



Reclaiming Our Futures Alliance **Working Together Statement**

The Reclaiming Our Futures Alliance is a group of Disabled and Deaf People's organisations who have come together to write the Parallel report (also known as a shadow report) for the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This will be a key document for the Committee's examination of the UK Government in the Spring of 2015. The examination process will look at the work the UK Government has been doing to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

The membership of the Reclaiming Our Futures Alliance has the following 10 members:

Alliance for Inclusive Education
British Deaf Association
Disabled People Against Cuts
Equalities National Council
Equal Lives
Inclusion London
National People First
Shaping Our Lives
Sisters Of Frida
TUC

Background

The Reclaiming Our Futures Alliance first came together to develop the Reclaiming Our Futures Manifesto in September 2013. For the purpose of this current work we have opened up membership of the Alliance and we are focused on Article 33 part (3) of the UNCRPD which says that '*Civil society, in particular persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, shall be involved and participate fully in the monitoring process*'.

The ROF Alliance can be contacted on to ROFAlliance@gmail.com or c/o Inclusion London, 336 Brixton Road, London, SW9 7AA



Our shared vision for the Reclaiming Our Futures Alliance:

- ✓ We are committed to creating a Parallel (sometimes known as shadow or alternative) report as the key document in the UNCRPD examination of the UK Government
- ✓ We recognise that the way we work together is just as important as the outcome. Our work will be based on the Social Model of disability and the Linguistic Model of Deafness. The Alliance is fully committed to equality and human rights
- ✓ We are committed to working inclusively in everything we do and we will write a report that represents and reflects multiple identities of disabled people, and evidence how multiple identities compound the experience of discrimination
- ✓ We will work together with other organisations, groups and individuals in the creation of the Parallel report to ensure what it says is covers all the issues and is well evidenced
- ✓ How we will work together:
 - The ROF Alliance will form a working group that will oversee the development of the report and the work of the editor/writer Colin Harper.
 - The Alliance will set up an informal and open reference group of other organisations, groups and individuals who we will work with on the development of the report. Specifically, we will work with reference group members on the following areas of work:
 - Finding evidence for each article
 - Identifying gaps in evidence and contributing evidence to address these gaps
 - Reviewing first draft of the report
 - Reviewing final draft of the report
 - Reference group members will be invited to sign up in support of the final report before it is sent to the United Nations
- ✓ The final decision on what the Parallel report says will be made by members of the Alliance