

Appointment of Chair to Equality 2025

Maria Miller Minister for Disabled People, has announced the appointment of Dr Rachel Perkins as the new Chair to Equality 2025 from 1 April 2011 for a three year term.

Equality 2025 is a non-departmental public body of publicly appointed disabled people, which was established in December 2006.

The group offers strategic, confidential advice to Government on issues that affect disabled people. This advice can include participation in the very early stages of policy development, or in-depth examination of existing policy. The group works with Ministers and senior officials across government.

Minister for Disabled People, Maria Miller said:

"After years of commitment and voluntary work for mental health organisations, Rachel Perkins will bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role. I very much look forward to working with Rachel as the new Chair and other members of Equality 2025, to further support and develop equality and independence for disabled people.

"No-one could replace the unique contribution of Rowen Jade but the continuing success of Equality 2025 is an important part of continuing her work and her vision."

Chair of Equality 2025, Dr Rachel Perkins said:

"I consider it an honour and a privilege to take up this important position. I relish the opportunity to work with the extremely talented members of Equality 2025 and Maria Miller, Minister for Disabled People to provide confidential, strategic advice to Ministers and senior officials across Government.

"In these challenging times of rapid change, the diverse wealth of expertise present among Equality 2025 members will be important if continued progress is to be made towards a society in which all disabled people have the opportunity to live independently, realise their aspirations, and contribute, as equal citizens, to all facets of family, community and economic life. I greatly regret the untimely

death of my predecessor Rowen Jade. I cannot hope to emulate her, but I will do all that I can, assisted by my Equality 2025 colleagues, to continue and build on her work.”

The recruitment exercise was carried out in accordance with the Commissioner for Public Appointments’ Code of Practice. All appointments are made on merit, subject to independent scrutiny and political activity plays no part in the selection process.

Notes to editors

- The Chair and members of Equality 2025 have personal experience of disability.
- Equality 2025 is sponsored by (but not part of) the Office for Disability Issues. The body is ultimately responsible to the Minister for Disabled People, Maria Miller.
- For more information visit odi.gov.uk/equality-2025
- The Chair’s fee is £40,000 pa, plus expenses for two days a week
- Dr Rachel Perkins has been a member of Equality 2025 since 1 April 2010.
- This appointment is made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees’ political activity (if declared) to be made public.
 - No information was declared for any political activity.