



# Is the UK respecting the rights of disabled people?

Easy Read

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This is an EasyRead report about the rights of disabled people in the UK.



There is a lot more information in the full report. You can read that [here](#)

## The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)



In 2006, lots of countries agreed to make life better for disabled people.



They signed a document about this called the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (or CRPD for short).



[Click here for an EasyRead about CRPD.](#)



Countries signed up to the CRPD to say they would follow it and make sure disabled people have their rights.



The UK and lots of other countries signed.



The United Nations (or UN for short) has a committee that looks at these countries to check disabled people have their rights.



The committee checks that governments are doing what they agreed to do.

## Who wrote this report?



We are a group called the UK Independent Mechanism (UKIM).



Any country that signs up to the CRPD has to set up an independent group to check if disabled people are getting their rights.





Equality and  
Human Rights  
Commission



Scottish  
Human Rights  
Commission



NORTHERN  
IRELAND  
HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
COMMISSION



Equality Commission

FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Because this covers the whole of the UK, members of the group include people from:

- The Equality and Human Rights Commission
- The Scottish Human Rights Commission
- The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
- The Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

## Checking if disabled people are getting their rights



In 2017, the UN committee checked what the UK governments are doing for disabled people and asked them questions about it.



The UN committee made a report, which looked at things like:

- independent living



- work and jobs



- being able to live a decent life.



The report found a number of things wrong, and gave the government a year to say what they have done to make things better.

# One year on, what has been done



Some things have been done:

- an independent review of the Mental Health Act 1983



- some more disabled people are in work



- changes have made it easier for some disabled people to get jobs



- people can get more money from Access to Work, the scheme that helps disabled people in work



- plans have been made to get more disabled people jobs in the public sector in Scotland



- the rules on some benefit payments in Northern Ireland have changed



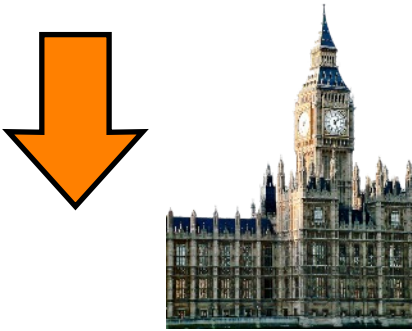
- the Welsh Government's Supporting People programme, the scheme that helps people live independently



- plans to do something about online hate speech, bullying and abuse.



# What we think



We think the UK governments have not done enough to do the things the UN committee asked them to do.



We are sad the UK governments have not seen this as a great chance to think and do something about the rights of disabled people.



There is not even a plan to make sure the lives of disabled people in the UK improve.



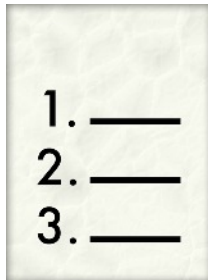
The UK governments still do not admit that some of the things they have done have a bad impact on some disabled people.



It is good the UK Government has said they would set up a new group on Disability and Society.



As ministers are involved it could help give some leadership and move things along.



But there are some problems already:

- the list of what the group does does not include the UN CRPD rights work



- it is not clear about how disabled people and their organisations should be involved



- it is not clear about how the governments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland should be involved either.



Disabled people are still having problems enjoying their rights.



Disabled people and their families are hit harder than other people by the UK Government's cuts and decisions.



More and more disabled people are finding it difficult to live independently and be included and take an equal part in their communities.



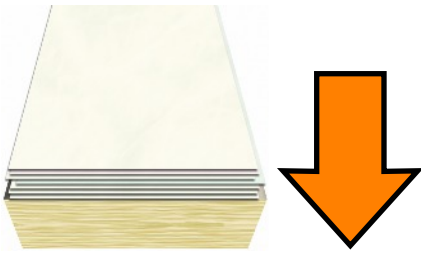
There are fears that Brexit will affect disabled people's rights even more.



There are more worries for people in Northern Ireland with their government not working at the moment as they cannot make any changes.



The UK needs a clear plan on how to sort out the worries the UN and disabled people have.



The work done so far will not be enough for the UN Committee.



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