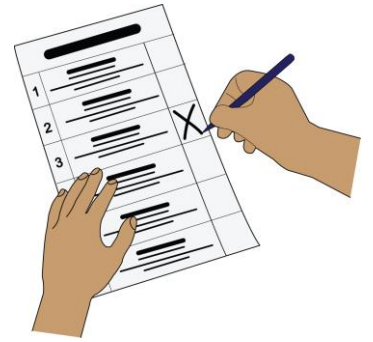


Hello everyone!

We are asking Deaf and Disabled people to make sure that you get your voices heard in the 2017 **General Election**.



General Election: this is when each area in the UK votes for a member of parliament to sit in the House of Commons. Usually the party with the most members of parliament becomes the government.

At the end of last year, the UK was the first country in the world to be investigated and found guilty by the United Nations.



The Government was found guilty of not meeting Disabled people's rights in a very bad way because of **welfare reform**.



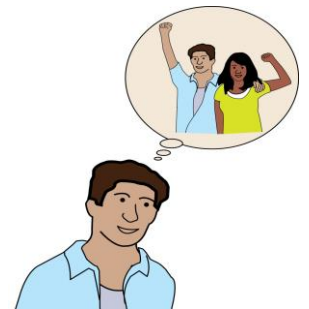
Investigated: here, this means that the United Nations looked at information from the Government and other people and organisations. They did this to find out whether the Government was making decisions that pushed for the rights of Disabled people or whether it took away rights.

Welfare reform: these are changes to the way that the government spends money on health, social care, benefits, housing and other support that people can get.

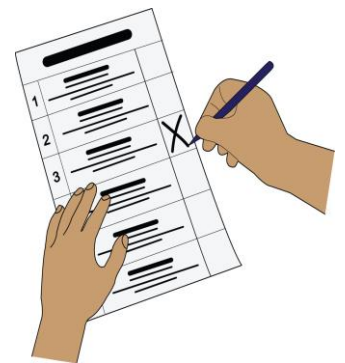
Decisions being made by the government are affecting Disabled people's lives in a big way. They are affecting education, transport, benefits, how much money we have, support at work, independent living as well as what people think about disability.



You could say that Disabled people's voices are the most important to be heard in this election. This is because we have the most to lose.



A last minute decision to have a General Election like this makes it difficult for organisations like ours. Our organisations already have a lot of work to do and do not have the money for extra work. However, we are asking all people and organisations to do what they can to support people to use their votes on 8th June.



With nearly 13 million Disabled people and 5.5 million carers we do have the power to make a difference!



In the 2014 local elections the Disabled campaign group Hammersmith and Fulham Coalition Against Cuts ran stalls in the street to talk to people. They gave out information about how the cuts were affecting local Disabled people and what different political parties were saying on disability issues.



Labour managed to win instead of the Tory Council that had won before. Because of this Labour did what it said it would do, such as getting rid of charges for care at home. **Your vote really does matter!**



Please go to the link below which looks at what each part is saying of different issues:

<https://www.inclusionlondon.org.uk/campaigns-and-policy/act-now/rofas-ge2017-manifesto-comparisons/>



Please also go to the links below to each parties manifesto:

Conservative party:

https://s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/manifesto2017/THE+CONSERVATIVE+AND+UNIONIST+PARTY+MANIFESTO+2017_EASY+READ.pdf

Green Party:

https://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/images/green_guarantee/gg-easyread-summary.pdf

Labour Party:

<http://www.labour.org.uk/page/-/Images/manifesto-2017/LabourManifestoEASYREAD.pdf>

Liberal Democrats:

<http://www.labour.org.uk/page/-/Images/manifesto-2017/LabourManifestoEASYREAD.pdf>



Also please have a look at some films that have been put together by Disabled People Against Cuts about why this election matters so much to Disabled people:

<https://dpac.uk.net/2017/06/dpac-launches-election-film-series/>