to make their own decisions
- any decisions that other people make are right for them.



But this is not always happening.

We want to know how the Government is making sure people get the right support and are safe.



## **Crime and going to court**

Many disabled people cannot get the right support or advice if:

- a crime happens to them
- they are treated badly because of their disability
- they need to go to court.



And people with a learning disability or mental health needs are not always treated fairly.

We want to know what is happening to change this.



## **Disabled people in hospitals or other care places**

Some disabled people have been treated very badly in these places.



And we are worried about the care that people with mental health needs get.

We want to know how the Government is making sure disabled people get the right care and are safe.

### Getting the right support



There is less money to spend on care and support.

And the rules for getting support and benefits money have changed.

This could be very bad for disabled people.

We want to know how the Government is:



- making sure **all** disabled people can still get the support and money they need
- checking how well the changes are working for disabled people.



## Health

Many people with a learning disability or mental health needs do not get:

- good enough healthcare
- support to speak up if they need it.

We want to know what the Government is doing to change this.

## Jobs



Many disabled people do not have a job.

Disabled people who have a job are often paid much less than other people.



We want to know what has been done to:

- change this
- help more people want to give disabled people jobs.



## Voting

Voting is still too hard for disabled people because of things like:

- information that is hard to understand
- voting places that are hard to use.

We want to know what is being done to make voting easier for disabled people.



## Doing things you enjoy

It is harder for disabled people to take part in sport.



And it is harder for them to go out and do the things other people enjoy.

For example, it is often hard for disabled people to get to places.



We want to know:

- how many disabled people do sport
- what is happening to make it easier for disabled people to join in with things.



### **Information about disabled people**

The Government should make sure it has good information about:

- disabled people in the UK
- how fairly they are treated.



This will help the Government know what it needs to do.



But the Government has not said how it will do this.

And there needs to be better information about lots of things.

For example, the number of disabled people in prison.



We want to know how the Government is making sure they have the right information.



We will keep making sure disabled people can be part of checking how well the UK Government is doing.



## How to find out more

For questions about this booklet email [correspondence@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:correspondence@equalityhumanrights.com)



You can also look on our website [www.equalityhumanrights.com](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com)



For advice or information about being treated fairly get in touch with the Equality Advisory and Support Service. This is free.

**Phone 0808 800 0082**

**Textphone 0808 800 0084**



They are open 9am to 8pm  
Monday to Friday and  
10am to 2pm Saturday.



Their website is [www.equalityadvisoryservice.com](http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com)



Or write to them at  
**FREEPOST Equality Advisory Support Service  
FPN4431**