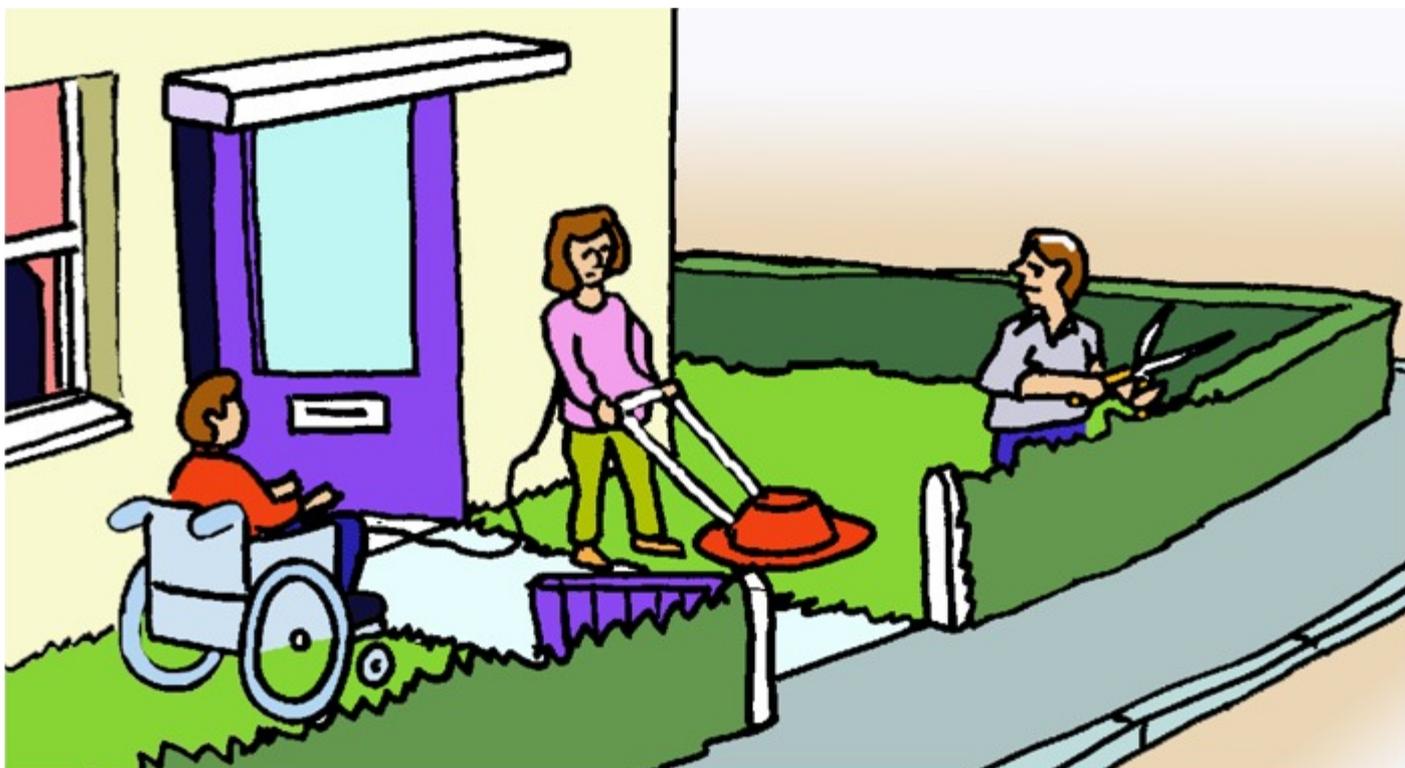




## Joint Committee on Human Rights



# Disabled people and their right to independent living

Tell us what you think



EasyRead version of:

Protecting the Right of  
Disabled People to Independent Living



# Tell us what you think



The Joint Committee on Human Rights is part of the UK Parliament.



They check whether people get their human rights.



The Joint Committee on Human Rights wants to find out about disabled people and **independent living**.



