# **Accessibility Statement**

Updated: 22/09/2020

This statement applies to the RDS Blog website (www.rdsblog.org.uk).

This website is run by RDS East Midlands as a national RDS service. We want as many people as possible to be able to use our website and we have designed it to be accessible.

### **How you can use this website**

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 some instances we have not 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](https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk/).

### **How accessible this website is**

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

Some links within the blogs direct 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.

### **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 Louise Halbert Louise.Halbert@nihr.ac.uk We aim to respond to requests within five working days.

### **Reporting accessibility problems**

We are always looking to improve the accessibility of the website.

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 Louise Halbert Louise.Halbert@nihr.ac.uk with the details to let us know and help us improve.

### **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)](https://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com/).

### **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](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/852/contents/made).

### **Compliance status**

This website is compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/) AA standard. To our knowledge there are no non-compliances and exemptions to list.

### **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](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/952/regulation/4/made) 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**

We have reviewed this website manually and we have tested webpages using [WAVE web accessibility evaluation tool](file:///%5C%5Cuol.le.ac.uk%5Croot%5Cstaff%5Chome%5Cp%5Cpftw1%5CMy%20Documents%5CRDS_EM%5CAccessibility%5Cwave.webaim.org%5C).

### **What we’re doing to improve accessibility**

Currently the alt text of the author’s images is automatically generated and reads as the title of the blog post rather than the names of the authors. We are working to change that.

### **Preparation of this accessibility statement**

This statement was prepared on 22 September 2020. It was last reviewed on 22 September 2020.