



The Rt Hon Wes Streeting MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London, SW1H 0EU

4 April 2025

Subject: Impact Assessment for the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill

Dear Mr Streeting,

As the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill ('the Bill') is a Private Members' Bill, it did not receive an Impact Assessment prior to its Second Reading. Now that it has completed Committee Stage, the Government has undertaken to prepare an Impact Assessment which will be presented to Parliament prior to the Bill being considered at Report Stage.

I am writing to ask for an assurance that this Impact Assessment will involve full and detailed consideration of the potential impact of the Bill on equalities and human rights.

Due consideration of the impact of the Bill on equalities and human rights would seem to require, at a minimum, that the Impact Statement has the approval not only of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, but also the Secretary of State for Justice, the Minister for Social Security and Disability, and the Minister for Women and Equalities, and that opinion on these aspect of the Bill has been sought from the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

While the Public Bill Committee did not provide an assessment of the impact of the Bill on equalities and human rights, it heard written and oral evidence that is relevant to such an assessment. I would therefore urge that those drawing up this aspect of the Impact Assessment consider the following evidence:

Oral evidence presented to the Fifth Sitting of the Public Bill Committee by Baroness Kishwer Falkner, Equality and Human Rights Commission, Fazilet Hadi, Disability Rights UK and Dr Jamilla Hussain, Bradford Teaching Hospitals.



And to the following written submissions:

Racial justice

Written evidence submitted by Dr Rees Johnson (TIAB224)

Supplementary written evidence Submitted by Dr Jamilla Hussain (TIAB252)

Written evidence Submitted by The Association for Palliative Medicine's Race Equity Committee (TIAB361)

LGBTQI+

Written evidence submitted by Regard (the national LGBTQI+ Disabled People's Organisation) (TIAB336)

Gender

Written evidence submitted by the Other Half (TIAB104)

Written evidence submitted by the VISION consortium (TIAB304)

Written evidence submitted by the Centre for Women's Justice (TIAB357)

Written evidence submitted by Dr Sue Smith, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Cancer and Palliative care (TIAB358)

Written evidence submitted by Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse (STADA) (TIAB363)

Written evidence submitted by Dr Michelle Myall (TIAB410)

Disability

Written evidence submitted by the National Down Syndrome Policy Group (TIAB168)

Written evidence submitted by UK Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations' Monitoring Coalition (TIAB226)

Further written evidence submitted by the National Downs Syndrome Policy Group - open letter from 60 regional and national organisations in the UK expressing opposition to the proposed Assisted Dying Bill. This letter outlines various concerns pertaining to the bill, focusing particularly on its impact on individuals with Down syndrome and learning disabilities (TIAB168(a))

Written evidence submitted by Victoria Brignell (Former Chair of Action on Disability) (TIAB339)

Written evidence submitted by Not Yet Dead UK (TIAB362)

Written evidence submitted by Disability Labour (TIAB411)

Written evidence submitted by Hourglass (TIAB418)



Suicide prevention

Written evidence submitted by Dr George Gillett (TIAB04)

Written evidence submitted by Professor David Paton, Nottingham University
Business School (TIAB125)

Written evidence submitted by Christine Kelly (TIAB176)

Written evidence submitted by Steven Bow, FFPH, Consultant in Public Health
(TIAB185)

Written evidence submitted by Dr Vicki Ibbett, MRCPsych, NHS Speciality Doctor in
Psychiatry (TIAB434)

Consideration should also be given to written evidence submitted by The Equality
and Human Rights Commission House of Commons Health and Social Care
Committee, Inquiry on Assisted Dying / Assisted Suicide (ADY0317).

I urge that Ministers consider whether those with protected characteristics have had
adequate opportunity to be heard by the Government before the Government offers
its assessment on the impact of the Bill on equalities and human rights.

I would be grateful for acknowledgement that this letter has been received.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Prof David Albert Jones MA (Cantab) MA MSt DPhil (Oxon) FHEA
Director, Anscombe Bioethics Centre
Professor of Bioethics, St Mary's University, Twickenham
Research Fellow, Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford

Copied to:

The Rt Hon Shabana Mahmood MP, Secretary of State for Justice,
Sir Stephen Timms MP, Minister for Social Security and Disability,
The Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson MP, Minister for Women and Equalities,
Baroness Kishwer Falkner, Chairwoman, Equality and Human Rights Commission.