

An Easy Read History of

York People

First

2000 - 2022





York People First
is a self advocacy
group run and
controlled by, and
for, people with
learning
difficulties.





We are the only organisation in York with a management board of **trustees** that are all people **with learning difficulties**.





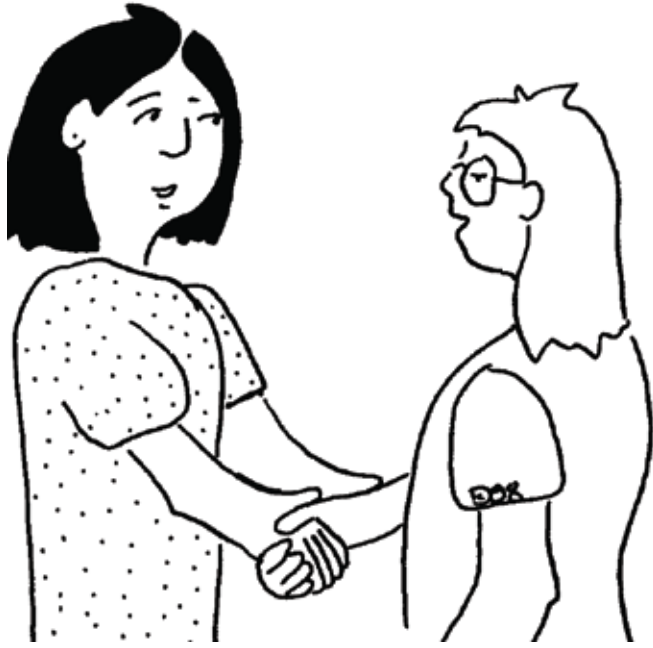
We were set up in 2000, after a group of us studied an Open University Course called **'Working as Equal People'**.





Sandra Gilpin was our supporter, she helped us get more confident to speak up. She sadly died in 2019, but we fight on strong.





We believe that a learning difficulty **does not** stop someone from achieving a lot in life if they get the **right support.**





Everyone, with the right support can **speak** for themselves.





