

Scotland's Invisible People: Support and Opportunities for Adults with Learning Disabilities

A report by the Fraser of Allander Institute

Easy read version

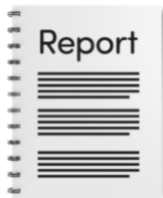


September 2020

Who are the Fraser of Allander Institute?



We are a group of researchers who want to know more about life for people with learning disabilities in Scotland.



We wrote this report.

What is this report about?



We are doing research into the lives of people with learning disabilities in Scotland.



This is our first report about people with learning disabilities.



We want to find out what society can do to make life better for people with learning disabilities.



We want to know what the government can do to help people with learning disabilities.



We want to know what people with learning disabilities think is important.

Some facts about learning disabilities in Scotland



There are maybe up to 175,000 people with a learning disability in Scotland.



That is more people than in Dundee.



Nearly half of people with a learning disability live with a family carer.



More than 75% of family carers are parents.



Most people with a learning disability live in their own home but some live in a care home.



Many people with learning disabilities want a paid job but only 7% have one.

What has got better?



Some things have got better for people with learning disabilities in Scotland.



For example staying in hospital for a long time is less common today.



We now know more about people with learning disabilities.



The Scottish Commission for Learning Disability was set up.

Who are The Scottish Commission for Learning Disability?



The Scottish Commission for Learning Disability was set up by the government.



They make sure people with learning disabilities are listened to.



They help the government make sure the things in **The Keys to life** happen.

What is The Keys to life?



The Scottish Government wrote **The Keys to life.**



It is a plan for the future.



It tells us what the Scottish Government wants to do for people with learning disabilities.

What needs to get better?



Everyone needs to work together to make things better for people with learning disabilities.



There is now more money to help but it is not enough to meet the goals of **The Keys to life**.



Carers and families need more help.



Some people with learning disabilities want more help to find a job.



We need more information to know more about people with learning disabilities.



The government should think about people with learning disabilities in every part of their work.

The Keys to life Expert Group



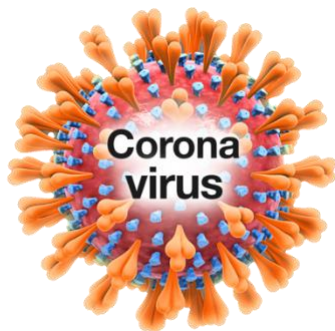
The Keys to life Expert Group are a group of people with learning disabilities that talk about the issues raised in **The Keys to life**.



We spoke with **The Keys to life** Expert Group to hear what is important to them.



They said some things have got better and they love being on the Expert Group.



But they want more help during the COVID-19 pandemic.



They want more help from the government to do things like pay for care.

What do the public think?



We asked people what they think about learning disabilities.



74% of people think the government should give extra help to people with learning disabilities.



But many people don't know what a learning disability is.



Most people have not seen a person with a learning disability on TV or in the news.

What will we do next?



We will do more research into the lives of people with learning disabilities.



We will look at the care system.



We will look at benefits and jobs.



We will look at support for families and carers.



We will look at what happens when you leave school.

Our website



You can read more information on our website.

Our website is

www.fraserofallander.org/learning-disabilities

