

Accessibility: an introduction

Kingston Digital Inclusion Network

5 Feb 2024



Agenda

- ✓ Welcome & short exercise
- ✓ Introduction to accessibility
- ✓ Focus on Kingston Association for Blind (KAB) & Royal National Institute of Blind (RNIB)
- ✓ Focus on Kingston Centre for Independent Living (KCIL)
- ✓ Round-up of accessibility resources
- ✓ Connected Kingston: Getting by Online collection
- ✓ SWL ICS getUbetter app project
- ✓ Wrap-up



Let's have a short conversation about Accessibility

- ✓ In small groups:
 - ✓ How much do you know about it?
 - ✓ How well is your organisation doing currently?
 - ✓ What questions do you have or what would you like to know from today?
- ✓ 5 mins to discuss
- ✓ 5 mins to all share back to the big group



Introduction to Accessibility



Physical & digital accessibility



Pacific Northwest X-Ray Inc.
Simply the best!

As you will find hundreds of pages of X-Ray related accessories, parts, supplies, and equipment. Accessories from Lead
back as our web design team is constantly updating the information on the current items and adding new products as th

Search by Product Name, Brand Name, Stock Number and more!

Equipment

- Dialport Equipment & Film Processors (15)
- Digital/COM/ISG Products
- Medical Equipment/Patient Care Equipment (9)
- Power and Exam Tables (2)
- Portable Radiographic (5)
- Radiation Safety Meters (1)
- Silver Recovery Systems (3)
- Film Viewboxes (2)
- [More products/complete listing](#)

Accessories

- Cabinetry & Storage (11)
- Cassettes/CR Film Storage, Transport, Viewing (17)
- Cassettes/Film/Surgical/Cass. Crads (10)
- Exam Room Products (18)
- Film Carry Cases, Cassette Holders, Pass Boxes (2)
- Film Caddies, Wall Film Racks, Positioning Foam (11)
- X-Ray Markers (1)
- Sandbags, Stools (5)
- Table Pads
- Lead Protection Products: Aprons (1)
- Gloves (5)
- Mobile Barriers, Windows, Eyewear (4)
- Blockers
- Clear Barriers, Thyroid Collars, Gonad Protection
- Warning Signs, Ultrasound Accessories
- [More products/complete listing](#)

Supplies

- Custom Printed CD Media and Packaging (1)
- Sheet Labels and Dispensers
- Processing Chemistry
- Film Envelopes, X-Ray Screen Cleaner

Parts

- X-Ray Grids, Collimator Lamps
- High Voltage Cables

[Why We're](#) [How To](#) [Classes &](#) [Radiology](#) [What's New](#)



What is Digital Accessibility?

Digital accessibility, or web accessibility, is about universality and making websites and digital services that can be accessed and used by **everyone** – people on different devices, in different environments and with different abilities. (Source: AbilityNet)



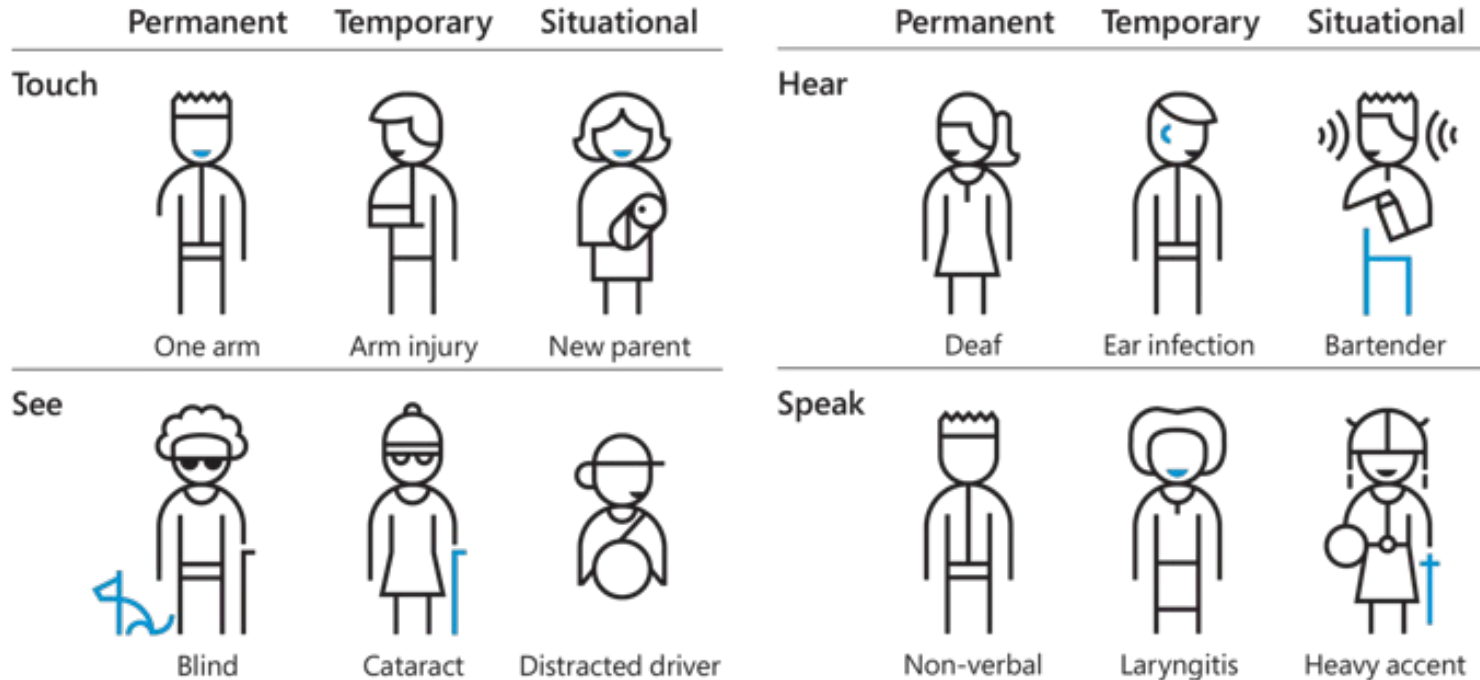
What does the law say?

