

Our voices ■ Our choices



Inclusion Scotland Manifesto 2021-26



What is this manifesto about?



A manifesto is a document that gives information about what Inclusion Scotland believes in and what we want to happen.



The coronavirus pandemic happened very quickly and made a big difference to our lives.

It hit disabled people most of all.

Disabled people are very worried about:

- losing social care support.
- having 'do not resuscitate' notices. These means someone would not get medical treatment if they stopped breathing or their heart stopped.
- losing their job.
- being able to get food, medicine, health services and other support services they need.



People told us they were finding it very difficult to cope and they were very stressed.



Before coronavirus disabled people were not always treated equally or included in their community.



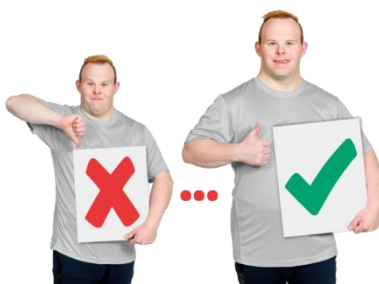
Disabled people were more likely to:

- not have enough money to live on
- not have a job
- earn less money than people who are not disabled
- have no qualifications when they leave school
- have difficulties that stop them being included in life.



Coronavirus has made all these things worse for disabled people.

Our human rights are at risk.



Going back to the way things were before is not good enough for disabled people.

Disabled people have told us what they have gone through and what needs to change.



Inclusion Scotland's Manifesto has 'Five Asks'.

An ask is something we want the Scottish Parliament to do to make things better for disabled people.



We want all candidates for the Scottish Parliament Elections to support the 5 asks.

A candidate is someone who wants to be elected to the Parliament.

**1. Put the United Nations Convention on Rights of Disabled People into Scottish law.
This will protect our human rights.**

What disabled people tell us:



Our human rights are being ignored.
I now have less rights.



I am frightened if I go to hospital because of coronavirus I would not get the same care as someone who does not have a disability.

What disabled people want:



Put the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People into Scottish law as soon as possible.



Support for disabled people to go to court to challenge the laws, rules and ways of working that do not protect human rights.



Emergency laws and ways of dealing with pandemics or other crises must protect the rights of disabled people.

They must not change their rights to:

- life
- being treated equally in law
- freedom and security
- health and independent living.



To make sure disabled people can get the same services as everyone else, especially health and mental health treatments, food and medicines.

2. Recognise social care support as an important human right. You should be able to get support wherever you live.

What disabled people tell us:



My care has been cut from from 20 hours to none. I have to stay in bed.

I get Self Directed Support so the council cannot take my care staff away.



We feel like we do not matter and we have not been listened to.

Nothing has been done to support family carers who are doing far more.

What disabled people want:



A National Social Care Support Service.

Disabled people must be involved in making the rules about social care support.



It must recognise that social care is a basic right.

It supports people to be part of their community.



The rights of disabled people should never change because of where you live.



People should get their social care support back if it has been cut.



There should be no cost for social care support.



The Independent Living Fund Scotland should be opened again so more people can get money from it.

3. Make sure there is equal access to education and jobs for disabled people, particularly disabled young people.

What disabled people tell us:



I am worried I will have to put myself at risk or lose my job.



I had asked for simple adjustments so I could work from home and was told that could not happen. The changes have only been made because of coronavirus.

My son now has no support at all now. His main support was a school counsellor.

What disabled people want:



The Scottish Government should work with employers to support flexible working for disabled people.

Flexible working can be things like changing working hours or working from home.



Disabled people should be the most important group to get the Young Person's Guarantee.

This is the opportunity of a job, placement, training or volunteering for every 16-24 year old in Scotland.

Job support schemes must be designed with disabled people.



Make sure education works well for all children.

Every disabled child and disabled young person must get the right care and support before and when they move to being an adult.

4. Use Scottish Social Security powers so there are less disabled people in poverty.

What disabled people tell us:



My Personal Independence Payment is not getting done quickly. People are getting their new claims for Universal Credit instead. I will have no money for food after bills are paid.



Less people are claiming Personal Independence Payment because of coronavirus.



Disabled people spend a lot of money on everyday living.

It now costs more because of paying for things like online deliveries for things they need, plus protective equipment and cleaning materials for carers.

What disabled people want:



The Scottish Government to give extra money to social security payments for families with one or more disabled parent or disabled child.



More money for the Scottish Welfare Fund.

Make sure it can help families so there are less families in poverty.



Have campaigns to make sure everyone who should get the new Scottish Disability Payments is getting it.

These payments are:

- Children's Disability Living Allowance
- Personal Independence Payment
- or Attendance Allowance.

5. Involve us in making Scotland better for disabled people after coronavirus.

We are the experts in our own lives.

What disabled people tell us:



Changes made because of coronavirus rules were not accessible for disabled people.

There was too much information saying different things.



Disabled people were not asked what would work well.

There was no plan for services for disabled people.

What disabled people want:



Recognise and involve Disabled People's Organisations.

These are organisations ran by disabled people for disabled people.



Communicate with us and give us information in ways we understand.



Stop seeing disabled people as vulnerable and difficult.



Visit our website www.inclusionscotland.org to show your support for our Five Asks.



Easy Read, large print and British Sign Language versions of this manifesto and information on each of the Five Asks are available on our website.



You can also contact us by:

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