

GDA Voices Newsletter 2022

It's been a busy year for GDA Members! Thank you for your hard work and dedication to campaigning, contributing and working with us to make sure disabled people's voices are heard in Glasgow and beyond.

GDA Voices Programs Include:

- Drivers for Change
- Social Care Expert Group
- Young Drivers for Change
- BAME Network
- LGBT Network
- Women's Network

You have been busy!

These are just some of your year's highlights.



'Triple Whammy' Being Disabled, Being a Woman, and living in a Pandemic - March 2022

- Over 150 members, both online and in person, attended our Hustings event for Glasgow City Council Elections
- We were joined by cross party representatives standing as candidates to ask them how they would support disabled people in Glasgow

Disabled People Make Glasgow Too! GDA Hustings - April 2022

- Over 150 members, both online and in person, attended our Hustings event for Glasgow City Council Elections
- We were joined by cross party representatives standing as candidates to ask them how they would support disabled people in Glasgow





Shaping a National Care Service - Summer 2022

- You gave GDA your views on legislation that will shape the National Care Service
- You told us that any legislation surrounding social care should involve the very people it's made for - disabled people!
- Codesign events shaped GDA's evidence response we submitted to the Scottish Parliament on the National Care Service Bill

GDA Response to the National Care Service Bill - September 2022

- GDA published its official response to the proposed National Care Bill on the 14th of September
- We presented your evidence to the Scottish Parliament on the 29th of November
- You said to fix the social care system, we need: accountability, better standards, consistency, DPO input and representation and more resources



The Real Cost of Living for Disabled People - October 2022

- Over 50 members came together to discuss the cost of living crisis and the disproportional affect this has on the disabled community
- Household bills are already higher in disabled households and the crisis only further threatens disabled existence
- The pandemic put enormous stress on disabled people and made accessing basic needs incredibly hard or impossible!



Climate Action for Disabled People - November 2022

- Over 150 members attended across in person and online and reflected on your campaigning this year on eco-ableism, accessible green spaces and activism in Glasgow through theatre and arts!
- We were joined by Councillor Angus Millar, the convenor for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

"People think disabled people can't help with climate change but we can. Use us, listen to us and involve us in climate action!"

BAME Network

GDA's BAME network brings together members from Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds, to provide a safe space, peer support and a place to acknowledge and tackle the additional barriers and exclusion caused by the racism – conscious and unconscious – that exists across our society.

The group meet regularly and is a dedicated safe space which centres the voices and lived experience of our BAME disabled members.



Young Drivers for Change (14-30 years old)

Young Disabled People experience multiple barriers and poorer life outcomes than non-disabled young people.

GDA has been working with young disabled people for almost 2 decades and has been busting the barriers faced by providing transport, personal assistance, communication support and anything else needed so that young people can take part.

The group offers a safe space for peer support to meet other young disabled people, make friends and share ideas for future activities.



LGBT Network

The LGBT Disabled People's Network brings together members of GDA who identify as LGBT to create a safe, inclusive community space.

The LGBT Disabled People's Network have regular informal peer support sessions over zoom, facilitated by Charlotte, to provide an accessible forum for collective voice and a safe space to get information about rights, services and opportunities.



To find out more about any of our Voices Programs contact Sophie:
sophielawson@gdaonline.co.uk

On behalf of the whole GDA team, we want to thank you for all of your amazing work.

We wish everyone a safe holiday period and can't wait to see you in 2023!