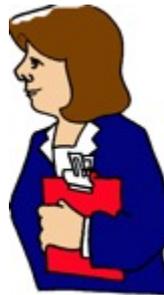
**Independent living** means living in the community with the same choice, control and freedom as anyone else.



The UK Government has signed an agreement called the **UN Convention** about rights for disabled people.



[www.tinyurl.com/UNConventionHR](http://www.tinyurl.com/UNConventionHR)



The Joint Committee on Human Rights wants to check whether they are sticking to this agreement.



They want to hear from:

- disabled people



- their families



- groups



- organisations that support disabled people.

# What they want to know about

## The right to independent living



Could the government do more to give disabled people the same rights as everyone else to live independently?



What could they do to make this happen?



Do you think the government needs to change any laws or the way it does things?



If so, what needs to change?



## Lack of money

The government needs to save money.

The Joint Committee would like to hear how people have been affected by:



- changes to benefits



- cuts in funding



- changes in services



- the way local councils decide whether you can get a service or not.





The Joint Committee would like to know if you think these things are making being independent more or less difficult.

## Getting involved and saying what you think



The **UN Convention** about rights for disabled people says governments must involve disabled people in decisions that affect them.



- how can the government involve disabled people in planning services and deciding how to save money?



- how well are disabled people involved in planning and making decisions?



## Sticking to the UN Convention

In summer 2011 the government has to say how well it is sticking to the **UN Convention** about rights for disabled people.



How can it make sure it includes ideas from disabled people in its reports?



England, Scotland and Northern Ireland each have a commission or organisation that checks on human rights.

These are the:



**Equality and  
Human Rights  
Commission**

- Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)

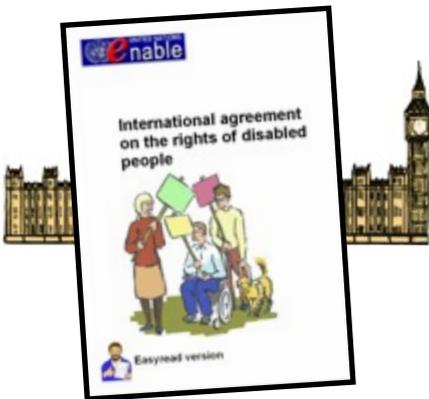


NORTHERN  
IRELAND  
HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
COMMISSION

- Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (NIHRC)

SHRC  
Scottish  
Human Rights  
Commission

- Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC).



How can they make sure the UK government sticks to the **UN Convention**?

## Giving us information

| April 2011 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Mon        | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|            |     |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   |
| 4          | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  |
| 11         | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  |
| 18         | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| 25         | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |

The committee would like you to write to them before **Friday, 29th April 2011**.



You can find out more on their website:

**[www.parliament.uk/jchr](http://www.parliament.uk/jchr)**



You do not have to answer all the questions in this leaflet.



Please write **Independent Living** on the top of anything you write and email it to:



**[jchr@parliament.uk](mailto:jchr@parliament.uk)**

Please also send a paper copy to:



**Greta Piacquadio**  
**Joint Committee on Human Rights**  
**7 Millbank**  
**London**  
**SW1A 0AA**



You can ask someone else to write down your ideas or email them for you.

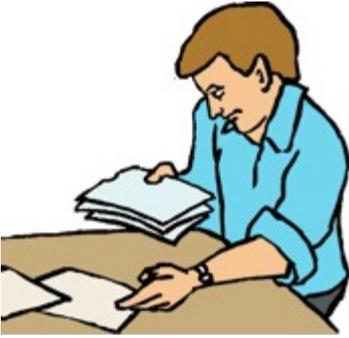


When you write to us please tell us your **full name** and **address**.



We may put what you tell us on the internet or in documents like reports.

# Confidentiality



We would like to use all the information we get from you and other people.



But you can tell us:

- not to use your name



- not to use what you tell us in reports or on the internet.



When you write to tell us what you think, please tell us how we can use your information.

You can get a version of the full press release on the Joint Committee on Human Rights website:



[www.parliament.uk/jchr](http://www.parliament.uk/jchr)

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