

Andrew Lee

Sent via email

Tuesday 07 July 2020

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for getting in touch and I am happy to provide some background to this case.

In February 2019 the Commission agreed to pay Christine Spooner's lawyers to find out if she had strong grounds for a discrimination case because the Department of Health and Social Care did not provide Easyread versions of public documents about the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Bill when it was going through Parliament. The Department did not consult properly with user led disability organisations either.

Christine Spooner and her lawyers wrote to and then agreed to meet Department officials to tell them their concerns and how not providing Easyread documents was potentially discriminatory. Because of this the Department gave a commitment to make future Bill documents and the MCA(A) Act Code of

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Practice accessible to people with learning disabilities. Our view is there is no strategic value in Christina Spooner taking a case now the Department have made that commitment. That is why we stopped funding the case. The Commission will use its position to keep the pressure on the Department about Easyread when the draft Code of Practice gets published.

I hope this information is useful and answers your concerns about why the Commission decided to stop funding this case.

Yours sincerely,



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