Accessibility issues

We fully support the aims of the accessibility guidelines promoted by the W3C. The website will comply with current compliance guidelines and standards.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) makes it illegal for a website provider to discriminate against a disabled person by refusing to provide a service that is generally available, providing a service of a lower standard, or failing to comply with a duty to make reasonable adjustments.

Accessibility guidance

The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) has produced a number of accepted guidelines, which are divided into three priorities:

- priority 1 - websites **must** comply otherwise some users will find it **impossible** to access the site
- priority 2 - websites **should** comply, otherwise some users will find it **difficult** to access the site
- priority 3 - websites **may** comply, otherwise some users will find it **somewhat difficult** to access the site

Reasonable adjustment

The DDA requires a business to make 'reasonable adjustments'. The website developer must:

- change a practice, policy or procedure that makes it impossible or unreasonably difficult for disabled people to use the service
- provide an auxiliary aid or service if it would enable (or make it easier) for disabled people to use the service

Making websites accessible

There are many adjustments you can make to your website to make it easier for disabled people to use. For example, your web designer can attach a text description to every image. This means that blind users, who rely on a browser that reads out the contents of the webpage, can hear an explanation of what the image is for. You can [read about accessible design on the Web Accessibility Initiative website - Opens in a new window](#).

Checking if your site is accessible

If you have not already uploaded your code, you can [check your website's accessibility using free HTML validation services on the Design Group website - Opens in a new window](#).

If your website is already uploaded, you can [read about and search for accessibility tools on the Web Accessibility Initiative website - Opens in a new window](#).