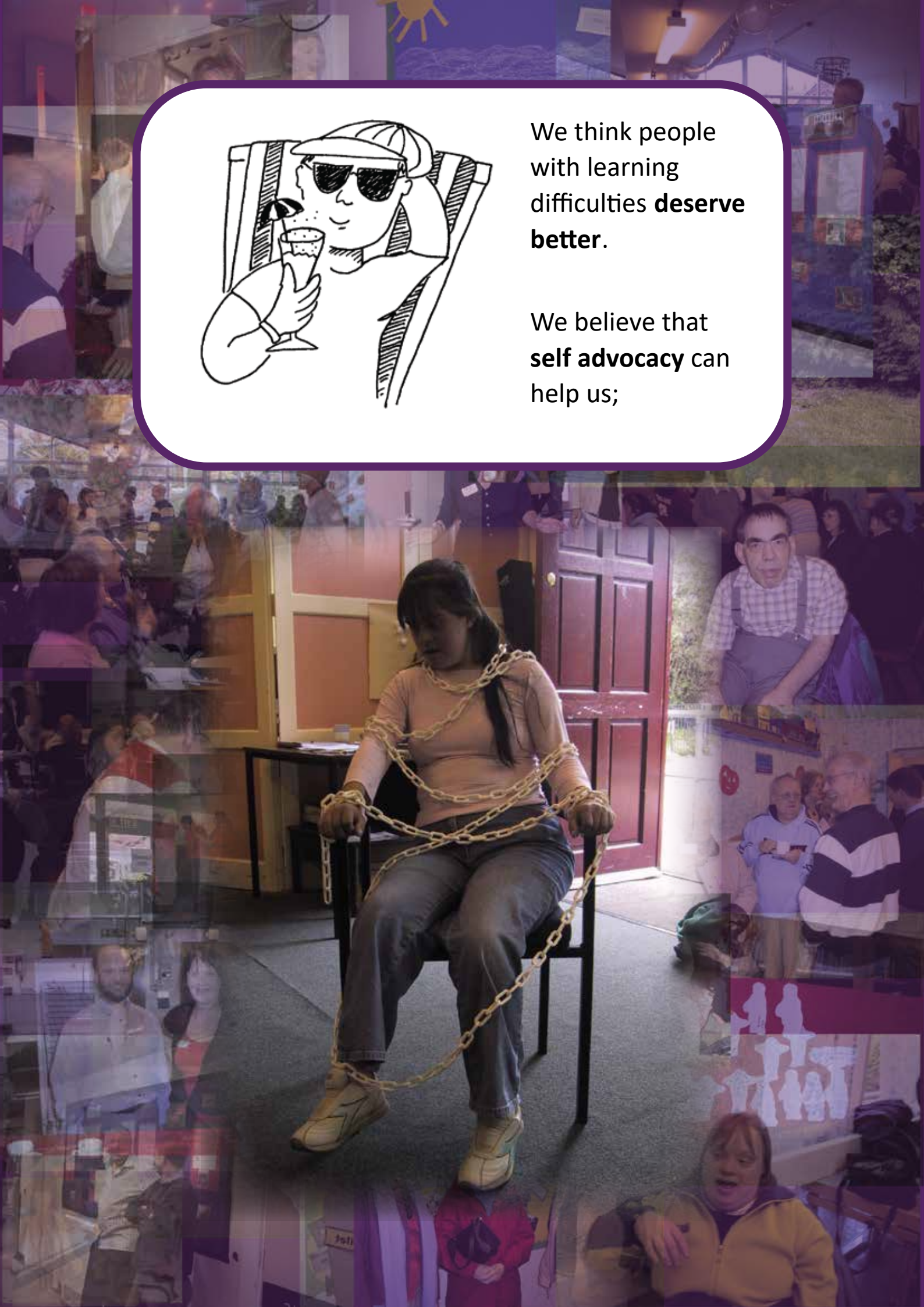
The **right support** is inclusive, respectful and above all **‘what’s right for you’**.

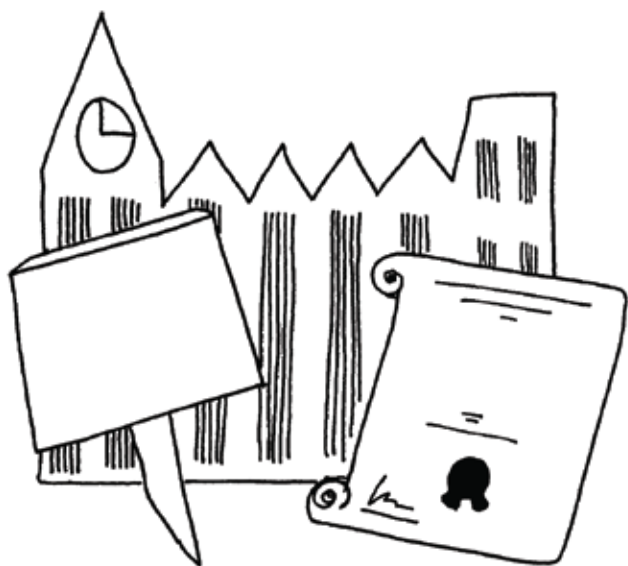




We think people with learning difficulties **deserve better.**

We believe that **self advocacy** can help us;





- Get our **rights**,
- be **included** in our communities and,
- live **independent** lives.





Since 2000 we have **campaigned** and spoken up for things to be better for people with learning difficulties.





