



# PARISH COUNCIL WCAG 2.1

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

[www.myparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.myparishcouncil.co.uk)

Mark Holton  
24 July 19



## Is your website WCAG 2.1 compliant?

TEEC'S free to use template offers WCAG 2.1 compliancy for your parish council site - [www.myparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.myparishcouncil.co.uk) .

## Background on WCAG 2.1

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 defines how to make web content more accessible to people with disabilities. Accessibility involves a wide range of disabilities, including visual, auditory, physical, speech, cognitive, language, learning, and neurological disabilities. Although these guidelines cover a wide range of issues, they are not able to address the needs of people with all types of degrees and combinations of disability. These guidelines also make web content more user-friendly for older individuals with changing abilities due to ageing, and often improve usability for all users in general.

## The important dates

You'll need to comply with the regulations from 23 September 2019. This is when it will start applying to new websites (those published after 22 September 2018). They come into force in 3 stages:

What's covered	Deadline to comply with the regulations
New public sector websites (published after 22 September 2018)	22 September 2019
All other public sector websites	22 September 2020
Public sector mobile applications	22 June 2021



## WCAG 2.1 Compliant Checklist

To meet WCAG 2.1 to level AA you must be able to answer YES or Not Applicable to all of the following questions.

Answering NO means that you are not meeting WCAG and your content will have barriers that will prevent some users, especially disabled users and older people, from accessing it.

### Perceivable

- ✓ Do all images have an appropriate text equivalent? Is essential visual information also available as text?
- ✓ Do all audio files have a transcript? Is essential audio information available as text?
- ✓ Do all videos have captions that are synchronised with the audio?
- ✓ Do videos that include important visual information have an audio description?
- ✓ Is all content structure that is communicated visually available to assistive technologies?
- ✓ If styling is removed is the content in a logical order?
- ✓ Have you avoided using visual characteristics to communicate information?
- ✓ Have you avoided using colour as the only way to convey some information?
- ✓ Can users stop an audio that auto-plays?
- ✓ Does all text have sufficient contrast against the background colour?
- ✓ Is the content fully usable when text is enlarged up to 200%?
- ✓ Have you avoided using images of text?
- ✓ Can users flip the content horizontally and vertically?
- ✓ Have you added HTML autocomplete tokens to any forms collecting information about the user?
- ✓ Does the page content resize to a single column with no horizontal and vertical scrolling?
- ✓ Do all important graphical objects, interface components, and states have a colour contrast of 3:1?
- ✓ Can line height, spacing between paragraphs and letter and word spacing be changed without breaking anything?
- ✓ Where extra content is shown or hidden on focus, can it be dismissed, interacted with (and not disappear when the user moves to it) and will stay visible until dismissed by the user?

### Operable

- ✓ Can all menus, links, buttons, and other controls be operated by keyboard?
- ✓ Do pages that have time limits include mechanisms for adjusting those limits?
- ✓ Can any content that moves or auto-updates be stopped?
- ✓ Have you avoided using content that flashes or flickers?
- ✓ Can blocks of links and other interactive elements be bypassed by keyboard users?
- ✓ Does each page have a unique title that indicates its purpose and context?
- ✓ When using a keyboard to move through a page does the order make sense?



- ✓ Is the purpose of every link clear from its link text?
- ✓ Does the website have two or more ways of finding content, such as a navigation menu, search feature, or site map?
- ✓ Are headings and labels clear and descriptive?
- ✓ When using a keyboard to move through a page can you tell where you are?
- ✓ Do you have shortcuts triggered by only one letter or character? If so, can they be turned off or remapped by the user?
- ✓ Does some of your site functionality need several fingers or complex gestures to operate it?
- ✓ Does some of your site functionality work using a single point (e.g fingertip) and is it triggered the moment it is touched?
- ✓ On forms and other components is the accessible name or label the same as any on-screen text?
- ✓ Does your site respond to motion or movement to operate parts?

## Understandable

- ✓ Has the language of the web page or document (or individual parts of a multilingual document) been defined?
- ✓ Have you avoided links, controls, or form fields that automatically trigger a change in context?
- ✓ Does the website include consistent navigation?
- ✓ Are features with the same functionality labelled consistently?
- ✓ Do forms provide helpful, understandable error and verification messages?

## Robust

- ✓ Is the web page coded using valid HTML?
- ✓ Do all interactive components have an accessible name and role and, when required, state? Has the correct ARIA mark-up been used and does it validate?
- ✓ Are status messages and updates given appropriate roles that can be understood by AT, without receiving focus?

TEEC'S free to use template offers WCAG 2.1 compliancy for your parish council site

Please visit our website <https://myparishcouncil.co.uk> for further information or access the Parish Council template tool.

Alternatively please call 01635 282361 or email [parishcouncils@teec.co.uk](mailto:parishcouncils@teec.co.uk)

All information taken from gov.uk

<https://alphagov.github.io/wcag-primer/checklist.html#checklist>