



HOUSE OF LORDS



A Follow-Up Report about the Equality Act 2010: the impact on disabled people



**by the House of Lords Liaison
Committee**

Equality Act 2010



The House of Lords is part of the United Kingdom Parliament at Westminster in London. They help to make sure the Government is doing what people want.



**The Liaison Committee helps the House
of Lords to do their work.**

We talk about work that needs to be done and give advice to the House of Lords.



The Liaison Committee also helps the House of Lords to work with the House of Commons.



This is a summary of what we would like the Government to do

We hope that up-to-date information about the National Strategy for Disabled people will be included in what the Government says about this report.



Government leadership and plans

We would like the Government to give an update about work they have done since the Equality Act 2010 became law.



We think the Government should talk with the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC), and Disabled People's organisations about any work they need to do.



Any new legal representative (ombudsman) needs to be able to make sure that the Government stands by the rules of the Equality Act 2010.



We look forward to hearing what the Government will do to make the Equality Act 2010 work.



We would like the Government to publish a timetable and give details of what work will be done within 3 months. This is to include information on the National Strategy for Disabled People.



We think the Government Minister for Women and Equalities should become a full-time role and be part of the Cabinet team.



The Women and Equalities Committee think that Junior minister roles should also work from the Cabinet Office and work with departments where urgent things need to be done.



We are disappointed that there is no Cabinet Social Justice Committee now. This means there is no-one to discuss these important things.



We agree with the Women and Equalities Committee that there should be a Cabinet Equalities sub-committee and the Minister for Disabled People should be a member.



Making sure the work is done (Public Sector Equality Duty - PSED)

Someone needs to make sure that the work is done so that disabled people can access the services they want to and need to; for example being able to go into a shop or travel in a taxi. There also needs to be a plan of action.



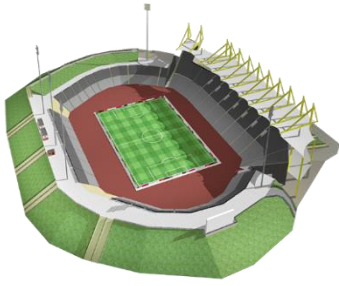
Not getting all the work done (Oversight and Enforcement)

We think it's very upsetting that parts of the Equality Act 2010 are still not law and have been ignored by the people who should be working on them.



Reasonable Adjustments

We think there is no excuse for the Government's delay in making Section 36 happen. This is about making changes in a part of a building to make it easier for people to live there, for example a ramp. The work should be done within six months and have a timetable.



The Government is reminded that they need to report on the work they are doing on making sports grounds accessible.



We want the Government to make sure that all public transport is accessible to disabled people as soon as possible.



We would like 'Private Vehicle Hire' to be added after 'Taxi' in Section 163 of the Act. Most of the time the vehicles need to be accessible.



We would like the guidance about licensing of vehicles to be published within 12 months of this report being published.

Access to justice and being fair



We are disappointed with the Government's position on access to justice. We think the Government should be thinking about making sure that disabled people can access justice.



The Government is reminded that there should be 'Qualified One-Way Costs Shifting' where disabled people do not usually pay legal costs.



We are pleased that the Government is looking at the Fees Remission Scheme where disabled people would get legal aid for discrimination cases.