

# Empowerment in Action



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**Glasgow Disability Alliance**  
Confident Connected Contributing

**Coproduction and Public Service Reform**  
**1.12.17**

Community does not always  
**MEAN 'community'**

There can be so much  
isolation and lack of  
engagement . . .

**Community**

Contribute

Participate

Policies

'What works!'

We need  
**CONNECTIONS!**

# Accessibility please!



# “Hard to reach or Easy to Ignore?”

Equality & Human Rights Commission research into place based approaches, 2012 & 2015

- Evidence about equalities groups is missing
- Policy-makers don't understand the complexities of exclusion faced by equalities groups or how to tackle this.
- An assumption that everyone will benefit equally from place based approaches
- Place-based policies **can** explicitly focus on equalities groups, but often in a negative way – for example disabled people as a group needing to gain employment to reduce welfare benefits expenditure.
- Place-based policies often fail to make sustained improvements in socio-economic outcomes because the root cause of problems is outwith the neighbourhood, at the scale of the town, city or greater.
- But they **COULD** benefit disabled people who are concentrated in poorer areas- if efforts were made to include people



# Case for Change

- Over 70% of members live in top 4 most deprived areas in Scotland- Over 50% in top 2
- Disabled people excluded by poverty, extra costs and cuts

## Evidence:

- “Being Disabled- a journey less equal”, 2017, JRF
- “Disability & Poverty” 2017
- UN Concluding Observations “grave and systematic violations” 2016 and “Human Catastrophe” 2017



'Poverty' isn't just  
about money

## ***ATM machine***

*Sorry .. there's not  
enough funds available*

- **Connection**
- **Access**
- **Hope**
- **Jobs**

We ALL want  
to contribute ..

.. but it's not  
always easy

***Life***

# Rights to Independent Living



**CHANNEL** our anger, enthusiasm  
and energy!

We may not have  
'the POWER!' ..

**Politician**

4000 votes!? THAT makes  
me sit up and take notice!

**GDA**

Transport  
Housing  
Accessibility  
Child care  
Costs

**GDA**

4000  
Votes



.. but we have  
the INFLUENCE!

# GDA Activities....



- **Engagement & Communications**
- **Learning Programmes**
- **Capacity Building Programmes**
- **Information & signposting**
- **Building Voices**
- **Consciousness raising**
- **Community Development**

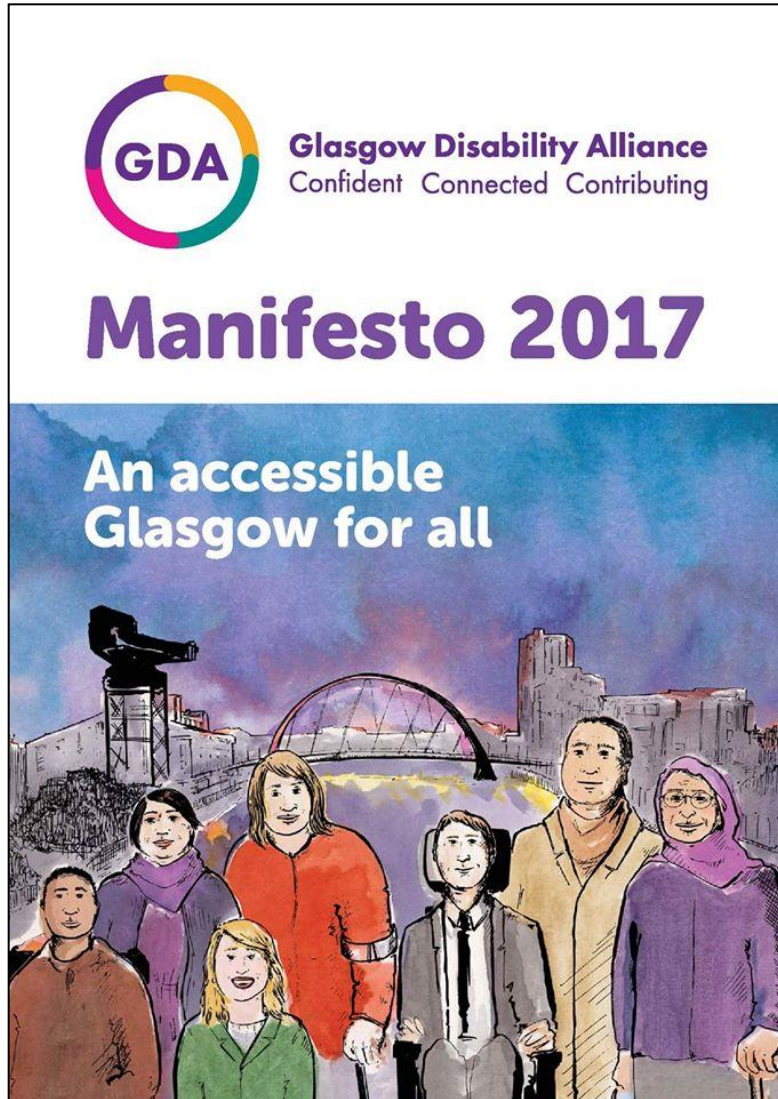
# Disabled People are Assets



# Practical support disabled people need to take part



# Working together for change....



- Disabled People at heart of tackling Poverty
- Involved in City Deal
- Action on ILS/ Thriving Communities
- SDS
- Tackling Hate Crime

