
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2018 No. 852

The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018

PART 1

General

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—

“accessibility requirement” means the requirement to make a website or mobile application accessible by making it perceivable, operable, understandable and robust;

“accessibility statement” means a detailed, comprehensive and clear statement produced by a public sector body on the compliance of its website or mobile application with these Regulations;

“bodies governed by public law” means bodies that have all of the following characteristics—

- (a) they are established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character;
- (b) they have legal personality; and
- (c) they have any of the following characteristics—
 - (i) they are financed, for the most part, by the State, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by public law;
 - (ii) they are subject to management supervision by those authorities or bodies;
 - (iii) they have an administrative, managerial or supervisory board, more than half of whose members are appointed by the State, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by public law;

“the Directive” means Directive 2016/2102 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the accessibility of the websites and mobile applications of public sector bodies⁽¹⁾;

“European standard” has the meaning set out in Article 2(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European standardisation⁽²⁾;

“harmonised standard” has the meaning set out in Article 2(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European standardisation⁽³⁾;

“mobile application” means application software designed and developed by or on behalf of a public sector body for use by the general public on mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets, but does not include the software that controls those devices (mobile operating systems) or hardware;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 327, 2.12.2016, p.1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 316, 14.11.2012, p.19.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 316, 14.11.2012, p.19.

“model accessibility statement” means an accessibility statement adopted by the European Commission in accordance with Article 7(2) of the Directive;

“Official Journal” means the Official Journal of the European Union;

“public sector body” means—

- (a) the State;
- (b) regional or local authorities;
- (c) bodies governed by public law; or
- (d) associations formed by one or more of the authorities in paragraph (b) or one or more of the bodies in paragraph (c), if those associations are established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character;

“standard” has the meaning set out in Article 2(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European standardisation⁽⁴⁾;

“technical specifications” means specifications established in implementing acts adopted by the European Commission which prescribe technical requirements for meeting the accessibility requirement; and

“time-based media” means media of one or more of the following types: audio-only, video-only, audio-video, audio and/or video combined with interaction.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 316, 14.11.2012, p.19.