

My Vote
My Voice

Easy read manifesto for the 2024 General Election





We are writing to you on behalf of the My Vote My Voice campaign. We are Ismail Kaji, Hannah Molloy and Dr Mark Brookes MBE.



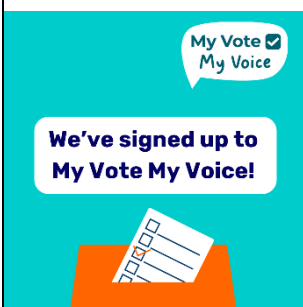
I, Ismail, am a Parliamentary Support Officer and spokesperson at Mencap. I have a learning disability.



I, Hannah, am an Autism Consultant at United Response. I am autistic.



I, Mark, am an Advocacy Lead and spokesperson at Dimensions. I have a learning disability.



The My Vote My Voice campaign is made up of over 100 organisations, councils and MPs.

It is led by United Response, Dimensions, Mencap and Ambitious About Autism.

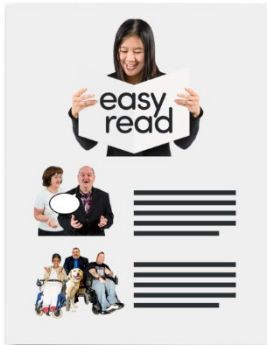


With a general election coming up in 2024, we want to see more people with learning disabilities and autistic people using their legal right to vote.



To the Democratic Unionist Party,

I'm writing to ask you to produce your Party's manifesto for the general election in easy read.



Easy read is jargon-free text with easy-to-understand words and images, like this letter.

It is great to help people understand complex information.



In 2019 the easy read manifestos were published very late.

We are asking you to publish the easy read manifestos at the same time as the standard manifestos.



This will mean people with a learning disability can find out what plans the different parties have and decide who to vote for.

This will be good for people with a learning disability, their families, parents, and carers.



There are over 1.5 million people with a learning disability in the UK. And there are over 700,000 autistic people (but this is estimated to be higher).

That's over **2 million** people like us.



Many of us don't vote because we don't understand what the parties are offering.

Because the information is not in easy read format.



If you publish an easy read manifesto at the same time as the full manifesto, you are leading by example.

You make a statement about the importance of including people with a learning disability and autistic people.



Involving people with a learning disability and autistic people shows we are all part of one society.

And it makes sure our rights aren't ignored.



We, at the My Vote My Voice campaign, can provide expertise to help you.



We have also written to the other party leaders about the same issue.

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Ismail Kaji

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ismail Kaji'.

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Hannah Molloy

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Email us and we can help you lead the way to democracy that's accessible and inclusive for all.

info@myvotemyvoice.org.uk

myvotemyvoice.org.uk

#MyVoteMyVoice



Thank you,

(pictured: Barbara and Vivek at the Parliamentary launch of My Vote My Voice)



My Voice My Vote is on a mission to encourage people with learning disabilities and autistic people to vote in the 2024 General Election.

Visit www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk to find out more.

Get in touch:

info@myvotemyvoice.org.uk
Twitter: #MyVoteMyVoice



With thanks to Photosymbols and the Electoral Commission