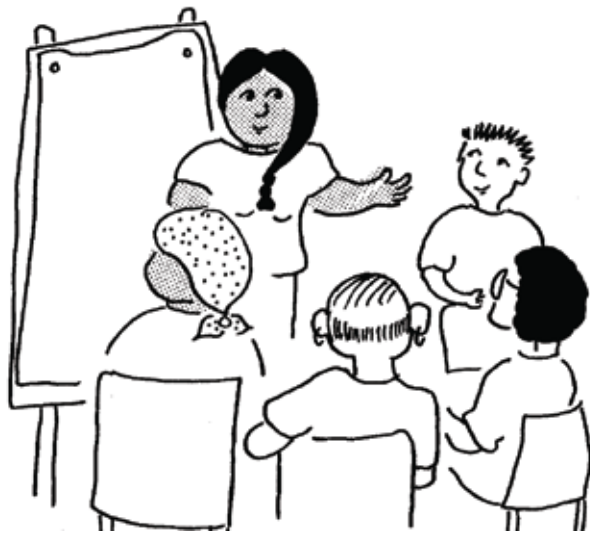
We have helped ourselves, and others **move out** of residential care, into our homes where we **live independently**.





We promoted
'Valuing People' -
A New Strategy for
Learning Disability
for the 21st
Century.

What should never come
back?



We held 'user parliament' events, to gather **views** and **voices** from people with learning difficulties in York.





Our 'Easy Read Newsletter' was sent out all over York.

This even included a 'Moan page'.



York People First Edition

'a voice for people with a learning difficulty'

Autumn 2007



We held our AGM on the 27th June. Andrew Barber, from Tameside People First was one of our guests

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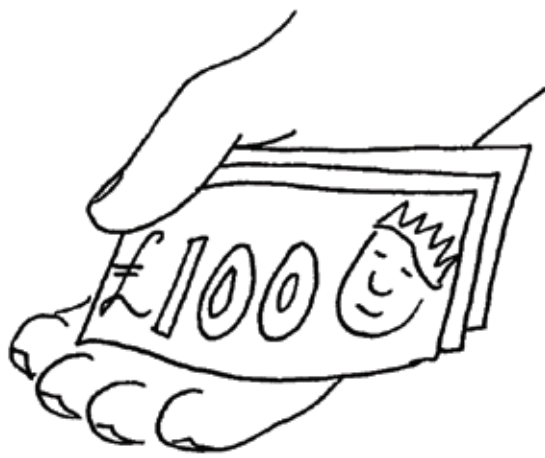
We have done research about **Parents with Learning Difficulties** and what support they need.



