

My Vote
My Voice

My Vote My Voice Accessible Voting Campaign

Who are we?

- **My Vote My Voice is a nationwide alliance of disability advocates and organisations launched in February 2023.**
- **Led by United Response, Dimensions UK, Mencap, and Ambitious about Autism.**
- **Funded by the UK Democracy Fund, we are a non-partisan campaign.**
- **We want to help more autistic people and people with learning disabilities register to vote in the next general election.**

The logo for My Vote My Voice is a dark blue speech bubble with a white checkmark icon. The text "My Vote" is on the top line and "My Voice" is on the bottom line, both in white.

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Why do we need this campaign?

- **Better awareness** – just 40% of the general public know that disabled people have the equal right to vote.
- **Better accessibility** – 80% of the general public believe that polling stations are inaccessible for people with learning disabilities.
- **Better engagement** – disabled people were less likely to vote during the 2023 local elections partly due to many not having acceptable voter ID.
- **Better representation** – only 16% of elected councillors and less than 2% of current MPs are open about their disabilities.

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Shiu-ming Man, self-advocate, talking about the need for accessible information to be made available during elections for disabled voters

“Loads of manifestos aren’t in Easy Read, so it’s harder for people with disabilities or whose first language isn’t English to know who to vote for and what they’re voting for. The government don’t put out the Easy Read manifestos first, they put it out second or closer to the voting date so that’s why it’s not going to be more accessible.”

“I’ve supported several people going to the polling station . . . sometimes the people I’ve supported didn’t want to go until later in the evening because they were a little bit scared that they might get discriminated against . . . there’s been real tension if I’m walking in with somebody who might be non-verbal or physically disabled, and there’s a pushback from some of the people running the station and even members of the public.”

Matthew, a support worker describing some of the obstacles the people he works with face when at polling stations

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My Vote My Voice's aims

- **Build a national alliance of supporters** to help share educational resources about elections and people's democratic rights.
- **Mobilise My Vote My Voice members** to support 211,000+ autistic people and people with learning disabilities to register to vote at the next general election.
- **Collect data and people's experiences of voting** to help us think of new ideas to improve access to voting.

Our Resources

- **Easy Read guides** – how to register to vote, applying for a voter authority certificate, what to expect at a polling station, what MPs do for you, etc.
- **Accessible explainers** – election terms glossary, who the political parties are and what they stand for, how the government works, main news items, etc.
- **Campaigning tools** – election workshop plans, letter templates to write to MPs and election candidates, etc.

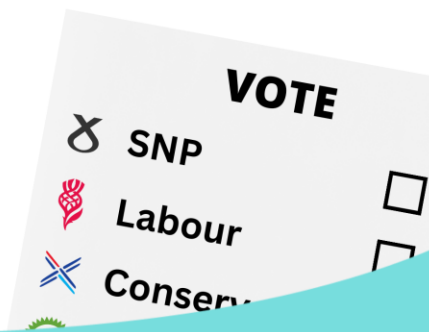
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About
registering
to vote



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Easy Read Guide to
Scotland's Main
Political Parties



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Eich Canllaw Darllen
Hawdd i brif bleidiau
gwleidyddol Cymru



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Democracy
inaction: voting
with disability

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How can you help?

- **Sign up** to [the My Vote My Voice Charter](#) and join our supporter coalition.
- **Share** accessible resources with your staff/members/people you support.
- **Encourage** people to take part in our research surveys.
- **Promote** awareness about My Vote My Voice among your network.
- **Involve** people with lived experience in our events and projects.
- **Champion** the democratic rights of autistic people and people with learning disabilities.

The logo for 'My Vote My Voice' is located in the bottom right corner. It consists of a dark blue speech bubble with a white checkmark icon to the right of the text. The text 'My Vote' is in a bold, white, sans-serif font, and 'My Voice' is in a white, cursive script font below it.

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Any questions?

Contact

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