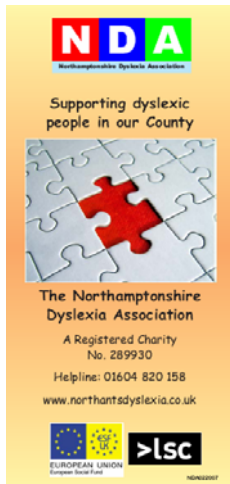




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Information Sheets

The Disability Equality Duty

See also the Northamptonshire County Council website for more information by clicking on the link:

<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Community/Social/Whatsnew.htm> then click on the relevant links for the Disability Equality Scheme (PDFs).

Under current law, all public bodies not only have to comply with the law on disability discrimination they also have to promote diversity and equality in their organisation and with those they work with (e.g. sub contractors). This is a result of new legislation in 2005 that introduced a duty on public and public funded bodies (e.g. local authorities, NHS trusts, PCTs, colleges and universities, agencies) to promote equality for people with disabilities.

All public bodies have a statutory duty under the Disability Discrimination Amendment Act 2005 to publish a Disability Equality Scheme and Action Plan. They had to do this by 4 December 2006 and make them available (you can visit their websites to view the documents).

The Disability Equality Duty requires all public bodies to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination;
- promote equal opportunities;
- eliminate disability-related harassment;
- promote positive attitudes towards disabled persons; and
- encourage participation by disabled persons in public life.

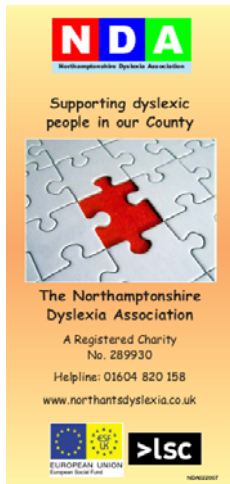
The duty includes a requirement to produce an annual report and a formal review of the scheme every three years.

Information written and edited by:
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The Disability Equality Duty (ctd)

Often the information reported will be in the form of an annual newsletter or annual report to a special interest group within the organisation e.g. a 'Disability Special Interest Group'. These groups are partly tasked with exploring the experiences that people with disabilities have had when using any of the organisations services. You may be able to view these reports or newsletters via the organisation's website.

In Northamptonshire this means visiting the website for your area e.g.

<http://www.northamptonshire.nhs.uk/pct/index.htm>

www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/

www.southnorthants.gov.uk/

www.corby.gov.uk/

www.northants.police.uk/

www.northamptoncollege.ac.uk/

www.northampton.ac.uk/

www.tresham.ac.uk/

www.moulton.ac.uk/

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6/2008

