



UK Disabled People's Reclaiming Our Futures Alliance

Disabled people ask our politicians to push even more for Disabled people's inclusion, equality, dignity and independence



Dignity: this means that a person and their opinions or wishes are important and listened to. This also means being treated with respect.

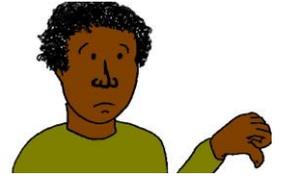
There are nearly 13 million Disabled people in the UK. Even though things have moved forward over the last 20 or 30 years, Disabled people still do not have the same chance as other people. This is because there are still barriers in society that mean that this cannot happen. There are:



- **Attitudinal barriers:** these are barriers that come from the way that people think about Disabled people
- **Physical barriers:** these are barriers that stop people from getting around and out and about
- **Communication barriers:** These are barriers that come about when information and communication is not accessible.



Things are getting worse as Disabled people have been affected much more than anyone else by Government cuts.



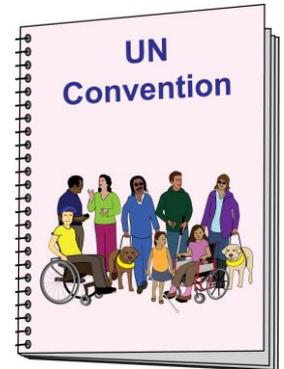
We need some things to happen quickly so that we can bring back fairness and equal opportunities for Disabled people. This means thinking again about the way we look at employment, social care, education and poverty. This is so that Disabled people can reach their goals, take part in and give to society in the same way that everyone else does.



We are asking the next Government to agree to:

1. Inclusive education: education that everyone can be a part of

- Show that they agree to the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Article 24**. Do this by training schools and organisations that are part of **mainstream education** on inclusion of all Disabled children and young people.



United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: this is an agreement that countries sign up to, to push for the rights of disabled people.

Article 24: this is part of the Convention which says what rights Disabled people should have to education.

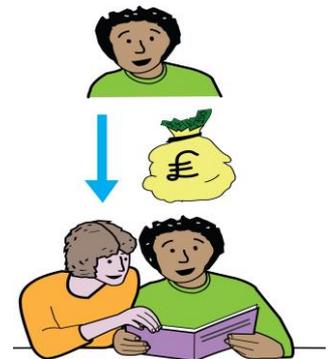
Mainstream Education: this is where disabled students learn in the same place as non-disabled students.

- Look to change the law so that Disabled children and young people have a right by law to be a part of a mainstream school with the support they need to be able to access these schools.



2. Independent Living for Disabled people

- Set up a right by law to independent living. This should be in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Work together with Disabled people to plan and put in place independent living support all around the country. This support should reach the same goals as the Independent Living Fund; this was a pot of money which supported Disabled people with high support needs to live independently.
- Put in place an action plan to close all Assessment and Treatment Units and support Disabled people to move back into the community.
- Agree to make sure that social care is free when someone needs to use it.



3. Pay the extra costs of disability

- Bring in new assessments that are planned together with Disabled people that are used instead of the Work Capability Assessment and the Personal Independence Payment Assessment. These assessments are not working.



- Put an end to assessments being done by companies
- Bring back the **Spare Room Subsidy**



Spare Room Subsidy: this was money that the government did not charge to people who had extra bedrooms and were living in local authority houses. This has now been taken away and people must now pay for their extra rooms. This is sometimes called the Bedroom Tax.

- Get rid of **sanctions** and rules that can mean people lose their benefits



Sanctions: here, this means that when you break the rules of benefits or support, they can be taken away for different amounts of time.

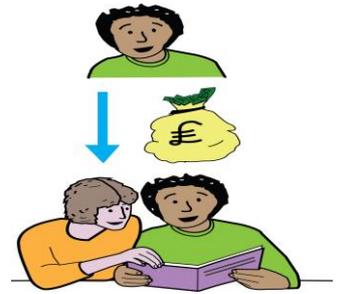
- Do a **cumulative impact assessment** on all cuts and changes affecting Disabled people through welfare reform



Cumulative impact assessment: this is when the government looks at how lots of different changes affect a group or different groups of people.

4. Give the right support for Disabled people to get into, stay in and get on in work

- Get rid of the Access to Work limit, so that people can get as much support as they need in work
- Spend money on making sure more people can use Access to Work. This is not only a good use of money, but it brings more money in to the Government than how much is spent. Deaf and Disabled volunteers should also be able to use this support.
- Get rid of Work Related Activity Groups for people looking for work.



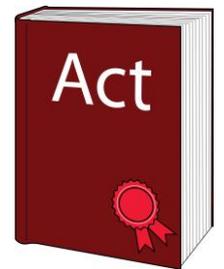
5. Get rid of the barriers that leave out Deaf and Disabled people and mean that they do not have the same chance as everyone else

- Get together a plan to deal with disability hate crime and put in place the **recommendations** of the Equality and Human Rights Commission's Report called 'Hidden in Plain Sight'.



Recommendation: this is what a person or organisation thinks should happen to make something better.

- Make sure that British Sign Language is seen as a language by law through the British Sign Language Act.
- When deciding which company should run a public transport service, there should be a rule that if there is no access to transport then there is no contract. If this rule is not kept to then there should be real costs for the company.



6. Real working together with Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations

- Make sure local authorities see the extra value that Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations give when running services
- Re-open the Office for Disability Issues Facilitation Fund, this was a fund to make Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations stronger.

