

Easy Read

Disabled people's rights

A report about disabled people's rights in Wales



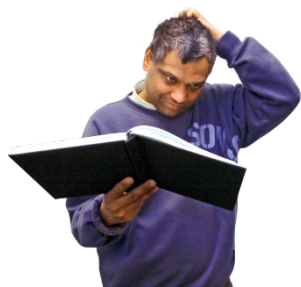
This document was written by **Disability Wales**. It is an easy read version of **Civil Society Shadow Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People (UNCRPD) in Wales**.

April 2022

How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what all the words in blue mean on **page 18**.



Where the document says **we**, this means **Disability Wales**. For more information contact:

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Introduction

We are **Disability Wales**.

We work hard to protect disabled people's **rights**.



Rights are the things you are allowed to do. For example, you have the **right** to get married and the right to vote.

Rights tell us how we should be treated. For example, you have the **right** to be treated with respect.

Other people have **rights** too. For example, you must treat other people with respect.



We make sure the **Welsh Government** is protecting disabled people's **rights**.



The **Welsh Government** follows the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People**.



We will call the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People** the **Act** in this document.



The **Act** has rules that lots of countries follow. Including the UK.



The **Act** protects disabled people's **rights**.



The **Welsh Government** uses the **Social Model of Disability**. This means they want to change society and make life better for disabled people.



The **Welsh Government** has done some good work to make life better for disabled people.

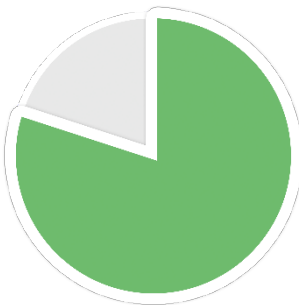
About this report



We think the **Welsh Government** could do more to protect disabled people's **rights**.



Especially since the coronavirus.



In Wales, more than half of the people who died from coronavirus were disabled people.



This report is about what disabled people told us about their **rights**.



And what we think the **Welsh Government** should do to protect disabled people's **rights**.

Who helped with this report



We asked disabled people and organisations across Wales to help us with this report.



We also got help from a special group of people from disabled people's organisations.



52 people and organisations did our survey.



5 people and organisations wrote to us about their experiences.



126 people talked to us at our different events.

We talked to disabled people with different identities. For example, we talked to:



- Disabled women



- Disabled people with learning disabilities.
- Disabled people in North Wales.

- Disabled lesbian, gay, bisexual, **trans**, **queer**, and questioning people. We call this group of people **LGBTQ+** for short.



Trans is a word to describe people whose gender is not the same as the sex they were given at birth for people who do not feel comfortable identifying with the sex. For example, someone may be born male, but identify as female.

Queer people are people who don't want a label for their sexuality or gender.



- Disabled black and Asian people. And people from **ethnic minorities**.

Ethnic Minority people are people who live in places where most of the other people are a different race and usually in smaller numbers. It includes some Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people

Part 1 – What the Welsh Government will do



The **Welsh Government** has promised to protect disabled people's **rights**.



You can find out more in Chapter 1 of **Action on Disability: A Framework for Independent Living**.



But most disabled people in Wales think their **rights** will not get better in the next 5 years.



Some disabled people say there is **discrimination** in Welsh services.

Discrimination is when you are treated badly or unfairly because of your sex, race, religion, disability, or sexual identity.



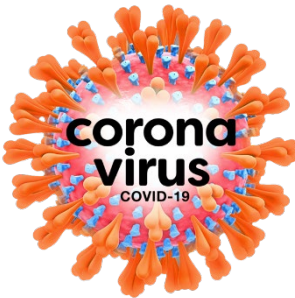
For example, there is **discrimination** against disabled people who are Black, Asian, and from **ethnic minorities**.

What we want to happen

We want to know:



- How the **Welsh** and **UK Governments** are using the **Social Model of Disability**. So that life can be better for disabled people.



- What the **Welsh** and **UK Governments** have learnt about disabled people's **rights** since coronavirus.



- What the **Welsh** and **UK Governments** are going to do to make life better for disabled people.

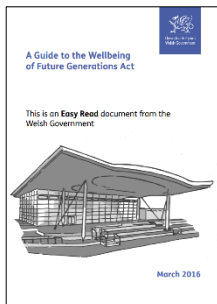
Part 2 – Equality and Fairness

Equality



The **Welsh Government** has promised to treat people with **equality**. And to avoid **discrimination**.

Equality means treating people fairly.



You can find out more in the **Wellbeing and Future Generations Act (2015)**.



But the **Welsh Government** has not done enough to make life better for disabled people.



Some disabled people told us they got treated badly by Welsh services.



Especially during the coronavirus.



For example, some disabled people got treated badly by **domestic abuse** services.

Domestic abuse is when your partner hurts you or treats you badly.



Some people said there is not enough support for disabled **LGBTQ+** people. Especially for people who live far away from cities.



Some disabled people told us they suffered from **discrimination** from medical staff. And were not treated with respect.



A lot of people told us disabled children do not get the support they need.



Most disabled people said their **right** to life was not respected.

What we want to happen

We want to know:



- How the **Welsh Government** plans to stick to its promises. And make life better for disabled people.



- What the **Welsh Government** will do to protect disabled people's **right** to life.



- How the **Welsh Government** will protect disabled people with different identities. For example, autistic **trans** people. Or disabled women.



- What the **Welsh Government** will do to better support disabled children.

Part 3 – Being Independent and Equal Access



It is important for disabled people to be **independent**.

Independent means doing things for yourself and making your own decisions.



But lots of things make it hard to be **independent**.



For example, bad public transport services make it hard to be **independent**.



Cuts to welfare make it hard to be **independent**.

Many areas are not easy for disabled people to **access**. This makes it hard to get around without help.



Access means being physically able to go somewhere.



Some disabled people get offered housing far away from their families. This is hard if they rely on their families for help.



Some housing is bad quality and is hard to **access** without help.



It is hard for some disabled people in Wales to **access** education and work.



Most disabled people told us their **rights** are not respected by healthcare services.



And that healthcare services are hard to **access**. Especially since the coronavirus.

What we want to happen

We want to know:



- What the **Welsh Government** is doing to improve **access** to public services and public transport.



- Why there is not more social housing for disabled people.



- The **Welsh Government's** plans to build more social housing for disabled people.



- What the **Welsh Government** will do to protect **all** disabled people's **rights** in healthcare.



- How the **Welsh Government** will support disabled people to vote independently.

Hard words

Access

Access means being physically able to go somewhere.

Discrimination

Discrimination is when you are treated badly or unfairly because of your sex, race, religion, disability, or sexual identity.

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is when your partner hurts you or treats you badly.

Equality

Equality means treating people fairly.

Ethnic Minorities

Ethnic Minority people are people who live in places where most of the other people are a different race and usually in smaller numbers. It includes some Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people.

Independent

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Rights

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