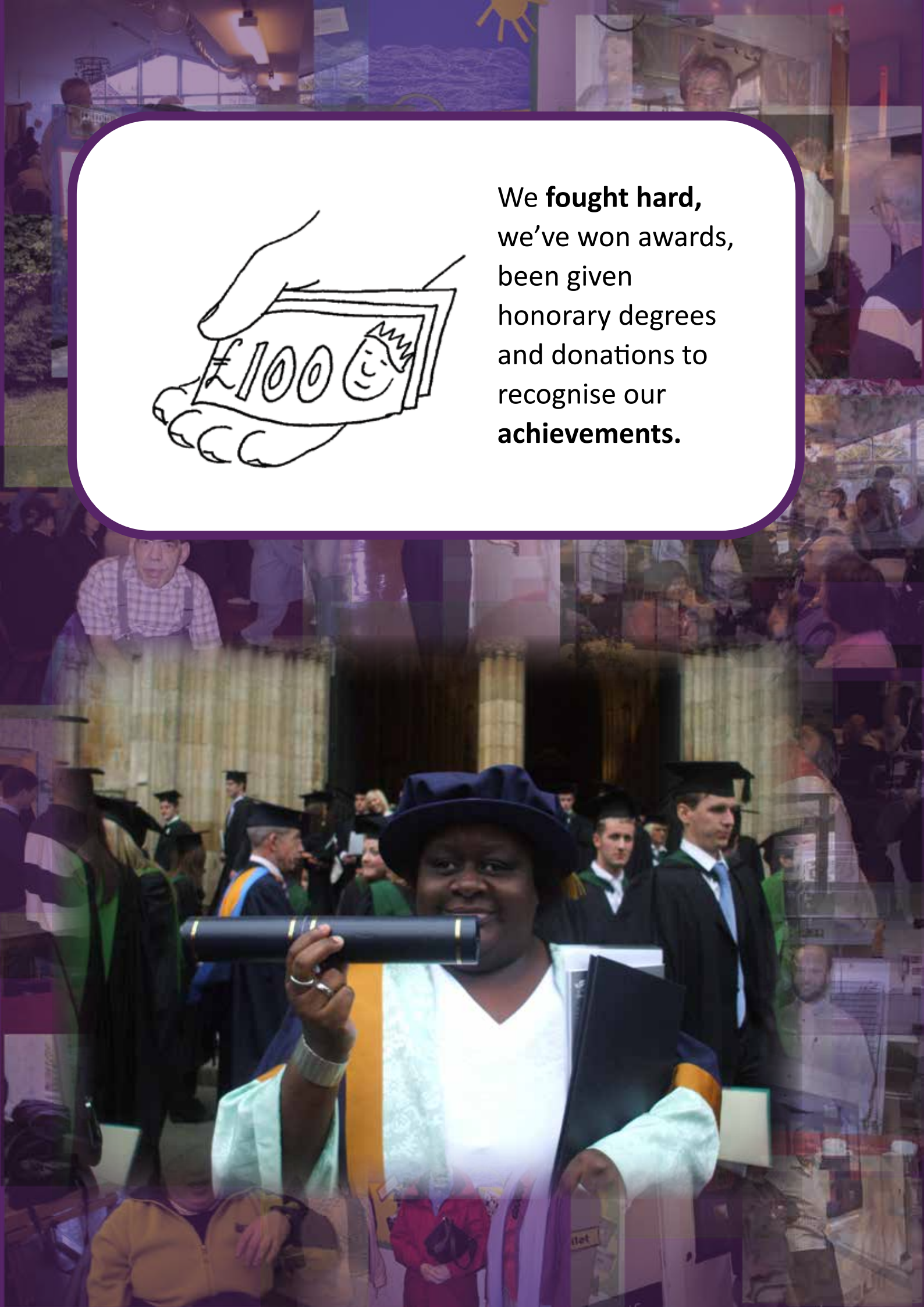


We have helped **train** students and workers in understand **what its like to live** with a learning difficulty.





We fought hard,
we've won awards,
been given
honorary degrees
and donations to
recognise our
achievements.





Even though we've **done a lot**, there's still a lot more to do.

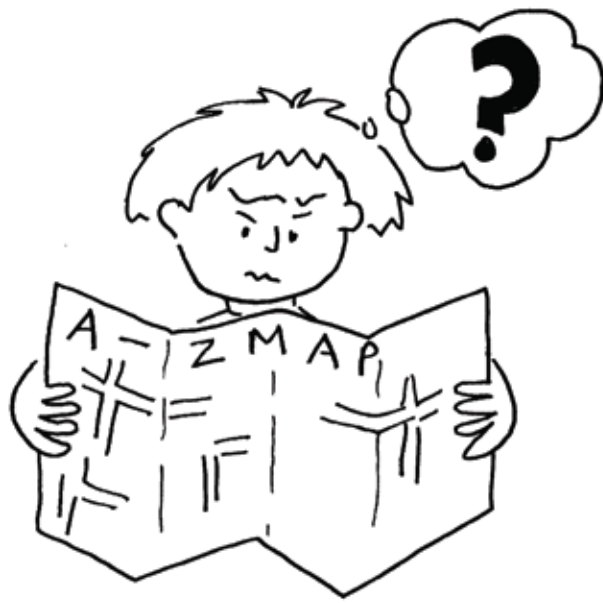
And **Self Advocacy** can help us do it.

look
at
PONSASAP

improvement in services

Secure
funding

Having
a



For us **Self Advocacy** is about;

- Speaking up,
- Fighting for your rights,
- Taking control and being responsible.



