

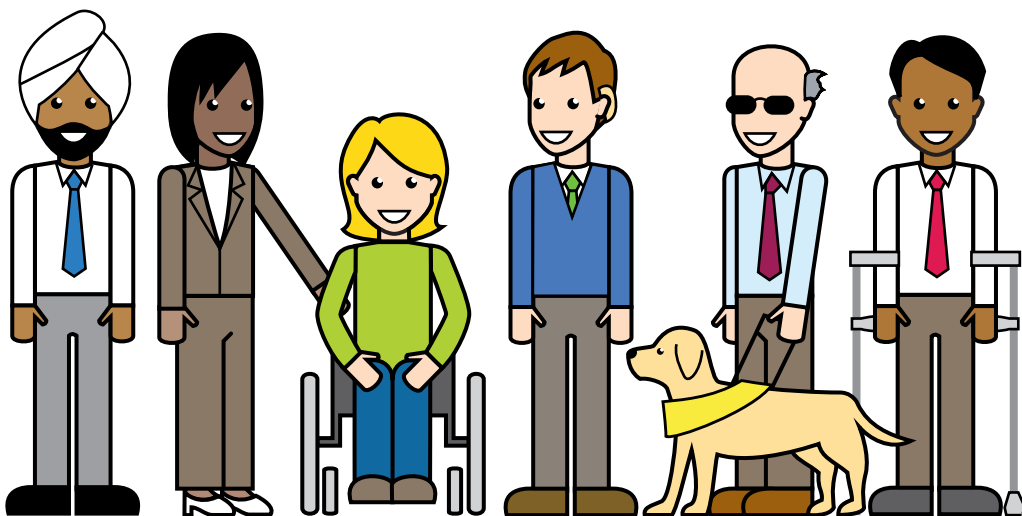


Office for Disability Issues

HM Government

About the Office for Disability Issues

Who we are and what we do

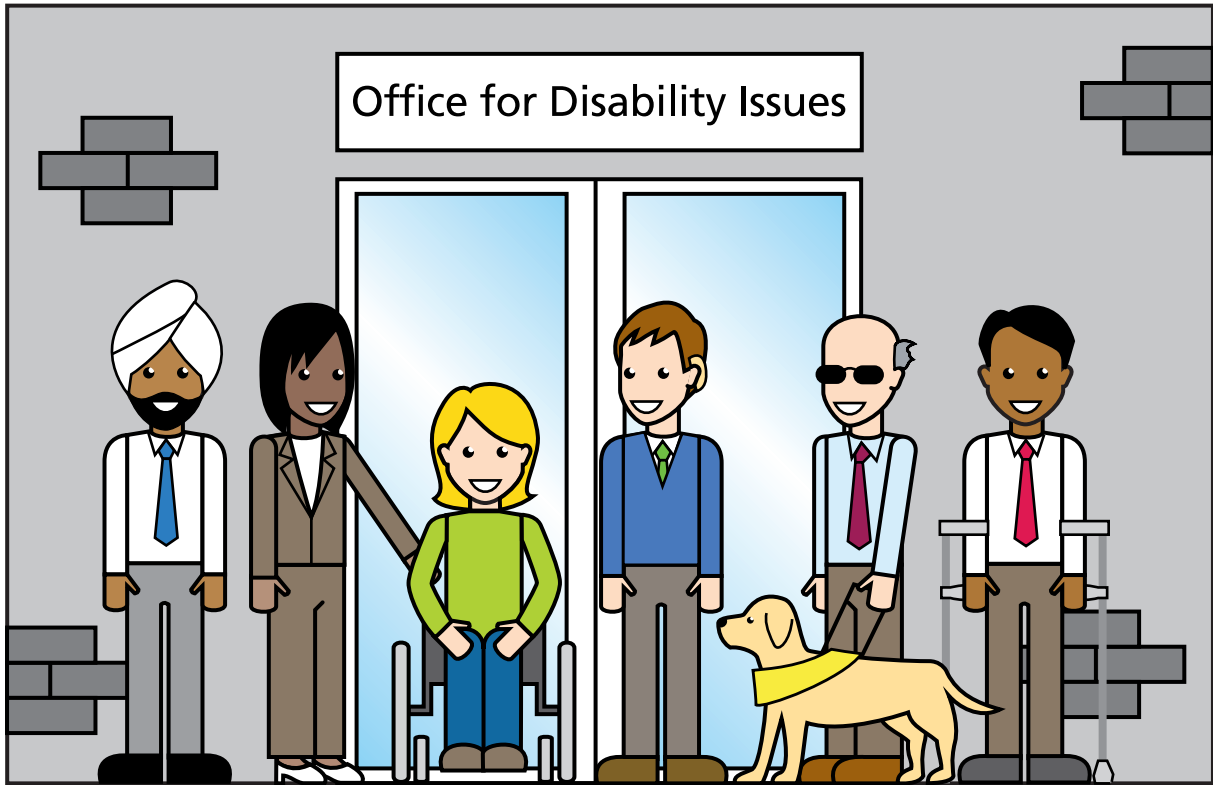


Easy Read

About the Office for Disability Issues

We work for the government

We are a group of people working for the government.



Why we were set up

In 2005, a report called Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People said **government departments** do not work together when they make plans and services for disabled people.

Government departments

These are the different parts of the government. For example, the health department or the tax office.

The report said having a group of people to look at what government is doing on disability would help make things better and fairer for disabled people.

It also said that by 2025, disabled people should have the same chances and choices as other people for making their life better. And everyone should be treated with respect and as an equal.

What we do

This is what we do.

1. We help **government departments** learn more about disabled people and how to make things better and fairer for them.
2. We help the government and **government departments** make sure that disabled people have the same chances and choices as other people for making their life better.
3. We help **government departments** work together on things that affect disabled people.



4. We help government understand what disabled people are thinking **before** it makes decisions about things that affect disabled people.
5. Through the way we do our work, we show others the best way of working with and **involving** disabled people.

Involving

Involving is not the same as being asked. Being involved means disabled people playing a bigger part in making decisions, not just being asked about things done by others.



6. We tell the Minister for Disabled People about how well the government's plans for **involving** disabled people are going.

Our work makes sure there are no gaps in the government's plans and services for disabled people. And we can help **government departments** agree about what they can do to make things better and fairer for disabled people.

Joining in our work

If you work for a **government department** or in a disability group, you can join in our work. For example.

- **Events:** We often ask people to tell us what they think about things to do with disability. And we run meetings where people talk about disability.
- **Equality 2025:** If you are a disabled person and think something needs to change, you can tell the **Equality 2025** group about it.

Equality 2025

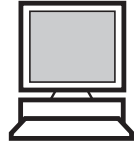
This is a group of disabled people who listen to the views of disabled people, and tell the government what they think.



- **Newsletters:** We write newsletters about disability. If you would like to get our newsletters, use the Newsletter page on our website: www.officefordisability.gov.uk
- **Tell us what you think:** We would like to know what you think about our work. To get in touch, use the Contact us page on the back page of this booklet.

Contact us

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Textphone

Textphone numbers are for people who find it hard to speak or hear clearly. With a textphone you use a keyboard to type in your questions. And the people at the other end of the line reply to you in the same way.

If you do not have a textphone, your local library or citizens advice bureau may have one. But you cannot talk or send texts to Textphones.