

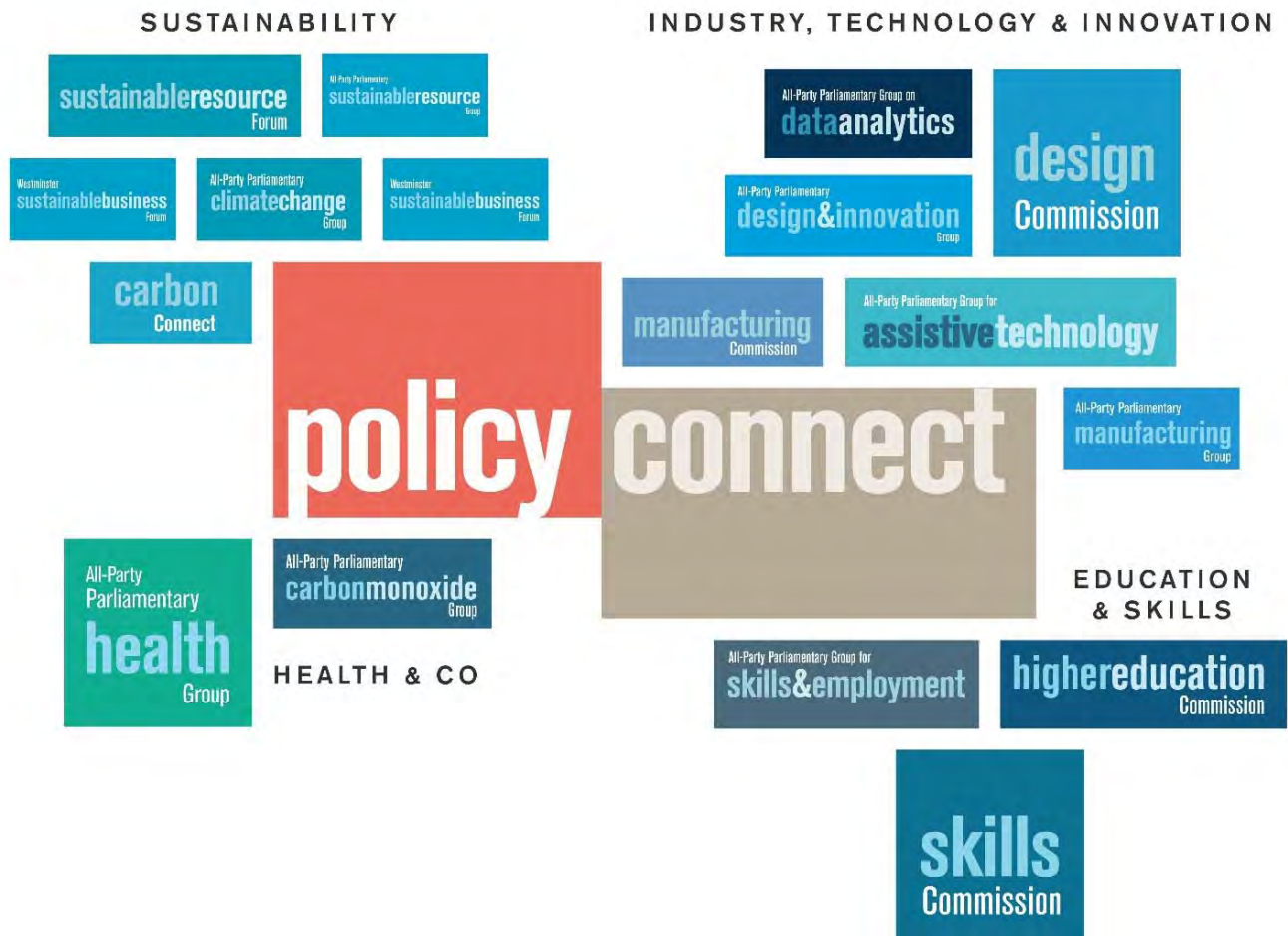
All-Party Parliamentary Group for

**assistive**technology



TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT DISABLED PEOPLE INTO EMPLOYMENT

**policy** connect



TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT DISABLED PEOPLE INTO EMPLOYMENT

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TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT DISABLED PEOPLE INTO EMPLOYMENT

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Seema Malhotra MP  
Co-chair of the APPGAT



Launch of the APPGAT the Speaker's house



Lord Low of Dalston CBE  
Co-chair of the APPGAT

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TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT DISABLED PEOPLE INTO EMPLOYMENT

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Minister for Children & Families, Nadim Zahawi MP, announces the AT Expert Group

- Inclusion at the heart of the EdTech Strategy
- AT Expert Group formed
- Demonstrator program to include AT

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- 50 years since **Chronically Sick & Disabled Person's Act**
- 25 years since **Disability Discrimination Act**
- 10 years since **Equality Act**
- 10 years since **Autism Act** (Nov 2019)



Alf Morris MP

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- 2017 Improving Lives White Paper
  - 1 million more disabled people into work by 2027
  - accessible apprenticeships
- 2018 Work and Pensions Select Committee
  - ‘few mechanisms for disabled people to find out about AT and learn how to use it’
- 2019 National Audit Office Report
  - DWP is not achieving value for money
  - SEND focus on preparing young people for adulthood
- New Equalities Hub



Cabinet Office



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- FE & Apprenticeships
- Access to Work
- JobCentre Plus work coaching
- Disability Confident scheme



# Disability Equality Framework

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- Identify barriers
- Produce policy recommendations
- Increase awareness in public and private sector
- Pilot programmes (Work and Health Innovation Fund)
- Influence policy

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## Raising Awareness of Assistive Technology

“How do we constantly refresh people’s awareness of what assistive technology is out there and then empower them to know how to make the right recommendations for any given individual?” – *Robin Christopherson, MBE, Head of Digital Inclusion at AbilityNet*

- Employers, educators, job coaches, and disabled people
- SMEs & self-employed

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## Government Programmes

“It’s about getting the systems in place so best practice is not by chance but becomes just the way we do things.” - *Jonathan Shaw, CEO Policy Connect*

- ‘Process-centred’ rather than person-centred
- Disability Confident scheme
- Access to Work

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## Technology Developers

“There needs to be effort or incentives put into mainstream and specialist industry around addressing the needs of those people [with the most complex disabilities] that we’re leaving behind.” - *Steve Tyler, Director of Assistive Technology at Leonard Cheshire Disability*

- Mainstreaming vs specialist technologies
- Surfacing of accessibility features
- Government procurement and social value legislation for digital accessibility

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## Cultural Change

“Seeing the technology as a solution in its own right doesn’t mean that you get a long term, sustainable use of the technology.” – *Alice Mathers, Head of Research and Explorations, Good Things Foundation*

- Employer attitudes toward disability
- Disability confidence in recruitment
- Leadership to drive change

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- January: form the steering group
- March: commission launch
- March-May: three-four parliamentary evidence sessions
- July: report launch

# J h w # q y r o y h g

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