

# Positive Futures Manifesto 2023

For too long, people with a learning disability, acquired brain injury or autism have been forgotten in political planning.

Budgets are falling behind in real terms every year. The people supported by Positive Futures have three requests to make of anyone seeking election, whether at Council, Assembly or Westminster level.

## OUR ASKS:

### Funding:

People should be able to live a good life in their "own homes" as equal and valued members of the community if that is what they want. This requires investment in support services, so that people don't find themselves trapped in hospitals, nursing/residential homes, or other institutionalised care.

### Equal pay for staff:

People who work in the voluntary sector should be paid the same as those who perform similar roles in the NHS. This would significantly help to address the dire staffing crisis in social care, which has resulted in voluntary organisations being unable to accept new people for support, leaving people and their families with little hope for the future.

### Learning disability strategy:

While the Department of Health has established a Learning Disability Strategy Taskforce, there has been too much talking and not enough delivery. The Equal Lives Review, led by Prof David Bamford, reported in 2005. Nearly 20 years later, few of its recommendations have been acted upon. We need the Learning Disability Service Model to be delivered with sufficient funding and clear timeframes.

Positive Futures is a charity raising the voice of people with a learning disability, acquired brain injury or autism. But we cannot do it alone. **As an elected representative, will you join us in speaking out?**

Find out more about what we do at [www.positive-futures.net](http://www.positive-futures.net)

While some of the above may be outside the remit of a local councillor, you can still help us to campaign, and to push these issues further up the agenda of MLAs and MPs.

Registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC101385 | Company No NI 29849



WILL YOU  
JOIN US  
IN SPEAKING  
OUT?

POSITIVE FUTURES 