- ✓ **UK** – various laws & regulations apply. Equality Act (2010), Public Sector Bodies (Website and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations (PSBAR 2018)
- ✓ **EU** – has gone further with private sector websites & mobile applications
- ✓ Plus, there's [WCAG](#) = Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (Version 2.2 Oct 2023)

Overall, it's confusing, there's minimal enforcement. But many organisations are investing to do the right thing



A useful way to think about it



Source: Microsoft



Some of the most common pitfalls

- ✓ Images without alternative text (alt text)
- ✓ Colour contrast not great enough
- ✓ Text too small
- ✓ Poorly structured pages & flows
- ✓ Functionality that relies totally on 1 of our senses
- ✓ Captions not available for videos
- ✓ Links not clearly labelled e.g. “click here”





**“THAT’S A FAIL
FOR SOMEONE
BLIND”**

[Link to video](#)



Kingston Association for the Blind **KAB**
Promoting the interests of people with sight loss in Kingston upon Thames

Our mission

**To empower people living with sight loss to
lead independent and fulfilled lives**



Stats and impact

In UK
340 000

40 %

feel isolated

17 %

offered
emotional support

Kingston
SSI 349
SI 231
And more

1 in 4

employed

50 %

barrier to activities



KAB Kingston Association for the Blind

Established in 1966

Supporting blind and partially sighted 450 residents of all ages, their families and carers.

Adopting to live with no or low vision

Reducing social isolation,

Cost of living- Benefits & Concessions

Digital inclusion

Health & wellbeing- Active life style



KAB Services and Activities

- Living well with sight loss
- Eye Buddies
- Benefits and concessions
- Tech/Adapted technology
- Working Age Forum
- Social lunch clubs
- Talking news
- Cycling, swimming, bowls, tenpin bowling
- Trips and outings

Having our voices heard

Working together to make Kingston inclusive and more accessible



Our Thriving Community





Volunteers

- **We could not support our members the way we do without our amazing team of volunteers!**
- **Volunteering opportunities: help us support more blind people in the community**
- **We are currently looking for Trustees**





Contact Us

02086050060

**Kingston Quaker Centre, Fairfield East
Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2P**

Kab@kingstonassociationforblind.org

Instagram: [kingstonassociationforblind](https://www.instagram.com/kingstonassociationforblind)

www.kingstonassociationforblind.org



R N I B

See differently

Royal National Institute of Blind & Partially Sighted People (RNIB)



Digital Inclusion and Accessible Technology



Join your local RNIB Tech Hub

R N I B

See differently



If you have sight loss, we're here to help you use technology to do the things you want to do. Join RNIB and Kingston Association for the Blind on the first Thursday of every month for practical help and support with technology.

When: 2 November, 11am - 1pm

Where: Kingston Library, Wheatfield Way,
KT1 2PS



To book your free place, call Kingston Association for the Blind on 0208 605 0060 or 07442 394472 or email adminkab@kingstonassociationforblind.org

R N I B

See differently



Facts and Figures

R N I B

See differently

Did you know around two million people live with little or no sight in the UK today?

By 2050, it is estimated that around 500 people per day could start to lose their sight - that'll be one every 3 minutes.

Only 340,000 are registered with their local authority as having a visual impairment.







