

I have read the recent publication 'Improving the life chances of disabled people'. It ignores largely an important group those who become disabled. I have had this experience. Because I was employed social services would offer no support or advice. The local GP was more concerned with diagnosis than my functional capabilities. To get a Blue Badge I had to apply for DLA because the GP made it clear he would not support me and I was assessed by a doctor from the DWP, prior to obtaining a blue badge. Access to work offered me an assessment and the recommendations offered computer software that was incompatible and not available (with training) within a realistic time period. My travel needs to work have taken 'Access to Work' nearly twelve months to agree. I have had to adapt my house with no assistance from anyone. The VAT people said that any room that was able to be used by 'normal' people was not eligible for VAT relief (with the exception of a downstairs bathroom)(How insulting is that). The medical assistance has been little better. A pair of adapted shoes has taken 6 mths for 1 pair. I am still awaiting a neurological appointment (despite exceeding the maximum published waiting times (are they a piece of fiction as well). and have not even had a foot mould taken for splints for foot drop. PS 90% of rail stations are still not accessible to the disabled but who gives a ****.

Do I have confidence in this government to affect change. What do you think, the paper is aspirational or cloud cuckoo land and doesn't even begin to address the problems of people such as myself.