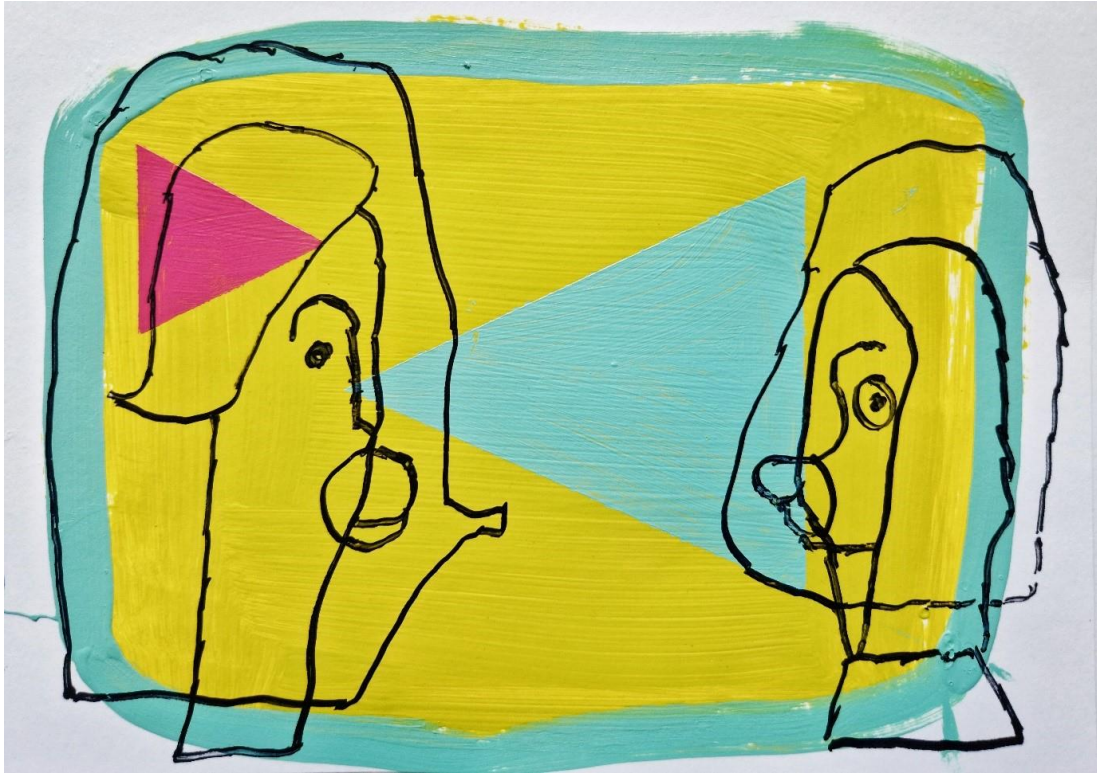


Lived Experience Board



John G



Thank you for talking to us about the consultation process

It's really helpful to understand how this process works

Often people with learning disabilities can feel excluded or that they are not allowed to know how things work in the Government

This means we can make suggestions to you about how the process could be improved or work better for people with learning disabilities

If the Human Rights Bill is to work better for people with learning disabilities, then its crucial the consultation does too

John C



Here are some of our thoughts on the consultation process and some ideas on how to make it work better for people with learning disabilities

Aaron

Must be visible!



A lot of people didn't know there would be a consultation

Even if they knew that the government wanted to make a new Human Rights Bill for Scotland they didn't know the consultation was coming out

It wasn't well promoted or advertised

The public won't know they can have an opinion

Many people with learning disabilities already feel left out or silenced



Solutions

Promote and advertise where people with learning disabilities are likely to see it

For example, community groups and hubs, support providers, local msp

Don't just promote digitally, lots of people with learning disabilities can't access the internet or don't always get the support to use it

Ask people with learning disabilities where they would see it



Sandy

What is a consultation?



Some people know what a consultation is but many don't

There isn't enough awareness or understanding of government processes. We don't get taught about this enough

People with learning disabilities aren't involved enough.

Fiona



Solutions

Education should be more about how governments work and how people can be involved