Marketing Guidelines


R N I B

See differently

- **All digital and print information must be accessible**
 - **Print – posters, letters, leaflets**
 - **Colour contrast, font size, lower case**
 - **Digital – Website, emails, apps**
 - **Magnification, screen readers**
 - **Have information in a variety of formats**
 - **Target the right audiences**
- 



Making your space accessible

- **Be welcoming**
 - **Sight loss awareness**
 - **Good colour contrast, walls, furniture, toilets**
 - **Tactile flooring**
 - **Adjustable lighting**
 - **Clear signage**
 - **Braille – have it at chest/eye level**
- 



R N I B

See differently

Q&A



What do you find challenging in today's world?



Full interview on the KCIL website <https://kcil.org.uk/kcil-interviews/>

Resources round-up



1. Ask your users what works & what doesn't



There is no substitute for getting real feedback from people about how to make your spaces & services more accessible

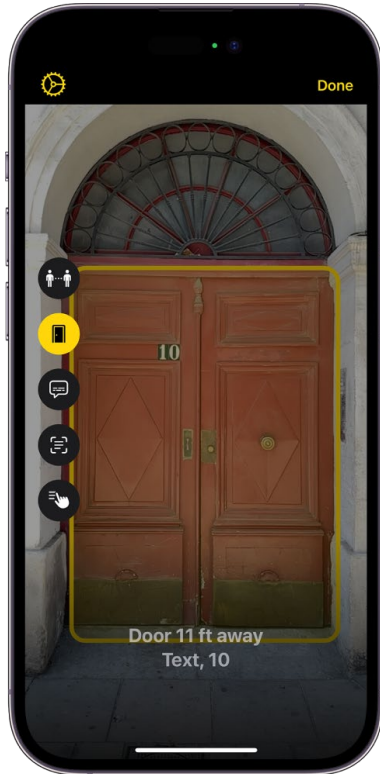


2. Understand the various products & tools that your service users use

- ✓ **Built-in accessibility features** – Apple, Microsoft & Google have all developed screen readers, magnification options, augmented reality & more.
- ✓ **Assistive technology** – specialised accessibility software & hardware. Alternatives that either address the shortcomings of existing tools or provide an alternative solution.



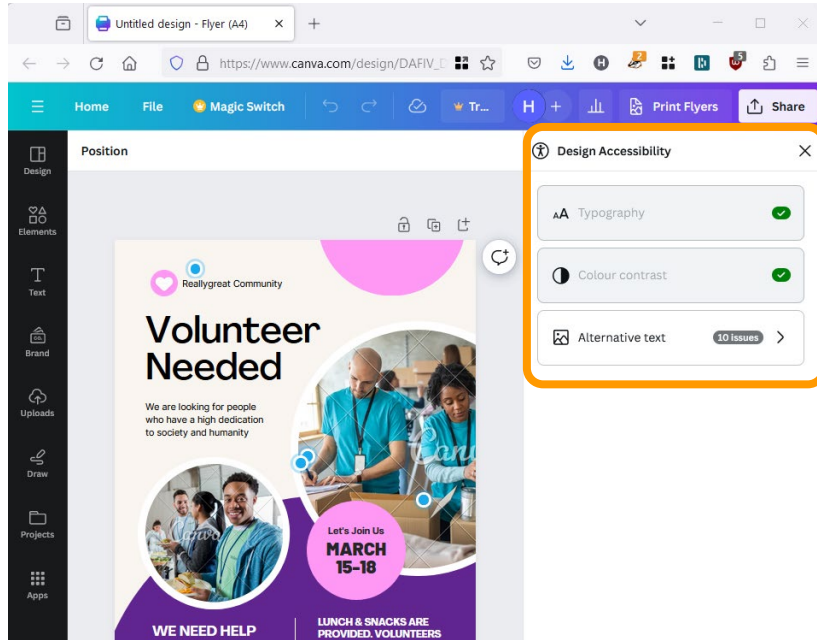
Example - Apple Door detection



- ✓ Detect doors around you using Magnifier on iPhone
- ✓ Understand how far you are from a door and how to open the door.
- ✓ Notified with sounds, speech, or haptic feedback as you get close.



3. Use built-in tools to common applications e.g. Canva

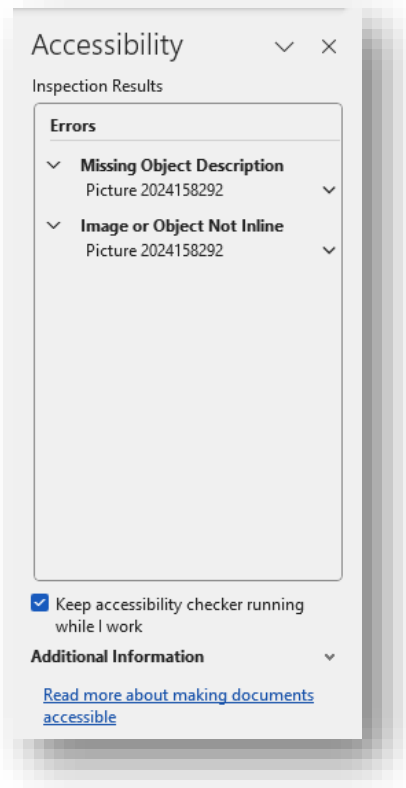


- ✓ Canva, the popular tool for creating flyers, posters, etc. includes a built-in **Design Accessibility** checker.
- ✓ Quick way to check on typography, contrast & alternative text.
- ✓ A good first step but ideally should be combined with other checks.



