



Please help support this charitable service by donating £3\* Text [Ability](tel:84858) to 84858

## Assessment Service – Legal Cases

**This service is intended for people who require an assessment of their computer needs in order to support a legal claim.**

AbilityNet has enormous experience in resolving ICT access issues and several of our experienced team of assessors offer this service for people who require an assessment of their computer needs in order to support a legal claim linked to personal injury and/or medical negligence.

AbilityNet provides expert assessments and reports under Civil Procedure Rules (CPR). We do so when the requirement is in our specialist area, adaptive and assistive computer technology. We are able to use our considerable experience to assess how technology could replace lost function and ability and contribute to maximising full and independent living.

### Why an Assessment?

All too often it can be assumed -incorrectly - that people with disabling conditions are limited in what they can achieve, even with a modern computer. **If** only the standard keyboard, mouse and screen are considered, used in the standard way, then limitations may be inevitable....

.... **but** a large and powerful range of alternative and adaptive approaches is available. When properly selected and used, an appropriate technique can empower the “disabled” person by providing an efficient and comfortable link between the potential of the individual and the desired end result.

How can this **best** technique be chosen? By a process of assessment which brings together the disabled person, the hardware and software alternatives themselves, and the experience of an expert.

### An Assessment by AbilityNet

An assessment for legal purposes will always include the following elements:

- conversation, in confidence; to focus attention on the individual and to ensure that all relevant history and circumstances are considered:
- arriving at a clear understanding of what is required and what is wanted:
- consideration of the environment in which the solution will be used, including existing hardware and software requirements, location and space:
- demonstrations and hands-on trial of the relevant hardware and software solutions, using AbilityNet’s equipment:
- discussion of major conclusions.

We can address all types of disabling condition. We work with people with physical and sensory impairment, with difficulties with written language such as dyslexia, with people with upper limb disorders or “RSI”. Alternative approaches exist in all cases and the process required is the same.

AbilityNet’s view is **independent**. We can advise without bias on products and suppliers. Without these elements - without “hands-on” trial, without time to address individual detail, without independent experience - any process of assessment is limited and may risk a result that confirms limitation instead of achieving empowerment. Our motivation is always to provide accurate and realistic assistance to allow those we meet to reach their potential. In order to do this there may be some occasions where we need to integrate our recommendations with those of other specialists.

## The Report

Each assessment is documented by the consultant in a report which details recommendations and the reasons for them.

## Where

The assessment can take place at the client’s location, at AbilityNet centres, or at other locations. In most cases there are significant advantages to conducting the assessment where the client will be using any proposed solution. The consultant will then take into account all aspects of the local environment, such as desk and chair, space and noise.

## Cost (VAT is added to all charges)

Assessment at client location with report for court	£995 + expenses
Assessment at client location (report not for court)	£675 + expenses

The following additional charges may apply:

Commenting on other reports, attending conferences:	£130 per hour + travel time
Attending court:	£130 per hour + travel time
Admin fees:	£95 per hour

## Cancellation Charges

For cancellation of an assessment a sliding % fee is charged.

7 to 10 Days - 10%

3 to 6 Days – 25%

Less than 48 Hours – 50%

Same day – 80%

If we reserve dates for a court attendance we require 6 weeks notice of cancellation, otherwise a cancellation fee of £225 per day applies.

## To arrange an assessment

For further information or to arrange an assessment contact our advice and information service on 0800 269545 or email [enquires@abilitynet.org.uk](mailto:enquires@abilitynet.org.uk)

\* Messages charged at standard rate. You will receive two confirmation messages charged at £1.50 each. AbilityNet will receive your donation net of charges applied by mobile network operators and a processing fee. If you have any questions regarding this service, please call 020 7549 2222.