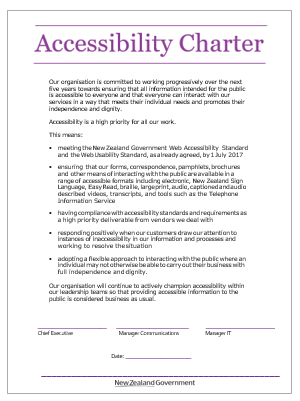
# Easy Read logo.

**Easy Read information about the Accessibility Charter**

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**September 2021**

# What is the Accessibility Charter?

Two people shaking hands

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceThe Accessibility Charter is an agreement made by the **Chief Executives** of Government organisations like the Ministry of Health.



In each Government organisation the agreement will be signed by the:

* **Chief Executive** who is the top manager

**A person sitting at a table with a computer

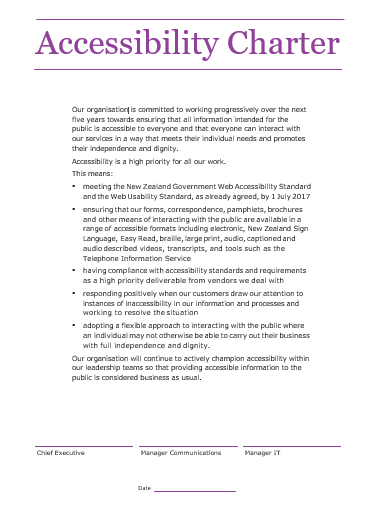
Description automatically generated with medium confidence**

* **Information Technology Manager** who is in charge of all the technology like computers and websites

A picture containing diagram

Description automatically generated

* **Communications Manager** who is in charge of information that is shared with people.

This is what the Accessibility Charter looks like:

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Chief Executive Manager Communications Manager IT

Date: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



Our organisation is committed to working progressively over the next five years towards ensuring that all information intended for the public is accessible to everyone and that everyone can interact with our services in a way that meets their individual needs and promotes their independence and dignity.

Accessibility is a high priority for all our work.

This means:

* + - meeting the New Zealand Government Web Accessibility Standard and the Web Usability Standard, as already agreed, by 1 July 2017
    - ensuring that our forms, correspondence, pamphlets, brochures and other means of interacting with the public are available in a range of accessible formats including electronic, New Zealand Sign Language, Easy Read, braille, large print, audio, captioned and audio described videos, transcripts, and tools such as the Telephone Information Service
    - having compliance with accessibility standards and requirements as a high priority deliverable from vendors we deal with
    - responding positively when our customers draw our attention to instances of inaccessibility in our information and processes and working to resolve the situation
    - adopting a flexible approach to interacting with the public where an individual may not otherwise be able to carry out their business with full independence and dignity.

Our organisation will continue to actively champion accessibility within our leadership teams so that providing accessible information to the public is considered business as usual.

Graphical user interface, application, Word

Description automatically generatedThe Accessibility Charter is 1 of the ways the Government will follow the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.

A group of people posing for the camera

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is also called the **UNCRPD**.

A picture containing logo

Description automatically generatedThe UNCRPD is a law lots of countries have agreed to.

In 2008 the New Zealand Government said that we agree with the UNCRPD.

A picture containing text, linedrawing

Description automatically generated

It says what governments must do to make sure disabled people get the same rights as everybody else.

A picture containing text

Description automatically generatedThe Accessibility Charter will help the Government to follow **Article 9** of the UNCRPD.

**Article 9** explains what the Government needs to do to make things **accessible** to disabled people.

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated

**Accessible** means that disabled people can:

* Diagram

  Description automatically generated with low confidenceget information in a way they can understand
* access information from websites or online
* A person standing next to a yellow bus

  Description automatically generated with medium confidenceuse public services like get into buildings
* use transport like buses.

# What does the Accessibility Charter say?

A picture containing graphical user interface

Description automatically generated

When a Government organisation signs the Accessibility Charter they are agreeing to:

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

* making sure that everyone can use their services

* having their information accessible to everyone.

Square

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Information is things like:

* websites
* A picture containing text, person

  Description automatically generatedforms
* letters

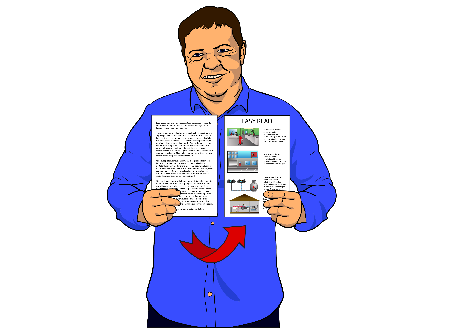
Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated

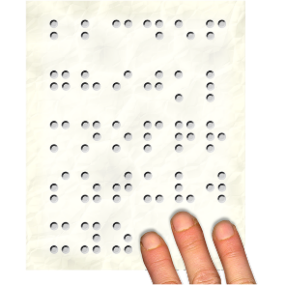
* pamphlets
* reports.

A person with her hands on her face

Description automatically generated with low confidenceAccessible information means having information in ways that people can understand like:



* New Zealand Sign Language
* Easy Read



* braille
* large print
* audio



Good to talk to you

* captioned video
* A picture containing electronics

  Description automatically generatedaudio described video
* Telephone Information Service.

Text, whiteboard

Description automatically generatedWhen a Government organisation signs the Accessibility Charter they are also agreeing to:

* A picture containing text

  Description automatically generatedasking other organisations they work with to follow these accessibility rules
* listening to people when they say they have a problem with the accessibility of their service
* Diagram

  Description automatically generated with low confidencelooking at ways to fix these accessibility problems
* finding ways of providing their services so that everyone can use them in a way that works well for them



* making sure that all their managers encourage accessibility at all times.

The Accessibility Charter says that

Government organisations will do this work over the 5 years from the date they sign the Charter.

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

After that making things accessible should happen in all Government work.

**Where to find more information**



You can find more information about the Accessibility Charter on the Ministry of Social Development **website**:

**www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/accessibility/index.html**



You can also **email**:

[**accessibility@msd.govt.nz**](about:blank)

**Text

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Change logo.
Change is the name of the organisation.

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