

Report



The Women and Equalities Committee

Report on The National Disability Strategy



EasyRead version



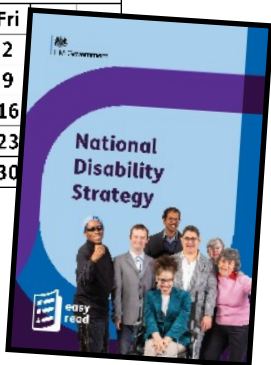
House of Commons Women and Equalities Committee

We are the Women and Equalities Committee.



We check Government policy, plans and spending about treating people equally.

July 2021				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
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In July 2021 the Government made a National Disability **Strategy**.

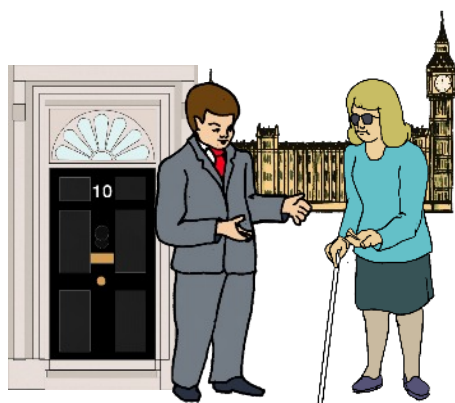
A **strategy** is a plan for a long period of time.



The National Disability Strategy said how the Government would change the lives of disabled people.



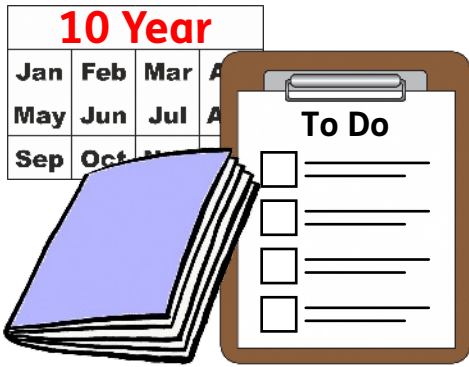
We looked at the strategy.



We looked at the ways the Government tried to involve people with disabilities when they made the strategy.

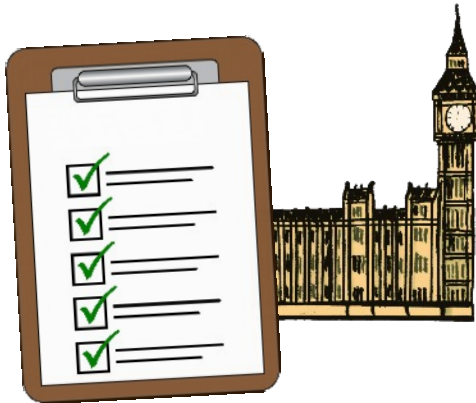


Then we wrote this report.



1. The strategy

We think the strategy is too short. It needs to be a 10-year plan that shows targets along the way.

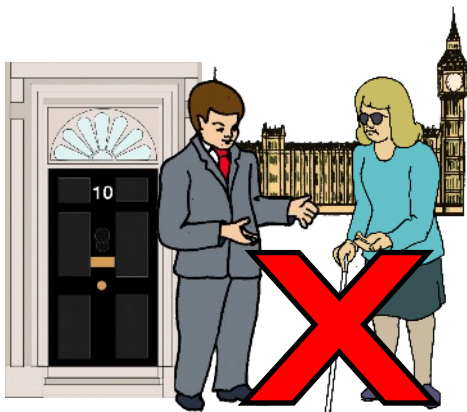


The strategy mainly lists what the Government is doing already. It does not contain many new things to help disabled people.



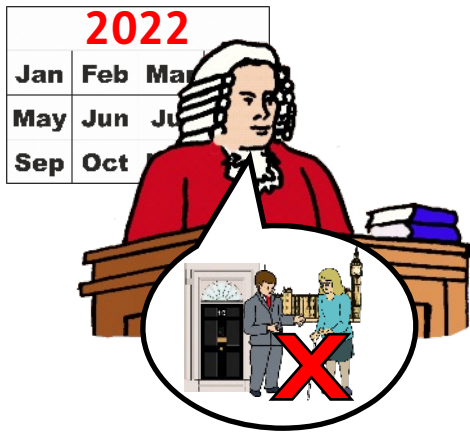
We think the Disability Unit should be able to make all Government Departments follow the strategy.

The Disability Unit works across the Government to break down the barriers faced by disabled people in the UK.



2. The consultation

Disabled people's organisations and other groups said the Government did not talk to disabled people properly about the strategy.



The strategy was held up in 2022 when the High Court said the Government did not consult disabled people properly.



