

Making Websites Accessible

The Disability Discrimination Act states that you must ensure your online services are accessible to disabled people.

To meet the needs of disabled people:

Comply with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 1.0 (WCAG). Find out more at www.w3.org/WAI (Web Accessibility Initiative).

When tendering for a website ensure that accessibility is built-in from the start. SAIF recommends WCAG AA compliance.

Create a website design that is flexible so that users can change colours, font and font size to meet their individual requirements.

Give links a meaningful name describing what they link to.

Add labels to all non-text elements, like photographs and graphics.

Do regular accessibility checks on your site, e.g. run it through the Cynthia Says accessibility checker at www.cynthiasays.com

Involve disabled people in the planning and testing of your site.

Get regular and organised feedback from disabled people about the accessibility of your site.

Provide your staff with disability equality training. A key barrier for disabled people is negative attitudes towards them.

For more information, contact:

The Scottish Accessible Information Forum (SAIF)

Scottish Consumer Council, Royal Exchange House, 100 Queen Street, Glasgow G1 3DN

Tel: 0141 226 5261 Fax: 0141 221 0731 Text: 0141 226 8459

Email: info@saifscotland.org.uk Website: www.saifscotland.org.uk