

# **PE2138/G: Make publicly owned buildings accessible for people with colour blindness**

## **Disability Equality Scotland written submission, 4 December 2025**

We write to respond to the above petition.

Disability Equality Scotland agrees that colour blindness should be considered as an important factor when creating signage for individuals with colour blindness and other impairments.

Whilst the petition recognises the red-green being an issue, there are many other types of colour blindness to be considered. Two other common combinations are blue-yellow and complete colour blindness.

The petitioner gives the example of just using colours, rather than colours and words. We support that there should be a combination of colour and image and/or words. However, the contrast of the background and image/wording must be considered.

The Equality Act 2010 provides a framework for services and public functions to ensure that disabled individuals have equal access and opportunities. It requires reasonable adjustments to be made to access and services. Whilst this is often seen as putting information into large print and/or Easy Read, colour blindness causes many barriers for individuals and is, unfortunately, not considered.

Disability Equality Scotland promotes and follows the social model of disability. The social model indicates that people are disabled by the built environment and society's perceptions and assumptions. Not considering individuals who live with colour blindness when creating signage is another example of public bodies not following the social model or the Equality Act.

We hope this information is helpful to the Committee in their review of this petition.