CAE and the promulgation of inclusive design

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CAE

• established for 30 years
• information provider and forum for the exchange of experiences and ideas
• social model disability charity
• entrepreneurial and independent
CAE believes

- CAE believes that disability is a natural part of the human experience. It does not find it helpful or accurate to designate people arbitrarily as ‘able-bodied’ or ‘disabled’.

- CAE believes that we are all inconvenienced by a built environment designed for a single user stereotype that represents the nimble young.
CAE believes cont

• This stereotype excludes those with impairments or who are growing older, small children and those accompanying them, travellers and shoppers with bags and suitcases.
• To encompass the needs of real people, CAE advocates an inclusive design approach, offering dignity, autonomy and choice for everyone.
• CAE’s belief in inclusive design permeates its work.
CAE defines inclusive design

- Inclusive design:
  - places people at the heart of the design process
  - responds to human diversity and difference
  - offers dignity, autonomy and choice
  - provides for flexibility in use
What CAE does

- free information and advice
- consultancy and training
- design guidance
- projects, such as the Access Lab
Involvement in research

• disseminators and mediators of research rather than commissioners
• design guidance based on research supplemented by good practice
• feedback on concerns, problems and needs to research and regulatory bodies
Recent consultancy jobs

- strategic work rather than remediation
- London Underground Limited
- Great Ormond Street Children’s Hospital
- Access for All framework for the Olympic and Paralympic Games and legacy developments
Some observations

• undoubted need for legislation, planning and building regulations, research and research-based technical guidance

• culture change rather than adherence to formulaic prescriptions - most important of all are attitudes