

People First (Scotland) Manifesto Scottish Elections 2026



This Manifesto has been written by members of People First (Scotland)

People First (Scotland) is a User-led Disabled People's Organisation run by people with a Learning Disability for people with a Learning Disability.

We come together in our local and national self-advocacy groups to share our life experiences and campaign for change.

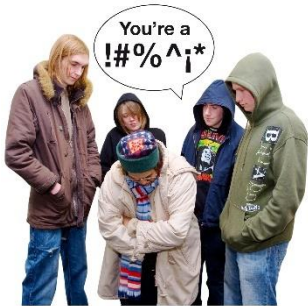
We want real change in three main areas:

- 1. The way people with learning disabilities see themselves**
- 2. The way the world sees and thinks about people with learning disabilities**
- 3. The law and policy as it affects people with learning disabilities**

Background



What is the life experience of people with a learning disability in Scotland?



Negative attitudes and stigma towards people with a learning disability still exist and expectations about what we can achieve are low.



People with a learning disability are not treated equally under the law:



The Mental Health Act is used to detain people with a learning disability in hospital inappropriately.



The Adults with Incapacity Act takes away our right to make our own decisions through Guardianship.



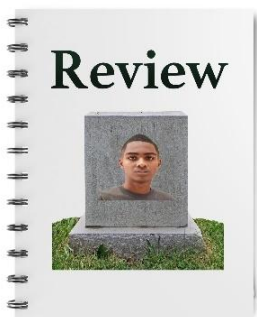
Support is not good enough or not available at all:



Support to live an independent life does not exist.



People with a learning disability are forced to live in hospital, care homes, group homes and core and cluster developments.



On average people with a learning disability die 20 years before the rest of the population because of health inequality.



People with a learning disability experience a high degree of abuse, including physical and sexual abuse.



Parents with a learning disability do not receive the support we need and many of us have our children removed.



Promises made, promises broken

For so many years we have been told that things will get better, change will happen.....we are still waiting.



We need a commitment to **take action** on what we say, to work together.



In our Manifesto we list our asks to bring about positive change for people with a learning disability in Scotland, it is time.



Our Asks, Your Commitment



Scotland to fully comply with the rights in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Person's with Disabilities.



A Human Rights Bill that makes the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Person's with Disabilities part of Scottish law.



Establish a system of Supported Decision-Making in law which replaces Guardianship legislation.



Long-term investment in social care to support us to live independently.



End the detention of people with a learning disability in hospital.



Long-term investment and funding for advocacy, including collective advocacy.

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