

Easy Read



Down Syndrome Bill with notes

November 2021

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About this booklet



This booklet is about the **Down Syndrome Bill**.

This **Bill** is asking to change the law to make life better for people with Down syndrome.



If it is agreed the Bill will become a new law called the **Down Syndrome Act** 2022.



In this Easy Read booklet we explain what some of the hard words mean.



Words

These hard words are in **blue bold** writing. These words and what they mean are in a Words List at the back of the booklet.

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A Bill to



Make **local authorities** check what social care people with Down syndrome may need.



Make sure that people with Down syndrome get the care and support that they need. As well as things that help with that.

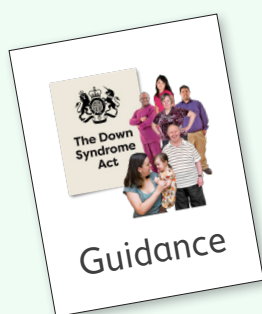


Presented by Dr Liam Fox **MP**

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Parliament would like the Queen to change the law by making this Bill an Act.



Guidance - How local authorities will know what to do

The **Secretary of State** must make guidance. This will say what should be done to meet the needs of people with Down syndrome.



The **Secretary of State** is the person in charge of a section of the Government, like Health and Social Care.



The **Relevant authorities** must make sure they follow the guidelines.

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Relevant authorities means:

The National Health Service. The NHS organises health care like doctors and nurses.



Social care. This is Councils and the services they provide like social workers and support workers.



Housing. This is Councils and the services they provide for giving people houses or helping homeless people.

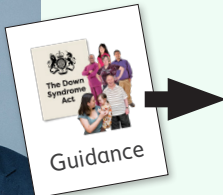


Education and youth offending. This is places like nurseries, schools, and colleges. It is also services to help young people who have broken the law. And services that help homeless young people.

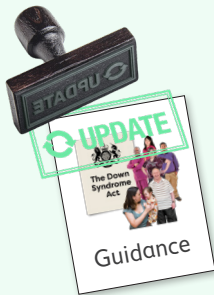


The Secretary of State should check what needs to go in the guidance by asking people.

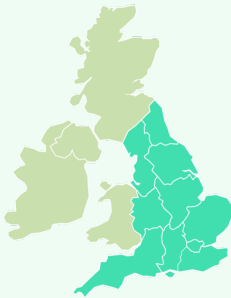
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The Secretary of State should give people the guidance in the way they think is best.



The Secretary of State can change the guidance. They should check with others that the changes are right. They will also need to tell people what the changes are.



Where the law will change

This Bill is to change the law in England.



When the law will change

The Secretary of State will say which date the Act would start.



What the new law will be called

The Act would be called the Down Syndrome Act 2022.

Down Syndrome Bill - More notes

About these notes

This is a short version of the **Explanatory Notes**. These notes help to explain more about the Bill. The notes are not part of the Bill.



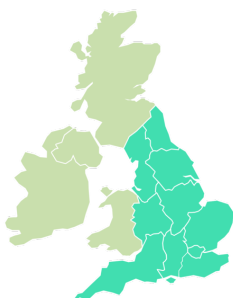
This Bill is a plan to make sure that health, education and other local authorities meet the needs of people with Down syndrome.



This Bill is asking to change the law to make life better for people with Down syndrome. If it is agreed the Bill will become a new law called the Down Syndrome Act 2022.



This Bill is to make sure people with Down syndrome get the same chances in life as other people. Some people may need extra help to get the same chances.



The Bill says where the law will change and who has to follow the new law. The law will change in England and Wales but only work in England will have to be done differently.

Down Syndrome Bill - More notes



No money has been given to make these changes yet. Government will decide this at the right time.



The Government will check how this Bill works with the Human Rights Act.

Words List



Down Syndrome Bill or the **Bill**

This is the Government's new plan to make sure all people with Down syndrome are given the same rights and chances as everyone else in England.



Down Syndrome Act

If the Down Syndrome Bill is agreed it will become a new law called the Down Syndrome Act.

Down Syndrome Bill - More notes



Local authorities or **Relevant authorities**

These are the people that organise the care and support that people get. It means things like Hospitals, Councils and Schools.



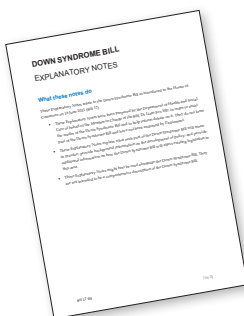
MP

MP is short for Member of Parliament. This is someone who people from an area have chosen to speak up for them in Parliament.



Secretary of state

This the person in charge of a part of the Government, like Health and Social Care. There is more than one Secretary of State.



Explanatory Notes

These are notes that help to explain more about the Bill. The notes are not part of the Bill.



The NDSPG supports people with Down syndrome to have a say in making policy that makes a difference to their lives.



For more information, go to our website:
www.ndspg.org



Twitter:
@NDSPolicyGroup



Facebook:
@DSAPPG



With thanks to **The Easy Read Company** for making this Easy Read translation.