

Protest For All



Easy Read Guide



Why Use This Guide



Climate change is making the world dangerously hot. It means we are getting more bad weather like floods.



Disabled people are some of the people most hurt by climate change. Disabled are 1 in 5 people. So it's important our voices are heard.



Climate change protestors are people who are trying to stop climate change. They do this by protesting. A protest means they make lots of noise so people with power have to listen.



Lots of protests leave Disabled people out because they don't think about what Disabled people need. But a few changes mean that Disabled people could protest too. Disabled people are good at solving problems so we can do a lot to help.

What to think about



Every Disabled person is different and has different needs.

Start by asking Disabled people who want to join what they need to take part.

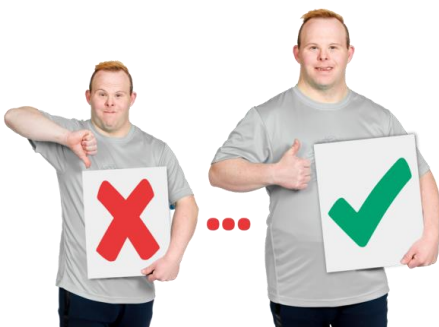


You don't know what they can and can't do without asking.

Ask people if they would like you to help and how.



Don't ask Disabled people to make your work good for Disabled people. They joined because they want to stop climate change not to give you free advice. (Climate change means the world is getting dangerously hot.)



Don't get sad or angry if you are told to do better. No one wants you to feel bad. When people tell you what you are doing wrong it is a chance to get better at it.

The building you meet in



You must meet in a building that is good for Disabled people. This means no steps to get in. Make sure there aren't things in the way of the path to the door.



Make sure the building is easy to find. It needs good buses and close parking.



It needs an accessible toilet and comfortable chairs. Some of the chairs need armrests. Stop bright lights and flashes in the room.



Some people can't leave the house easily. So make sure they can join online if they want to. Do this for your meetings and protests. (A protest means people make lots of noise so people with power have to listen.) At the protest this might mean people help in different ways to the people there in person.

In the meeting



Explain how your meetings work very clearly. Make some easy ways people can take part.



Use clear words and examples to help people understand. Don't use difficult words.

Words that seem easy to people who work on climate change are often difficult for other people. (Climate change means the world is getting dangerously hot.)



Let people see slides ahead of meetings. Say what the pictures are when you are showing them.



Have an Easy Read version and a sign language video of your most important information.

Before the protest

(A protest is when people make noise so people with power have to listen.)



Tell people what there is for Disabled people at the protest. For example if there is an accessible loo.



Give people an email and phone number that Disabled people can use to ask for the changes they need.



Tell people how to get ready, what they'll need to bring to the protest and how to stay safe.

Tell people what is happening at the protest, where it will be and what time



Offer people a buddy system. A buddy system is where people are put into pairs to look after each other.

Pay for personal assistants for Disabled people who need them if you have the money.

Written information



Make the writing on things like flyers at least size 14. Use a font like Century Gothic or Arial.



Don't use all capitals or italics. These can be hard to read.



Don't put pictures behind text. Make sure that the colour of text is very different to the colour behind it.



Give pictures alt text. (Alt text is when pictures are described with words so people who can't see can understand them.)

Give videos subtitles. (Subtitles are words put on the top of video that show what people are saying in the video so Deaf people can understand).

At the protest



Put your stalls somewhere flat so it is easy to walk and roll around.
Have a place people can be at to the side of crowds that feels safe.
This means they can be part of the event but get away if they need to.



Have clear signs saying where things are and what is happening when.
Make it easy to find out what things you have for Disabled people.



If you are in a space for more than half a day hire an accessible loo if there isn't one close by.



Have a quiet space. (A quiet space is a room or tent that is quiet and has no strong smells.)
Disabled people can go here to feel better when things are stressful.

At the protest



Use a sound system.
Use a hearing loop if you are indoors.



Hire a sign language interpreter. This is someone who makes sure Deaf people can understand the speech and other people can understand Deaf people.



Make sure all Disabled people can use the stage.
Have a space at the front of the stage for Disabled people to listen.



Ask Disabled speakers to make speeches.

Stewards



Stewards are people who keep people safe on protests. A protest means they make lots of noise so people with power have to listen.

Stewards must know how to answer questions Disabled people might have and how to keep them safe.



Have one or two stewards who are there for Disabled people.



Give all stewards this guide to read.



Give stewards sunflower stickers and headphones to make things quieter. They can give them to people who need them.

Sunflower stickers show that someone has a disability that can't be seen.

At the protest



Marches are when lots of people walk and roll together to protest. A protest means they make lots of noise so people with power have to listen.

Some Disabled people will want to be at the front of the march.

Some Disabled people will want to be at the back.

Let them choose before the march starts.



Have quieter areas of the march.



Make sure there are dropped kerbs when the march moves. These are parts of the pavement that are made flat to the road so that wheelchair users can get down.



Make sure there are benches where you are marching so people can sit down. Or carry chairs with you.

Noise



Protests can be very noisy. (A protest is when people make lots of noise so people with power have to listen.) This can be difficult for some Disabled people.



Have headphones that make it quieter. Make it clear how people can borrow them.



Drums and loud music can be very difficult for some Disabled people. Tell people it is going to get loud ten minutes before the noise starts so people can go to a quiet place if they need to.



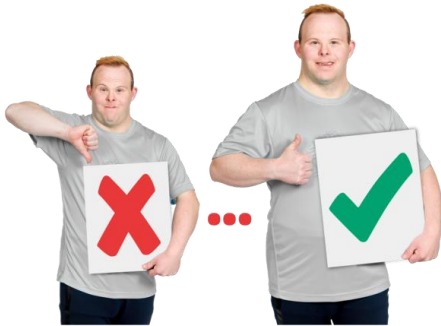
Make some quieter spaces at the protest.

Making things difficult for everyday people



Some protests make things difficult for lots of people. (A protest is when people make lots of noise so people with power have to listen.) For example they stop cars.

Some Disabled people think this is bad. Some Disabled people are OK with it



Think about how your protest might be bad for Disabled people.

Find ways to stop these problems.



If your protest will get in the way of cars let people know where this will happen. This means Disabled drivers can take a different road.



Be very careful not to stop people from getting to hospital.

Arrests



Some protests might get people in trouble with the police. (A protest is when people make noise so people with power have to listen.)

People might get arrested. Being arrested means the police put someone behind bars and they can't get out for hours.



Tell people how they can make sure they don't get arrested.

Other Disabled people might want to be arrested.

Tell people what they need to know to make the right choice for them and how to be safe.



Sometimes the police pick on Disabled people.

If this happens stand in between the Disabled person and the police.

Ask the Disabled person if they want help to get away.

Help them if they ask for it and don't if they don't want it.



At the police station people with learning difficulties can ask for someone to make sure they understand the police.



Take your medicine with you if you might get arrested. It has to be in its packaging.

Who made this guide



This guide was turned into Easy Read by Beth Richards and Emma Geen.



The main guide was written by Disabled people. They are Maud Brown, James Deane, Joanne, Emma Geen, Hilary Smart, Valerie Stanfield, Beth Richards, and Laura Welti.



The money to turn this guide into Easy Read was given by a project called Sensing Climate at the University of Exeter.



If you have any ideas to add to the guide you can get in touch with Emma at [**futuremancy@gmail.com**](mailto:futuremancy@gmail.com).