

Cross-Party Disability Forum

Council:

1. Recognises, the public-sector duty in promoting equalities and disability rights.
2. Aims, to create a collaborative, cross-party disability forum led by disabled people, including Councillors, Council staff and relevant third sector bodies, to act as a platform to advocate and share ideas which can empower and contribute to disability inclusive development in public services, and to look at best practice in implementing this duty within the Council's remit.
3. Calls, for a report to:
 - a) audit current activities by the City of Edinburgh Council to meet its legislative duty at present.
 - b) assess whether a forum might improve this further and in what ways: how best to implement it, how to evidence and assess, how complaints are dealt with, how it such activity can be mainstreamed and how to provide comparison with other public-sector bodies.
 - c) consider how disabled Council employees, as well as cross-party Councillors, might be involved.
 - d) consider the operation of a forum to include, but not limited to:
 - i. the review polices relevant to disabled people.
 - ii. innovative ideas which enhance disabled peoples' own capacities.
 - iii. support and advice on how public services could be improved for disabled people in a sustainable and person-centred manner.
 - iv. promotion of independent living, free choice, and control for users.
 - v. focus and monitor on quality and evaluation of services for disabled people.
 - vi. exploration of potential for joint initiatives of relevant groups involving the Council, disability specialist agencies, relevant stakeholders, including the third sector, and cross-party elected members.
 - vii. Investigation of how services and other relevant advice could be best delivered to all relevant stakeholders and disabled people to ensure the best support is provided for disabled people and their families.