Government should do more outreach work with learning disability groups

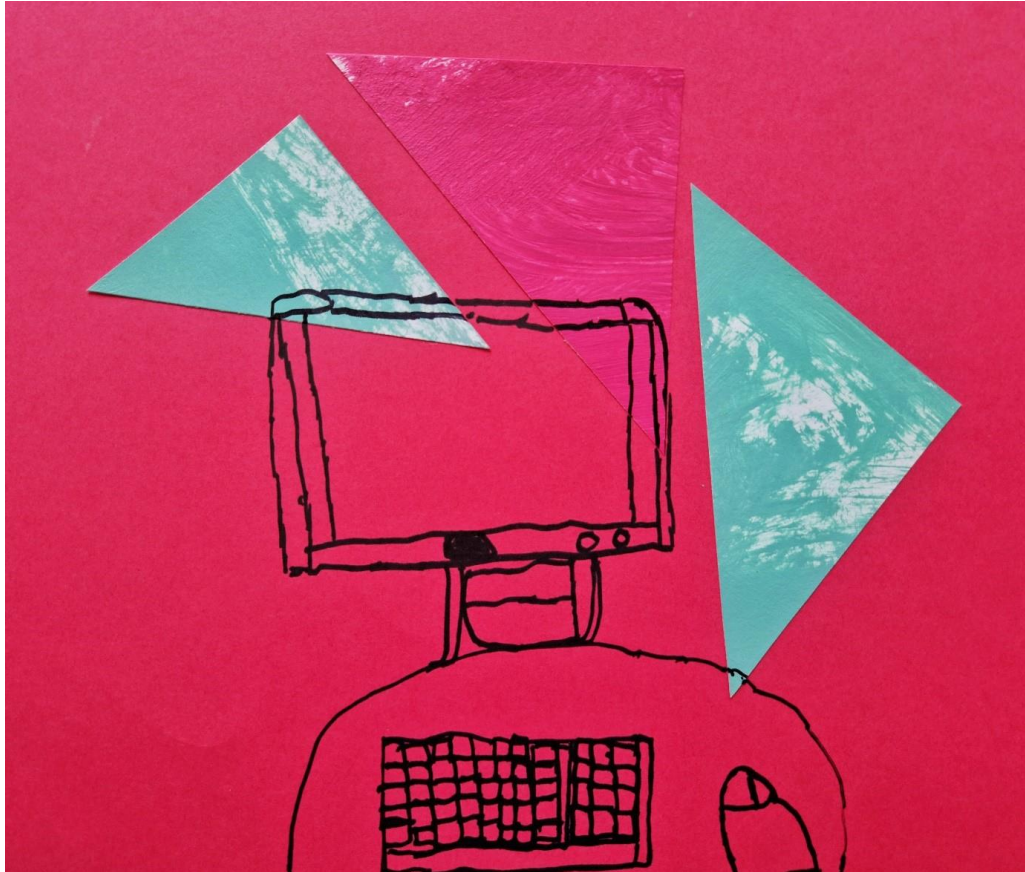
Encourage support providers to give us information

People often assume we won't understand or we won't care so they don't tell us what's going on

Don't assume we are stupid. We are the experts on our own lives and we want to know how and why decisions about us are made

Leeanne

The easy read must be easy to read!



The easy read version of the consultation missed out a lot of important information that was in the non-easy read version

It was easy to understand at some bits but really confusing at others

It was great that there was Gaelic, sign language, and audio versions

But it was all online

Lindsay



Solutions

Break down the difficult terms and ideas more

If the consultation needs to be longer it could be split into different documents

For example, mini booklets for each section

If we had more understanding to start with about how the government make decisions then it would be easier to understand the consultation

We need this to be a bigger part of education

Fiona

Must be accessible



There needs to be a version of the consultation that works for people with complex needs

The consultation was really difficult to find online. The government website isn't very accessible. Whats the point of an easy read consultation if we can't get to it?

Its great to have accessible digital versions but please remember that some people don't have the money to buy the technology or don't have the support to use it

Sandy



Solutions

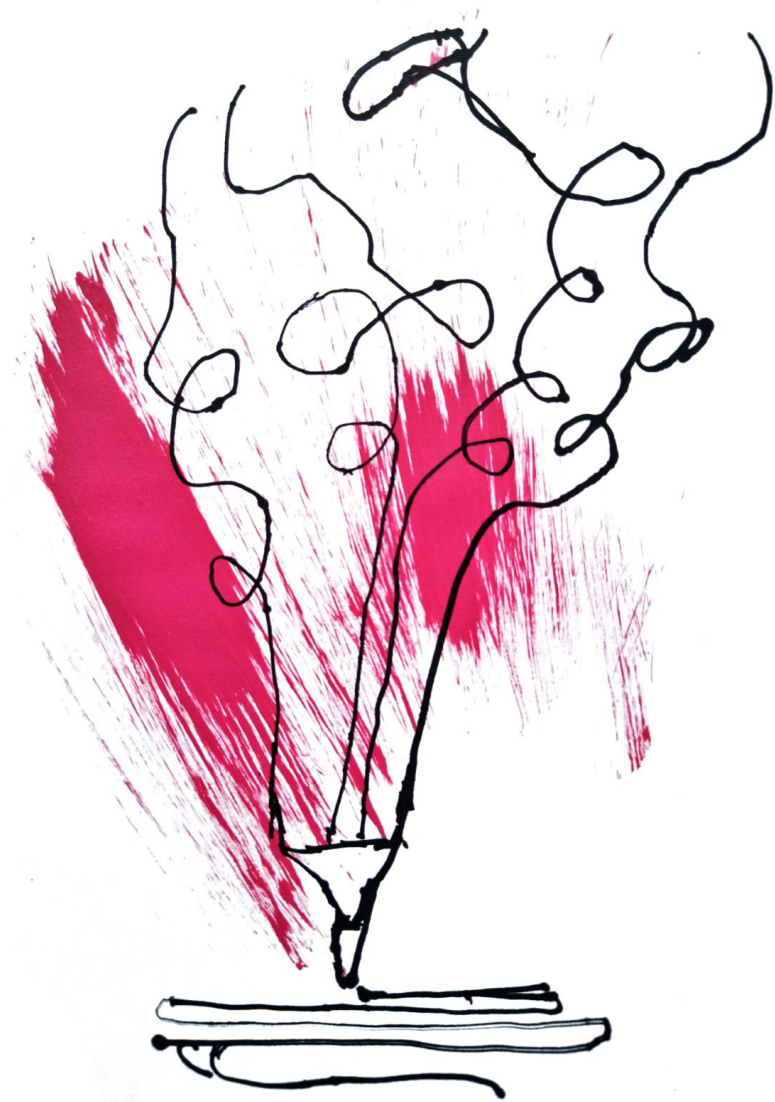
The government could hold in-person events to present the consultation and help people understand it