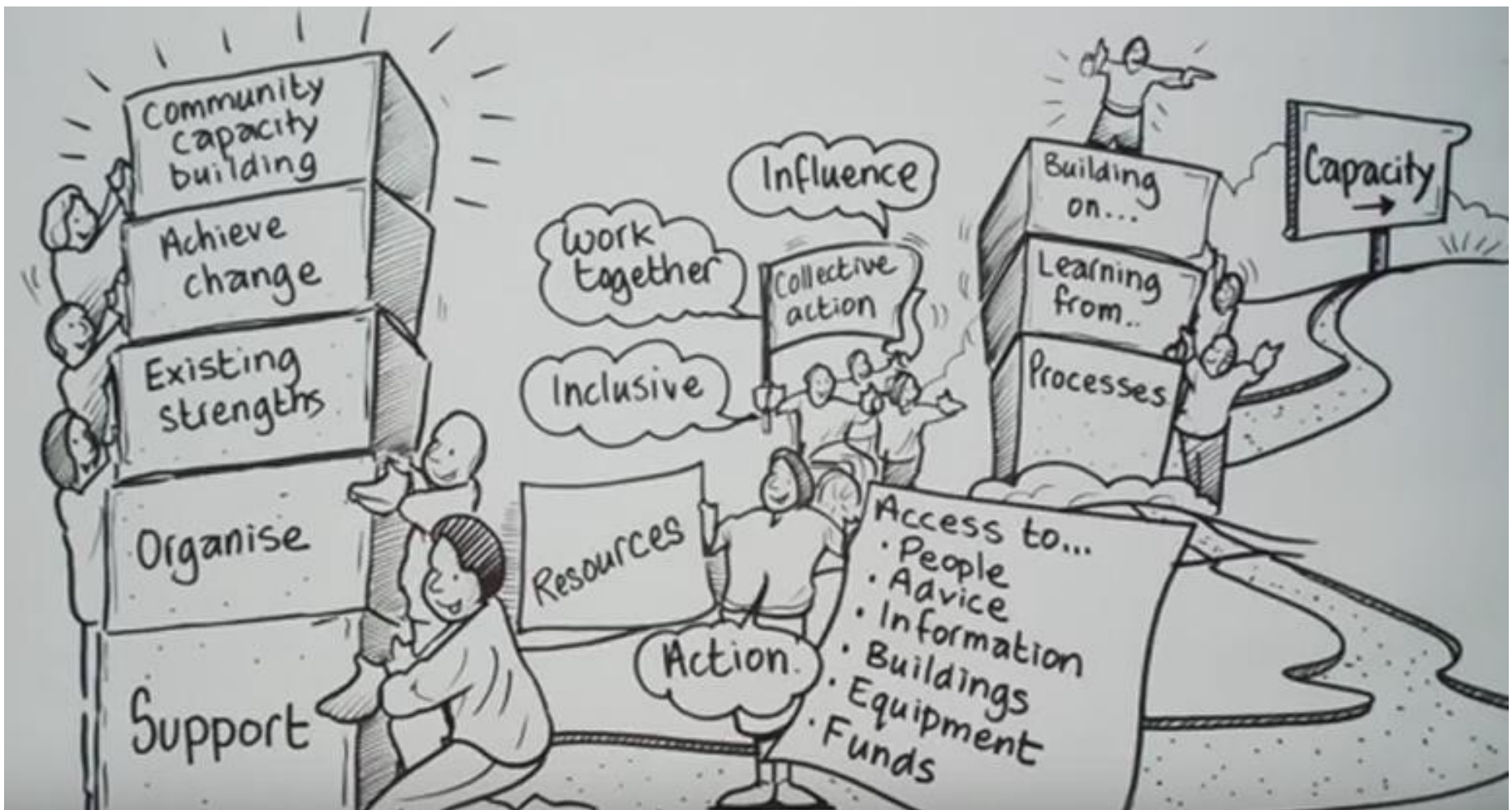


## Accessible means....

- **Venue** – level access, accessible toilets plus level access ladies & gents, space++.
- **Timings** – flexible, accommodation social care, stamina, cognition, etc.
- **Transport** – essential for most disabled people, even for local meetings / events.
- **Personal Assistance** – low-level & personal care.
- **Communication Support** – BSL, ENTs, Pas, etc.
- **Information** – MP3, Braille, large print, Electronic, videos BSL, etc.
- **Equipment** – eg hoists, wheelchairs



# Capacity Building for Change



# Capacity Building for Change



# Some examples...Nationally

**GDA has a national role to share voices and learning:**

- **Closer to Scottish Government Policy**
- **Ministerial focus – Fairer Scotland for Disabled People (UNCRPD delivery plan) across a range of areas**

- ✓ Health & Social Care
- ✓ Community Empowerment
- ✓ Self Directed Support
- ✓ Regeneration
- ✓ Skills & Employability
- ✓ Social Isolation and Social Capital
- ✓ Participation and Democratic Renewal
- ✓ Human Rights
- ✓ Hate Crime- & Community Cohesion nationally
- ✓ Social Security
- ✓ Equality Outcome



# Some Examples: Local Delivery

## Key & long term stakeholder in Glasgow & with GCG:

- Health & Social Care Structures
- GCC Budget consultations
- Poverty Leadership Panel
- Community Planning
- Employability
- Hate Crime- locally - lead role in HC working groups, awareness raising, PPP drama group performances,
- Equality Outcome Setting
- Various Commissions e.g. Mental Health
- Young disabled people
- Older disabled people
- Resilience
- Community Empowerment: participative democracy
- Inclusive Growth
- Accessible Glasgow



Disabled people know best...

I don't need "a qualification"  
to be an expert...

What WORKS!

What DOESN'T  
work

What needs to  
change!

I LIVE the  
experience

Making  
Glasgow  
accessible  
for ALL



....Involve us in meaningful coproduction!

