



1 December 2006 – Immediate

Monday, 4 December – ‘D(ED)’ Day – comply or risk legal action

With the Disability Equality Duty (DED) becoming law on Monday, 4 December public authorities will have a ‘positive duty’ to provide information to people with disabilities, or risk legal action! In other words going forward all public bodies must actively promote disability to comply with the DED. Public sector organisations will be required by law to consider how its work affects disabled people and how it tackles inequality. DED is also likely to impact on any private sector organisations carrying out public functions which may include PFI and PFI-type type contracts. Failure to comply could lead to Legal action.

Panic not - the **UK Council for Access and Equality (UKCAE)** is an independent body established earlier this year to help establish business-wide pathway and standards aimed at helping employers cope with the DED and other disability discrimination laws. Backed by the independent UK Accreditation Service (UKAS), UKCAE offers organisations through its membership a range of solutions to enable public and private sector organisations to comply with DED.

To find out more about how and why organisations must comply with DED we would be delighted to arrange for you to speak to Les Venus, CEO of Threshold Initiative which manages UKCAE. Alternatively, please visit www.UKCAE.com for additional information on UKCAE and how through becoming a member helps organizations meet their obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act.

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