Send paper versions to support providers and community groups

A video or animation to help people understand the key points would be helpful

Leeanne

Must be easy to respond to



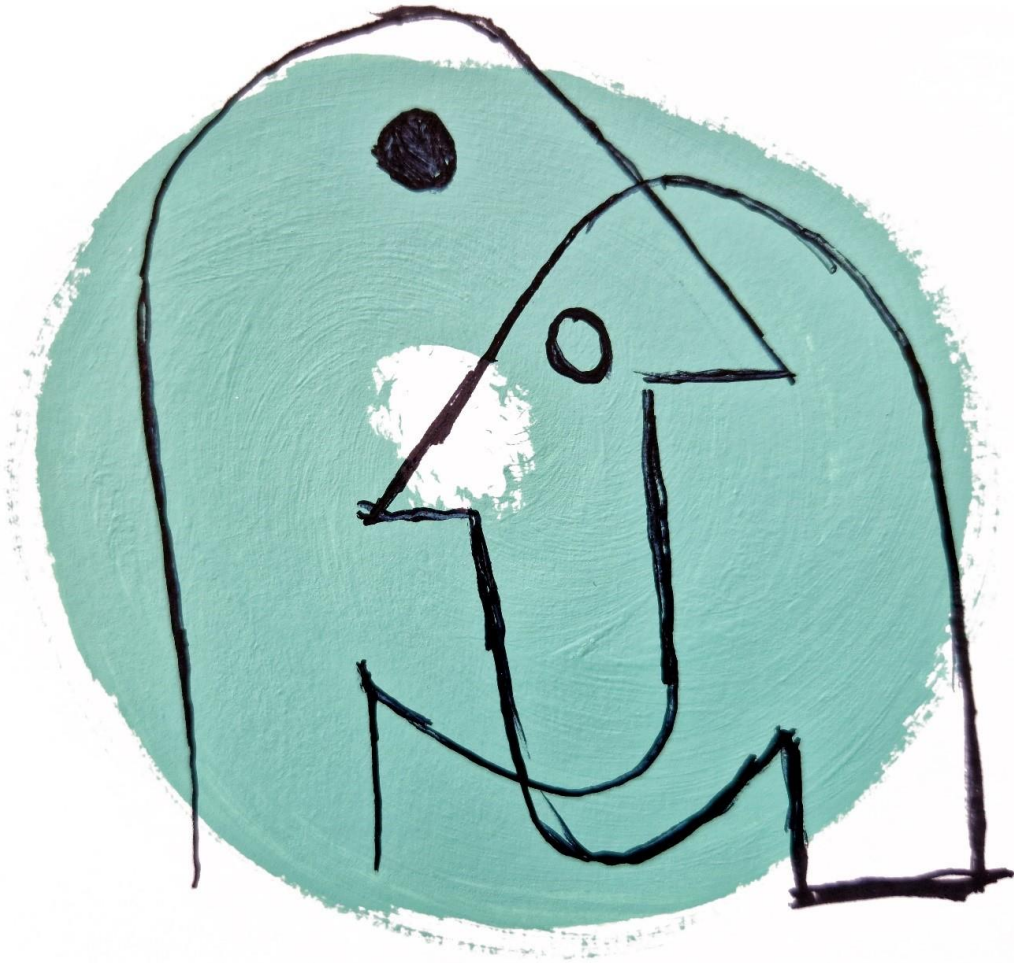
We were able to write a good response because we are part of this group and we worked on it together

But many people with learning disabilities don't know where to start and don't get enough support from people to respond properly

Not all support providers will or can help you. They might be too busy, or understaffed, or they don't understand it either. Or maybe they just don't care

It is great that there were different ways to respond but this wasn't made clear enough. The pages with this information weren't accessible

Lindsay



Solutions

Make all information about the consultation into easy read and much clearer. Including all the different ways to respond

The government should encourage support providers to support people to respond. They might need training to know how best to do this.

If the government did outreach sessions on the consultations they could gather responses to questions at the same time

Sometimes people find it confusing to switch between documents. The easy read document could include the questions and have text boxes in it that you can write your answers in