3. Use built-in tools to common applications e.g. Microsoft

Accessibility
Checker



Copilot



4. Resources to learn more

- ✓ KAB & RNIB websites
- ✓ Superhighways
- ✓ AbilityNet
- ✓ Microsoft
- ✓ Apple

These are just a few examples. It's a big, fascinating and complicated topic.



Superhighways Accessibility factsheet



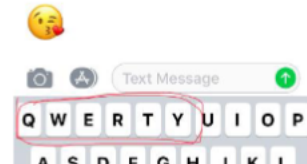
“The one argument for accessibility that doesn’t get made nearly often enough is how extraordinarily better it makes some people’s lives.” — Steve Krug

Accessibility for All Your Tech – Your Way


Find out how your organisation, staff, volunteers, family and friends can benefit from some of the pioneering work done on accessibility by changing the settings on your computer, tablet or smartphone. Use the power of these extraordinary innovations to improve your experience being online, and using your everyday computer and other devices.

TIP ONE: TALK DON’T TYPE - speech recognition software is the way forward

Back in the day when being a qualified typist was a career choice – the QUERTY keyboard was the only way to create professionally polished looking documents short of going to an independent typesetter/ printer.



Superhighways Office 365 tips



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5 top tips for making best use of accessibility options in Office 365

This is a quick round up of some of the accessibility features in Office 365 that might help you manage the varied communication needs of our socially distant, digital world.

There is a slight disparity between some of the features, depending on the package you are using. However, broadly speaking, you can use with MS Word, One Note, PowerPoint, Outlook and Teams.

Tip #1

Tell Me What You Want To Do

"Cortana - can you just scan this important email I wrote and pick up any typos and bad grammar?" No of course she can't - she's not yet that smart.

But there is an inbuilt app in Office 365 that you can use called **Tell Me What You Want to Do** which can help out with your standard Office applications like Word, PowerPoint and One Note.

Tell Me is a tool where you can enter words and phrases about what you want to do and get to feature you want to use or the actions you want to perform.





AbilityNet is a leading UK charity working in the field of accessibility & digital inclusion.

<https://abilitynet.org.uk>

Specific resources:

- ✓ My Computer My Way = how to guides
- ✓ Free training & webinars
- ✓ Free factsheets
- ✓ TechShare Pro sessions (Europe's largest annual accessibility conference)
- ✓ Further information, e.g. report in 2023 about attitudes to accessibility





Inclusive Design is a methodology, born out of digital environments, that enables and draws on the full range of human diversity.

<https://inclusive.microsoft.design/>

Specific resources:

- ✓ [Inclusive design 101 guidebook](#)
- ✓ [Design with inclusivity in mind](#) (free training)





The best technology works for everyone.

<https://www.apple.com/uk/accessibility/>

Specific resources:

- ✓ Site demos & setup instructions for accessibility features
- ✓ Extensive accessibility options within device settings



Now let's put this into practice!



- In pairs
- Identify something to do with your organisation (could be a service, a communication, a place) that is either known to not be accessible or might not be
- Discuss what steps you could take
- 3 mins per person then swap
- Short group debrief afterwards



Final thoughts

“Designing inclusively doesn’t mean you’re making one thing for all people. You’re designing a diversity of ways for everyone to participate in an experience with a sense of belonging.

Diversity is our world’s greatest asset and inclusion is our greatest challenge”

Source: Microsoft



Connected Kingston update



Getting by Online

From booking a GP appointment on your computer, to taking a photo on your phone, learn how to get by online and get support when you need it with these local and national services.

Cost

Free

View As

Grid 

Map 

Local basic digital skills support

Get free digital skills support for work, home and life from [Superhighways](#), who provide in-person and online support to Kingston residents using online services, mobile devices or laptops.

Free device access and wi-fi

[Kingston Libraries](#) offer free public computers, free wi-fi and allow you to charge your own devices. Free online resources [Learn My Way](#) and [My Computer My Way](#) are available.


Cheaper data

The National Databank and phone companies provide free SIM cards to those in need via community organisations. Many people on benefits are eligible for cheaper home broadband social tariffs.

7 services found

My Computer My Way


AbilityNet

 Service • Free



Learn My Way

Good Things Foundation

 Service • Free



Popular digital apps for keeping in touch

Royal Borough of Kingston Council



Wrap up & future sessions

