

V O D G

Easy Read



2017 GENERAL ELECTION:
VODG position statement



What VODG thinks about the election



We are **VODG**, the Voluntary Organisations Disability Group. **VODG** is a group of organisations that supports disabled people.



VODG helps organisations work together to make disabled people's support better.



On Thursday June 8th, there will be a **general election**.



A **general election** is when we choose who will run the country. We choose who will make the laws. We choose who will be in government.



This document has some important things we want to say to the **political parties** and some important questions we want to ask them. A **political party** is the name of a group of people who believe in the same things.



The main political parties are the Conservatives, Labour, the Liberal Democrats, the Green Party and UKIP.



Before an election, all the **political parties** make promises about the things they will do if we choose them to run our country.



When they make these promises, we want all **political parties** to make sure they think about the support of disabled and older people.

We want all the **political parties** to think about:



- people's rights



- the money that government pays for people's support



- the staff that support people.



Changing things that are unfair



There is less and less money from the government to pay for the support that people with disabilities need.



Things are already unfair for people with disabilities. It can be harder for people with disabilities to get a job, to study, to find a place to live or get support. A lot of people who are disabled are in families that are poor.



Political parties should say how they will make sure people with disabilities are as independent as they can be and have choice and control in their lives.



We want all the **political parties** to agree on a plan to make things fairer for people with disabilities.



Making sure there is enough money to pay for people's support



We want to know what the **political parties** will do to make sure that there is enough money to pay for the support that people need. We want to know how long it will take to find this money.



The government have still not made some decisions about how they will find the money to pay for people's support.



We want all **political parties** to say how they will find the money to give people the support they need.



We want to know how the government will find enough money this year, next year and in the years to come.



Finding enough staff to support people



There is less and less money to support people. Not having much money makes it very difficult for organisations to find enough of the right staff to support people.



We want **political parties** to say they will give the organisations that support people enough money to get the right staff.



People in Britain recently voted to leave the **European Union**.



The **European Union** is called the EU for short.



The **EU** is a group of countries whose governments work together.



The **EU** makes it easier for people to work in the different countries that are part of the **EU**.



A lot of staff that support people are from **EU** countries.



When Britain has left the **EU**, it may be much harder for staff to come and work from **EU** countries.



We want **political parties** to make sure that organisations can carry on getting staff from **EU** countries.



Getting organisations to work together



We want the organisations that support people, the **National Health Service**, **voluntary organisations** and government groups to work better together.



Voluntary organisations do not make a profit from their work supporting disabled people.



The **National Health Service** is called the **NHS** for short.



The **NHS** helps you if you become ill or injured. You do not pay for this help when you become ill or injured instead everyone pays for it with their taxes.



The government has given less and less money to the **NHS**. Not having enough money has made some real problems for the **NHS**.



The government set up something called the **Better Care Fund** to help with some of these problems.



The **Better Care Fund** is a way for the **NHS** and local governments to work together. The government set it up so that people could look after their health and be as independent as possible.



We want to make sure that the **Better Care Fund** works for disabled people.



We want to make sure that people get the right support, at the right time.



If you would like to say something about this document, you can contact **VODG** at: info@vodg.co.uk