

General Updates

Housing

In February 2025, the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights examined how well the UK was meeting its international obligations. In the CBF's contribution to the Civil Society Shadow Report (coordinated by Just Fair), and based on issues raised through our work and that of the CB-NSG, we highlighted the impact that a lack of suitable housing for people with a learning disability and autistic people has – specifically in contributing to admissions to inpatient hospitals and as a barrier to being discharged back into the community. After questioning the UK delegation on what steps the Government intends to take to address this issue, the Committee included as one of its recommendations for the Government "To ensure access to adequate housing for individuals with intellectual disabilities, enabling those residing in inpatient units to be discharged and preventing their institutionalization". You can read the Committee's full report [here](#).

Resources

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) have published a planning toolkit to help develop housing for people with a learning disability and autistic people. This toolkit is designed to support local areas to create a housing strategy, and is aimed at all people and organisations who might be involved in developing a housing strategy as part of a local housing partnership, not just local authorities and commissioners. The toolkit can be found here: [Toolkit: housing for autistic adults and adults with a learning disability](#).

Welfare Reforms

In March 2025, the Government announced significant changes to disability benefits, affecting the number of people who are eligible and how much they might receive. This includes a plan to change eligibility criteria for Personal Independence Payment (PIP). Currently, PIP eligibility is calculated based on the number of points an individual scores across 10 categories. The Government's planned changes will mean that an individual needs to score at least four points in at least one category to be eligible.

These proposed changes are in the Government's green paper, [Pathways to Work](#). This includes a consultation on some of the proposed changes; not all of the proposed changes are being consulted on. Following a delay in accessible versions being published, there are now easy-read and other accessible formats available. You can respond to these plans [here](#).

The CBF have a guide on our website setting out the planned changes and what we think the impact of these will be on people with a severe learning disability, which you can read [here](#).

Easy-read information can be found on [Mencap's website](#). Both [Mencap](#) and [Inclusion London](#) have produced online forms for emailing your MP.

General Updates

Legal Cases

- In November 2024, a human rights case found that Ella, a child with complex disabilities including learning disabilities and deafblindness, had her human rights breached when her local authority unlawfully issued care proceedings. The court found that Ella's right to private and family life had been breached by her local authority's actions. A summary of the case can be found [here](#).
- In February 2025, a court found that AP, who has learning disabilities and is autistic, was inappropriately detained for almost a year because there was nowhere suitable within the community that he could go while his house was being repaired. The claim highlighted breaches of his rights to a private and family life, alongside negligence and associated psychiatric injury. A write-up of the case can be found [here](#).
- In March 2025, the High Court ordered Birmingham City Council to reassess its decision to change a severely disabled teenager's transport package. The teenager had been using a minibus with an adult escort to get to school, but Birmingham City Council reduced his entitlement, instead offering the cash equivalent of a bus pass. The court found that the decision was irrational as the council had previously accepted that the family had exceptional circumstances, and that it had failed to consider that the boy's mother, the sole breadwinner of the family, would have needed to give up work in order to take him to school. A write-up of the case can be found [here](#).