

Bedfordshire Police Authority

Disability Equality Scheme Easy to Read Summary



The Disability Equality Scheme

This Disability Equality Scheme tells you how Bedfordshire Police Authority will make sure that disabled people are treated fairly and receive the same service as everyone else from both the Police Force and the Police Authority.

The Disability Discrimination Act 2005 says we must do this. It is law from December 2006.



What is the Police Authority?

The Police Authority checks the work of the Police Force to make sure it is carrying out its work properly. It is not the Police Force.



Our Disability Scheme will

- Make sure that the needs of disabled people are met within Bedfordshire Police and Bedfordshire Police Authority.
- Make us check that the needs of disabled people have been thought about when we make our decisions.
- Help us tell disabled people about policing in a way that suits them.
- Help us to employ more disabled people.





How will we do this?

- We will look at everything the Authority does to make sure that we have thought about the needs of disabled people.
- The Police Authority will check that the Police Force is treating disabled people fairly.
- Disabled people's views will be taken into account when we make decisions.
- Our buildings will be easy to visit or work in if you are disabled.
- We will only work with people who understand and believe in treating disabled people fairly.



What does this really mean?

- You will see improved services for disabled people in everything we do.
- We will make our information available in a number of different ways.
- You will find it easier to contact us.
- We would like to see more disabled people involved in policing.
- You will be happier with the police service.
- You will not be treated unfairly because you are disabled.

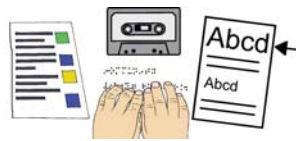




What happens now?

We have produced an Action Plan to show how we will do what we say we are going to do.

The Police Authority's Diversity Panel will check that this is happening, on time and as we say.



The Action Plan

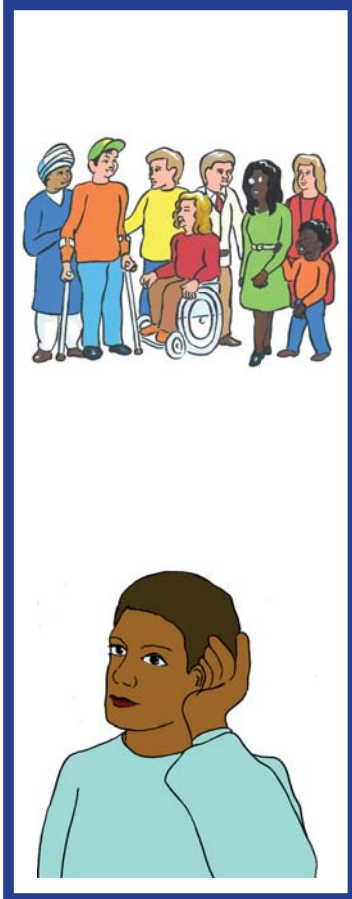
The Action Plan says what we will do and when we will have done it by. We will update this plan every year to make sure that we can take your views about what works best into account.

- We will talk to disabled people and ask them for their opinions on our work, to see how we can make it better for disabled people.
- We will set up a group of disabled people who are willing to talk to us so that we can ask them for their opinions.
- We will make the Police Authority's building easier for disabled people.
- We will train the people who work for us to think about disability when they make decisions.
- We will make sure that the information on our website is accessible to everyone.
- We will look at what the Police Force are doing and make sure it is working well.



Working with the Police

- We will improve the job opportunities for disabled people.
- We will support disabled people who work for us.



Getting involved

We would like to know what you think about our scheme.

If you require the information contained in this document in an alternative format, e.g., large print, Braille, audio tape or if you would like the scheme explained to you in your language.

Please contact the Policy Unit

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