

REVEALING REALITY

frontier
economics

OUR REPORT ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF WHEELCHAIRS

WRITTEN FOR THE WHEELCHAIR ALLIANCE BY FRONTIER
ECONOMICS AND REVEALING REALITY



Easy read booklet

December 2023

This report has four parts.

Part 1: Who we are and what this booklet is about



The Wheelchair Alliance are an organisation who do work to make the lives of wheelchair users in England better.



The Wheelchair Alliance wanted to find out more about how high-quality wheelchairs can improve people's lives. Quality means how good or bad something is.



We worked with the Motability Foundation who support research which can improve the lives of disabled people.



This booklet is an Easy Read summary of our report. A summary means a short version.



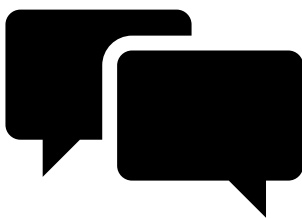
Wheelchairs have a big effect on the lives of thousands of disabled adults, children and their families and carers.



We know that, for some reasons, not all NHS wheelchair services are as good as they should be.



We wanted to understand the value of the providing the right wheelchair to the right person. Providing means how wheelchairs are given to people.

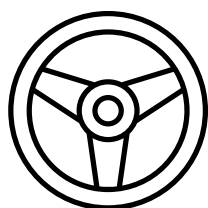


We wanted to ask wheelchair users how wheelchairs let them have good social lives and have good education and work chances.

Part 2: What we found out about how wheelchairs impact disabled people's lives



Wheelchair users told us that a high-quality wheelchair can improve a disabled person's life in a number of ways.



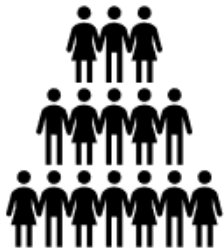
Wheelchairs can make disabled people more independent. Independence means you have control over your own life.



Wheelchairs can make disabled people more healthy. Healthy means in a physical and mental condition.

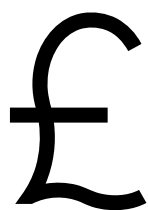


Wheelchairs can improve disabled people's work and education chances.

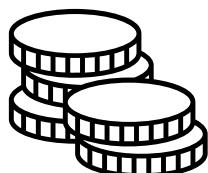


High-quality wheelchairs can also improve the lives of carers and reduce costs for the NHS.

Part 3: What we found out about the value of high-quality wheelchairs



High-quality wheelchairs have a big impact on disabled people's lives. We can measure this impact using money.



High quality wheelchairs can create value worth over £10,000 for each wheelchair user every year. Value means the financial benefit to the wheelchair user, their family and society.



Spending slightly more on NHS wheelchair services could increase the value that services currently provide.

Part 4: What we think should change

1

The NHS should help improve wheelchair services across England. This could include setting standards that all areas follow. A standard is an agreed level of quality.

2

The government should think about spending more money on wheelchair services. This could improve the quality of provision and make disabled people's lives better.

3

Local wheelchair services should work together and also work with other local services like social care. This could help them to provide a better service.



REVEALING REALITY

Frontier Economics Ltd is a member of the Frontier Economics network, which consists of two separate companies based in Europe (Frontier Economics Ltd) and Australia (Frontier Economics Pty Ltd). Both companies are independently owned, and legal commitments entered into by one company do not impose any obligations on the other company in the network. All views expressed in this document are the views of Frontier Economics Ltd.

WWW.FRONTIER-ECONOMICS.COM