Our Statement in Support of the Statement Covid-19 and the rights of Disabled People

We are a group of people with learning disabilities / people with learning difficulties and autistic people.

We are meeting regularly to support each other during the coronavirus crisis. (Coronavirus is also called Covid-19)

Since Coronavirus has started to spread, there are stories in the news that are making Disabled people and our families very worried.

We are scared that if we go into hospital:

- We might not be supported to understand what is happening to us.
- We might not get equal treatment

We support the Statement ‘Covid-19 and the rights of Disabled people’

The Statement says:

- Our lives matter.
- Our disability is not an illness.
- We must have equal treatment for coronavirus.
The statement also says that everyone must remember the **Human Rights Act**.

This is a law that means we have:

- The right to life.
- The right to be involved in decisions.
- The right to be treated equally and fairly.

Because of coronavirus, some of us are getting less support.

Some of us don’t have any help to understand what is happening

So, a lot of us don’t understand the government jargon and messages.

We are feeling cut off.

We are feeling left out from society and alone.

**We need:**

- Accessible information in our hands.
- Support to understand the information.
- Support to make decisions about our health.

**We want you to listen to us.**
**We say: Nothing about us without us!**
We are scared that if we go into hospital, doctors and nurses will make a decision that means we won’t get equal treatment.

Nurses and doctors might not know about all the work we do to make society a better place.

We want you to know that we do great things.

We are worried that hospital staff might think people with learning disabilities / people with learning difficulties and autistic people’s lives don’t matter.

**OUR LIVES REALLY DO MATTER.**

Thank you