



ALLIANCE
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
ALLIANCE SCOTLAND
people at the centre

CHANGE

for

**2 MILLION
EXPERT VOICES**

General Election **2017** Manifesto

Change is urgently needed

A fairer and healthier Scotland needs the UK Government to support and work with disabled people, people living with long term conditions, unpaid carers and the third sector.

Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)

Hear our voice and protect our rights

It is vital that disabled people, people living with long term conditions, unpaid carers and the third sector are at the heart of decision-making. **The UK Government should pledge to enable our meaningful participation and co-produce policy and practice with people and the third sector.**

The ALLIANCE is working with our members and partners to support the Scotland Act 2016 transitional arrangements. **We urge the UK Government to work constructively with Scottish Ministers to ensure the Smith Agreement progresses positively.**

ALLIANCE members are concerned that leaving the European Union will negatively affect people's rights to health, independent living, social protection, justice, equality and employment, amongst others. **The UK Government should ensure that leaving the EU does not compromise the rights of disabled people, people with long term conditions and unpaid carers.**

People from across the EU make a crucial contribution to the delivery of health and social care services. **The UK Government should ensure that leaving the EU does not result in negative consequences for the health and social care workforce or the availability and quality of services.**

The ALLIANCE believes that the UK should retain the Human Rights Act 1998, which incorporates the European Convention of Human Rights into domestic law. Any changes must take us forward, not back. **Plans to repeal the HRA or introduce a regressive British Bill of Rights must be scrapped.**

The UK Government should commit to mitigating health inequalities and realising all human rights of disabled people, people living with long term conditions and unpaid carers. Incorporating the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into domestic law would contribute towards this aim.

The Scottish Government's development of a Social Security Agency has, to date, emphasised responding to the rights and views of disabled people, people living with long term conditions and unpaid carers. **The UK Government should ensure the social security system is underpinned by a rights-based approach and the expertise and lived experience of people who access it.**

The ALLIANCE is opposed to any further cuts to Personal Independence Payment and Employment and Support Allowance. **MPs should commit to continuing support for existing claimants at the current rate and people who access these forms of social security on the same basis over the next five years.**



About the ALLIANCE

The ALLIANCE is the national third sector intermediary for a range of health and social care organisations. The ALLIANCE has over 1,900 members including large, national support providers as well as small, local volunteer-led groups and people who are disabled, living with long term conditions or providing unpaid care.

Our vision is for a Scotland where people of all ages who are disabled or living with long term conditions, and unpaid carers, have a strong voice and enjoy their right to live well, as equal and active citizens, free from discrimination, with support and services that put them at the centre.

Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)

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