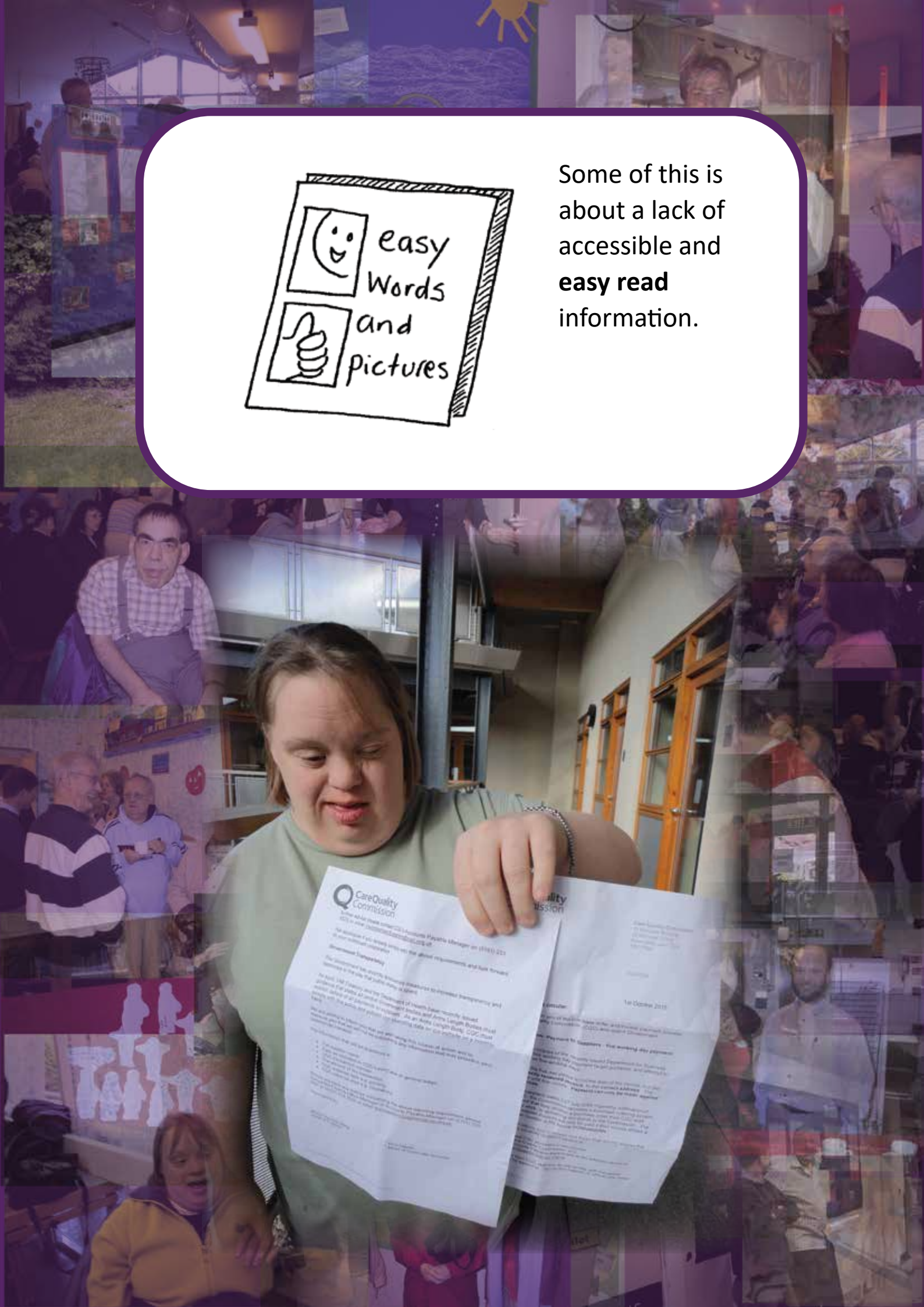


We know that we, and lots of other people with learning difficulties face lots of **barriers** and discrimination in our lives.





