NIHR | Research Design Service West Midlands

Accessibility Statement - Updated: 17/02/21

Introduction

This statement applies to the website that provides information about the Research Design Service West Midlands (RDSWM) website (www.rds-wm.nihr.ac.uk). We have designed this website to be accessible to as many people as possible and continue to review its content.

On this website, you should be able to:
- change colours, contrast levels, and fonts
- zoom in up to 300% without text spilling off the screen
- navigate most of the website using a keyboard
- navigate most of the website using speech recognition software
- read most of the website using a screen reader

We've made the website text as simple as possible to understand, using plain English wherever possible. Some of our content is technical, and contains scientific terms and language, in this case we may not have been able to simplify the wording without changing the meaning of the text. If you have a problem accessing any documents then AbilityNet has advice to help you make your device easier to use.

How accessible is our website?
We have worked to make this website as accessible as possible and believe that we almost fully meet WCAG 2.1 AA standards.

We have minimised the use of PDFs on our website where possible. Older PDF documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software. Where you cannot access a PDF document and would like information in an alternative format, please email details of your request to our support e-mail rds.wm@nihr.ac.uk

How to get information in an accessible format
If you need information on this website in a different format, please email details of your request to rds.wm@nihr.ac.uk. We aim to respond to requests within five working days.

Additionally, if you find any problems that aren't listed on this page, or think that we're not meeting the requirements of the accessibility regulations, please email rds.wm@nihr.ac.uk with the details to let us know and help us improve.

Some sections of our website link to other sites with PDF documents. As these don't sit on our website, you'll need to contact the website where these are held to obtain accessible versions.

Enforcement procedure
The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the accessibility regulations. If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint, contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS).

Technical information about this website's accessibility

The NIHR is committed to making websites accessible, in accordance with the [Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018](#).

Compliance status
This website is partially compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](#) AA standard. The non-compliances and exemptions are listed below.

Non-accessible content
The following document remain as PDFs on our website and is not fully accessible

- RDS leaflet – Your Research Design Service Journey
- Transcripts are not available for all audio/video content
- Videos do not included captions

Issues with technology
Our website has been tested on Chrome, Firefox and Edge browsers and on PCs, tablets and mobile phones. The website may not be fully accessible on other platforms.

Issues with PDFs and other documents
The accessibility regulations [do not require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018](#) if they're not essential to providing our services. For example, we do not plan to fix strategy documents published before 23 September 2018.

Any new PDFs or Word documents we publish will meet accessibility standards.

How we test this website
The website has been subject to an independent external review to establish compliance with WCAG 2.1.