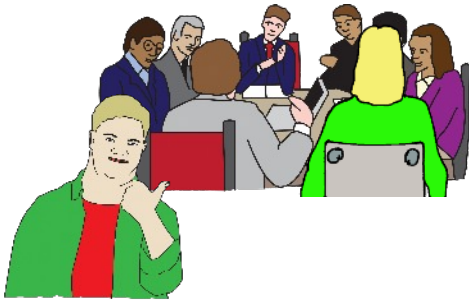
This delayed action on the strategy which frustrated disabled people and their organisations.



Disabled people should have a say in plans that affect them.



We need a national group to give the Government good information about the needs of disabled people. This group can be made up of disabled peoples' organisations and other networks.

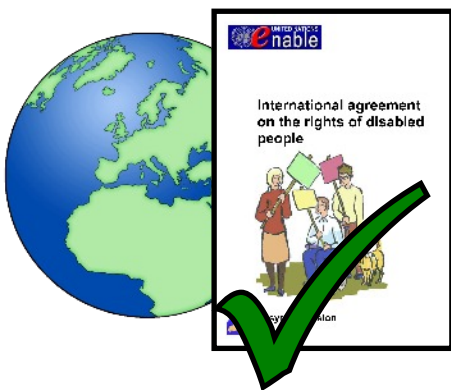


The group can work with the Government to make things better for disabled people.

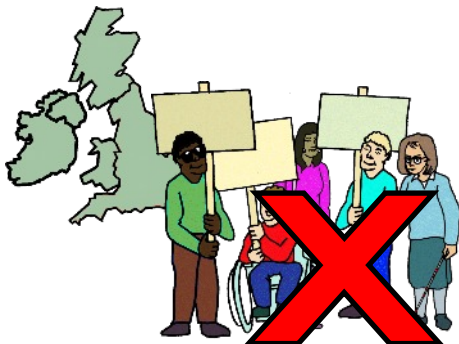
3. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities or UNCRPD



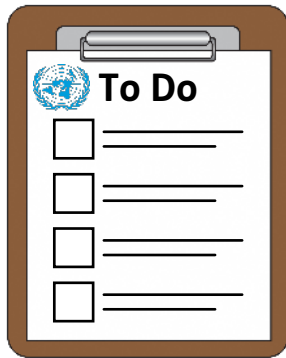
The UNCRPD is an agreement between countries to protect the rights of disabled people.



Other countries make sure their disability plans agree with the UNCRPD.

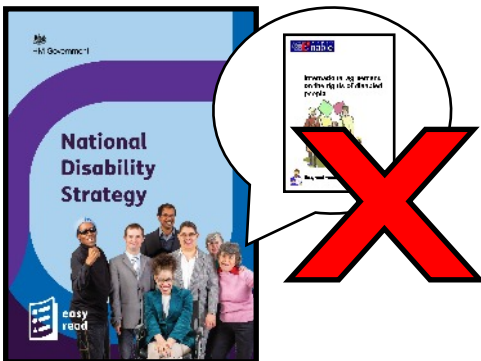


In 2016 the United Nations said the rights of disabled people in the UK were not being looked after.

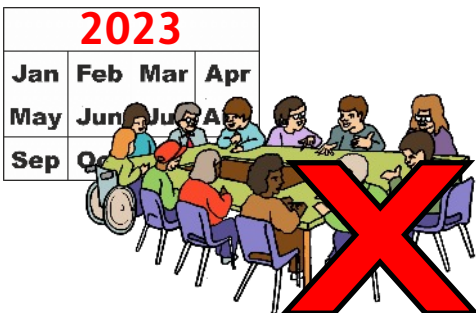


They made some **recommendations** for change.

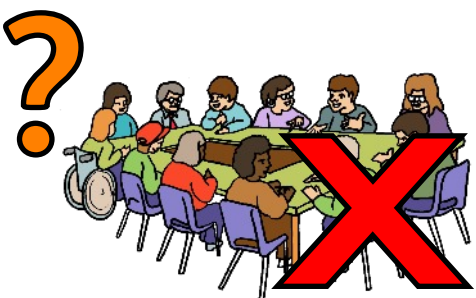
Recommendations are suggestions.



But the 2021 UK National Disability Strategy does not talk about the UNCRPD.



And UK Ministers did not meet with the UN in 2023 to talk about it.

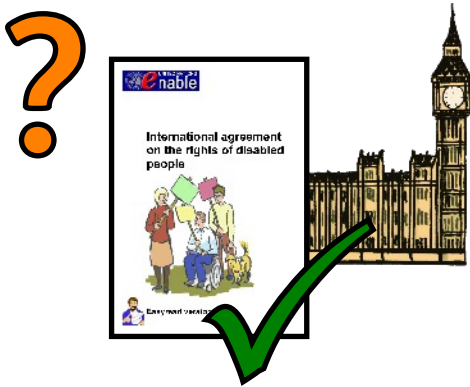


The Government should say:

- why it did not go to the meeting with the UN



- how and by when it will follow the UN's recommendations



- what it is doing to make sure all government departments follow the principles of the UNCRPD.

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