Some of this is about a lack of accessible and **easy read** information.





Information that is not accessible excludes us.





It stops us from taking part and **making decisions** about our lives.

PULL





And it can cause serious problems, like i.e. **debt** and **ill health**.



But this is **not** the only problem.



NOT INCLUDED

Disabled people not being informed about their entitlements

Social services staff being fully funded - one reason for only day low take-up of Direct Payments

Health + ILF not included

Do proactive people and carers make lazy care managers keep their jobs.

Using money on for example for for other projects

How to protect individuals from abuse support services

Are LDPs reviewed on a needs basis

GOOD SUPPORT FOR SELF-ASSESSMENT?

If health monies get included, this could mean current service users may end up with even less than they get now - charging, etc.

Extra pack are they available

FAMILIES HAVING TOO MUCH INFLUENCE ON PA EMPLOYMENT.

Meaningful budget for health needs will it be holistic, need must completely recognize that some people's needs are very medical. Challenge commissioning

How are points calculated and converted into

POST CODE LOTTERY

Is S.D.S. ultimately about cost cutting? (especially if health budgets get included?)

How do we use what we know influence Commissioners

Organisations in conflict about who pays for what

Care managers may end up as de facto brokerage agents when they also provide services.

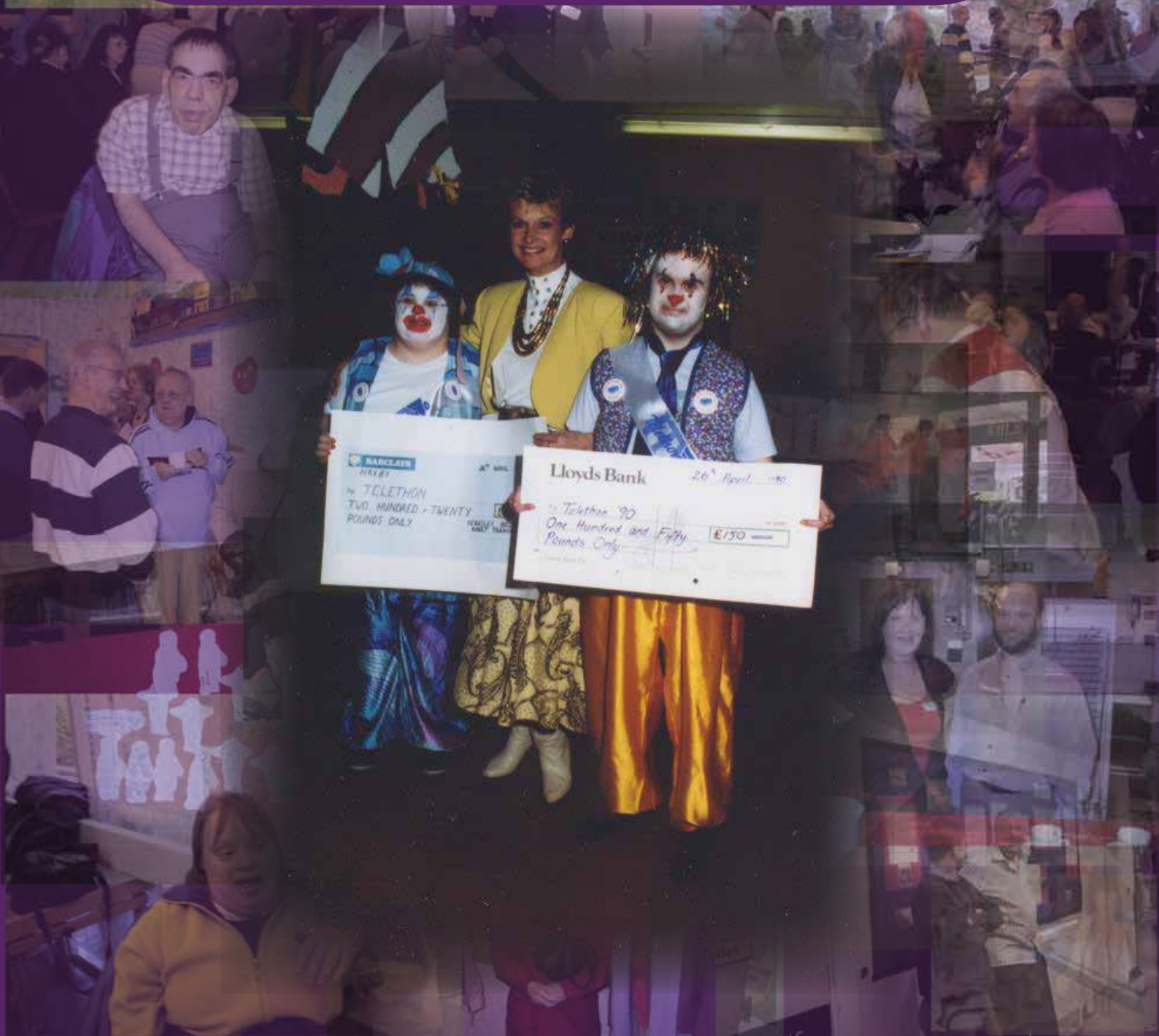
If Macdonald's can do an 'A' level equivalent can't brokerage or the expert care program LDPs do a similar in individual

