

**Maximising
the
Impact and Effectiveness
of
Accessibility Measures**

Learning from Existing National Measures

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Overview

- Focus
- Strategies and Structures
- Specific / Supplementary Mechanisms
- Lessons Learned?

Focus

- Impact and effectiveness
- Strengths and weaknesses
- Services and goods
- Excluding built environment

National Strategies and Structures

National Strategies and Structures

National Disability Strategies,
including accessibility

National Accessibility Strategies

Sector specific

General - France, Norway

National Strategies and Structures

Structures

French Observatory

National Strategies and Structures

Weaknesses

National Strategies and Structures

Weaknesses

- ✘ Inadequate resourcing
- ✘ Inadequate supervision / monitoring
- ✘ Lack of timelines and targets
- ✘ Lack of political prioritisation
- ✘ Inadequate co-ordination & embedding
- ✘ Inadequate guidance & expertise

Specific/Supplementary Mechanisms

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Promoting Accessibility
through **Non-Discrimination Law**

Legal Content

- Scope
- Type of action

Specific/Supplementary Mechanisms

Promoting Accessibility
through **Non-Discrimination Law**

Enforcement and Remedies

- Courtroom procedures
- Tribunals / alternative adjudication
- Conciliation
- Remedies

Specific/Supplementary Mechanisms

Promoting Accessibility
through **Non-Discrimination Law**

Case Examples

- banking
- transport
- media and television
- products

Specific/Supplementary Mechanisms

Promoting Accessibility
through **Proactive Equality Duties**

Specific/Supplementary Mechanisms

Promoting Accessibility
through **Proactive Equality Duties**

eg England and Wales

➤ Due regard

Lunt v Liverpool City Council

➤ disability equality schemes / information
re general duty and equality objectives

Specific/Supplementary Mechanisms

Promoting Accessibility
through **Industry / Service Regulation**

- **Inspection** – eg education, UK
- **Targets** – eg broadcasting, France
- **Permits and licences**
 - eg buses in Norway;
taxis in UK;

Specific/Supplementary Mechanisms

Promoting Accessibility through Procurement and Financial Incentives

Irish example

Common weaknesses

- ✘ No obvious/explicit link
- ✘ Limited range of operation— eg ‘whenever necessary’
- ✘ Lack of guidance as to ‘accessibility’
- ✘ Lack of bite

Lessons Learned?

Strategies do not necessarily result in change

**Identifying and incentivising good practice,
including**

**politics-proofing,
monitoring
review**

Lessons Learned?

Requiring Accessibility

Inspection, Licencing, Procurement

Lessons Learned?

Enforcing accessibility

Learning from anti-discrimination law

- content, remedies, tribunals

Learning from proactive equality duties

- 4 key elements - *responsibility, participation (involvement and consultation), monitoring, enforcement*

Ideal enforcement

- pyramid (*dialogue, compliance order from eg equality body, court*); and individual action

Lessons Learned?

Understanding accessibility

Technical specifications

Beyond design specifications
(eg live assistance)

Lessons Learned?

Dissemination and Support

Disabled people's organisations and other representative organisations

Equality bodies and NHRIs

Lessons Learned?

Benefits of EU-wide approach

- ✓ Political commitment
- ✓ Monitoring and review
- ✓ Consistency and barrier removal

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