

Independent Living Scrutiny Group Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Group will monitor progress on the delivery of the Independent Living Strategy (ILS) and report its views to the ODI Disability Equality Delivery Board (DEDDB) and the Life Chances Ministerial Group. To do this they will receive the same monitoring data (unless, exceptionally, this is restricted) that is presented to the DEDDB and the Life Chances Ministerial Group.

The ILS, and consequently the work of the Group, covers England only.

Scrutiny

To monitor the work and action of Government by examining information and data provided to the DEDDB and provide an independent view of the level of progress on delivering the aims and outcomes of the ILS

Authority

The Group does not have any decision making authority (for example the Group cannot make policy decisions). The Group's views on progress on the ILS will be presented to the DEDDB and the Life Chances Ministerial Group.

Membership

The Group will have a Chair who will take responsibility of the work of the Group.

Members of the Group will be drawn initially from Equality 2025 and the former Independent Living Review Expert Panel, subject to their acceptance of the Terms of Reference and Working Guidelines. However, members drawn from EQ2025 will remain members of the ILSG until the first report has been published, (e.g. December 2009), at which point their continued membership will be assessed in accordance with the current review of EQ2025. In the meantime, the Chair will retain the right to review

the continued appropriateness of the current membership throughout that term and in any event will review the membership in its entirety before the second year of scrutiny commences, e.g. 23 July 2010.

If and when necessary, the Chair may call for the input of relevant experts.

Timeframe

The Group was formed in June 2009 and is expected to continue for the life of the ILS (to 2013). However, the current role and membership will be reviewed in the context of the evaluation of Equality 2025 which is currently taking place.

Frequency

The group will be required to meet three times each year (Focused around summer/autumn) at such times that will enable their views to be given to the DEEDB and the Life Chances Ministerial group and included as part of the Office for Disability Issues (ODI) annual reporting cycle. Exceptionally the Chair and the ODI may call an additional meeting.