Who does it

People with learning difficulties are often **seen** in terms of what they can't do, not what they can do.



People talk about
us, over us and
without us.



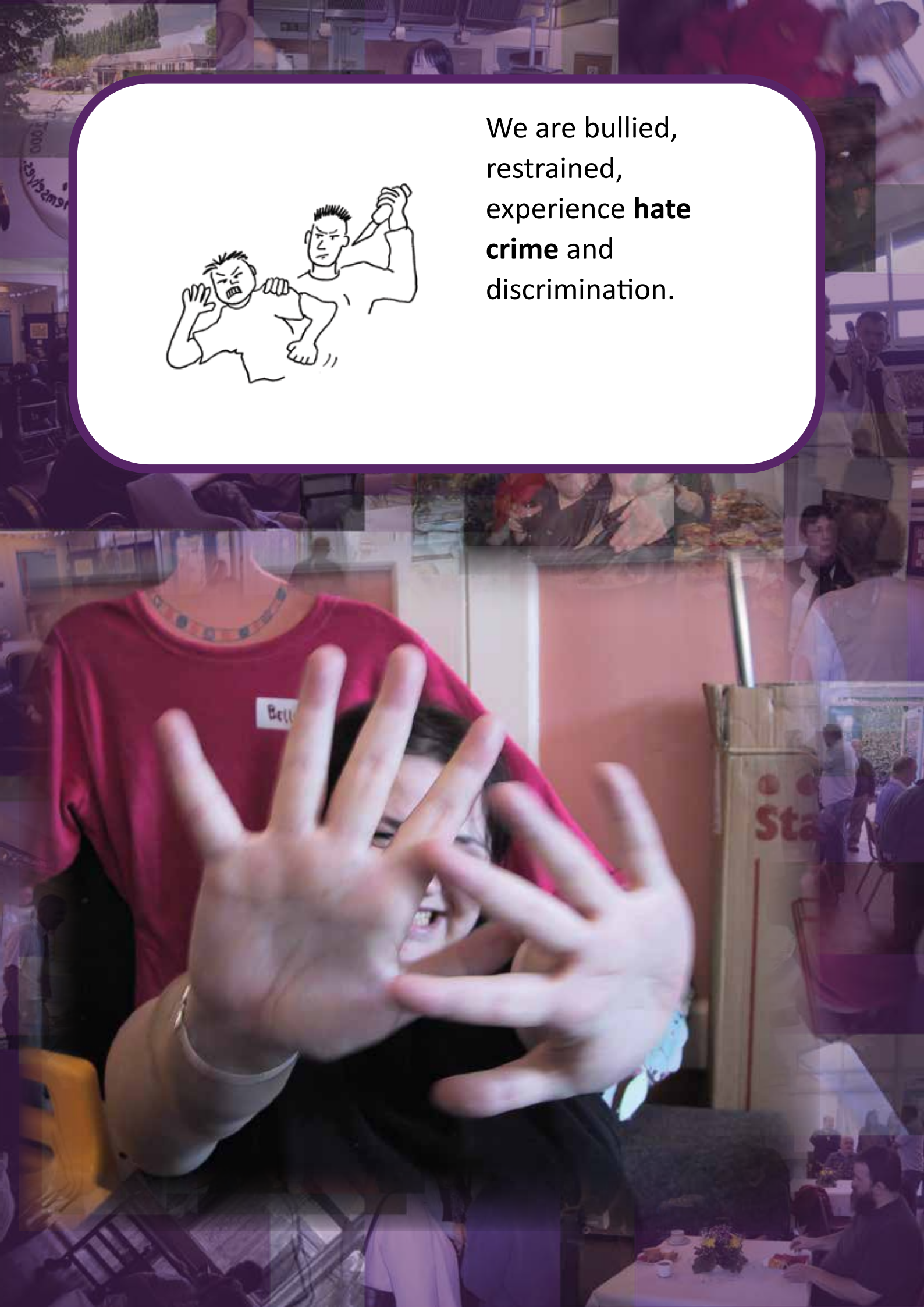


Getting the right **support** can be really hard.





We are bullied,
restrained,
experience **hate
crime** and
discrimination.





Maintaining friendships and developing **relationships** is difficult if you depend on a supporter.





We are less likely to get a decent education, **struggle to get paid work**, and if we do, often have low pay.





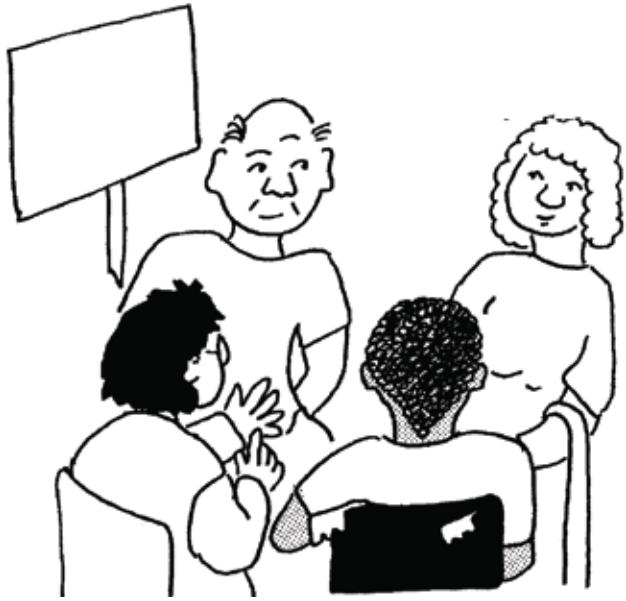
But we are not all
doom and gloom.





We are **positive** people.





With valuable
lived experience
and ideas for
change.





We want people with learning difficulties to **speak up**, to have all our voices heard, so we make a fairer decent future.



And we want to
work with others
that want this too.



Come on guys,
labels are for jars
not people!

PUBLIC SERVICES UNIT 8

labels

jargon

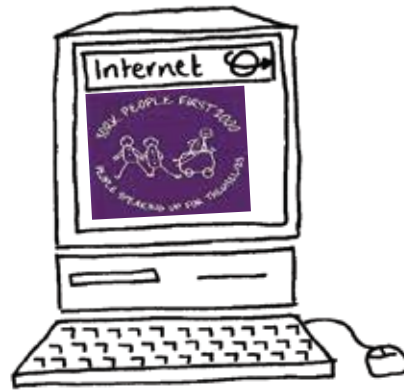
choices

Money

Talk
go

Carers

Accessible
information



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Thanks to Change Picture Bank for the images.





