

# LOU TOWNSON

POLICY AND POLITICS FOR A GOOD LIFE



# WHO AM I?

## A LITTLE BIT ABOUT ME

- Independant
- Family
- People First
- Carlisle Site Support
- Research Group
- ...Why do I do what I do?



# WHAT IS POLICY AND POLITICS?

## A DEFINITION OF THE WORD POLITICS



A definition of the word POLITICS is:

“Politics is the way that people living in groups make decisions. Politics is about making agreements between people so that they can live together in groups such as tribes or countries.”

# WHAT IS POLICY AND POLITICS?

## A DEFINITION OF THE WORD POLICY



A definition of the word POLICY is:

“A set of ideas or a plan of what to do for a particular situation that has been officially agreed by a group of people, or an organisation or a political party.”

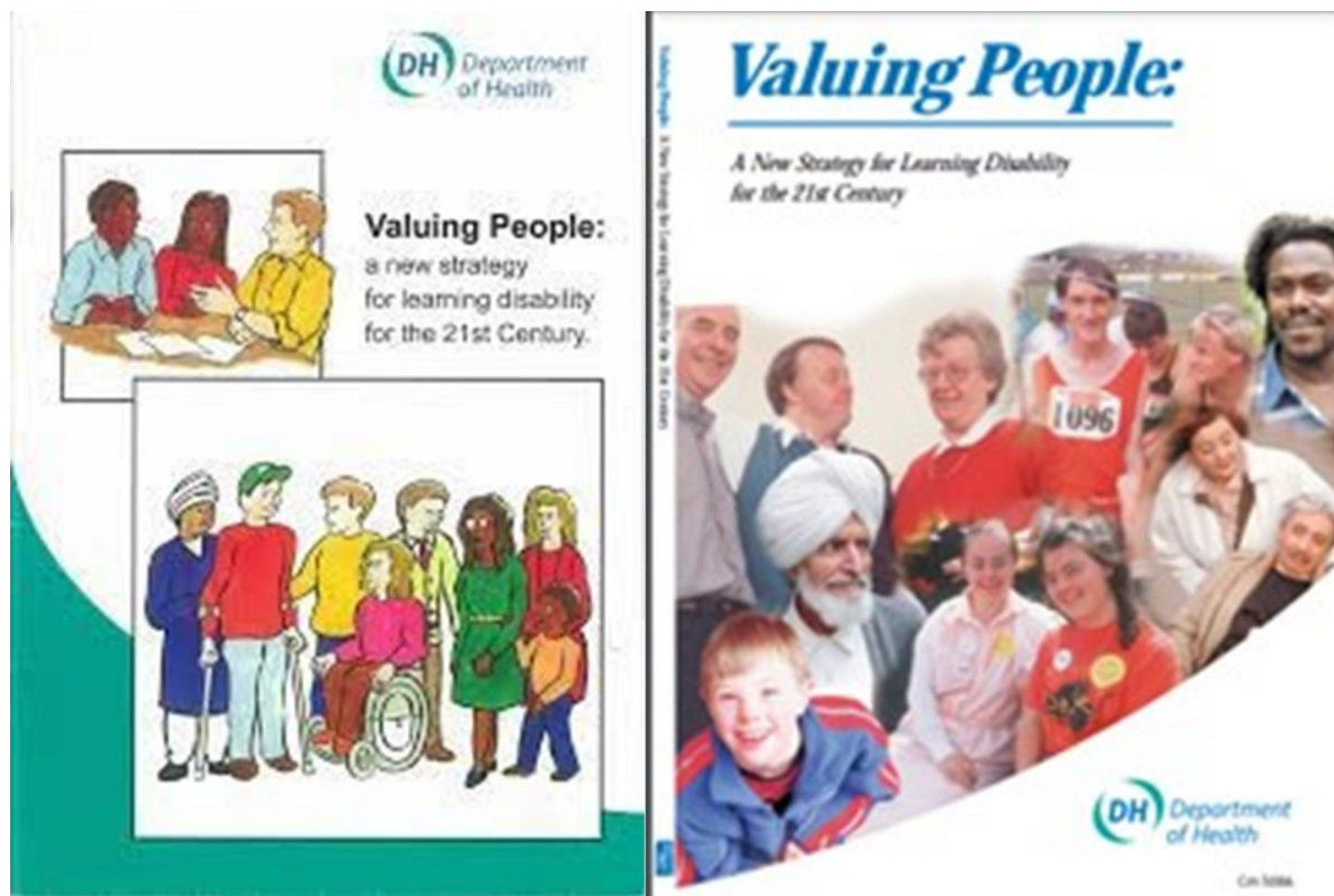
# WHAT IS POLICY AND POLITICS?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO ME?



- Planning
- Power
- Promises or Lies?

# MY EXPERIENCES WITH POLITICS AND POLICY

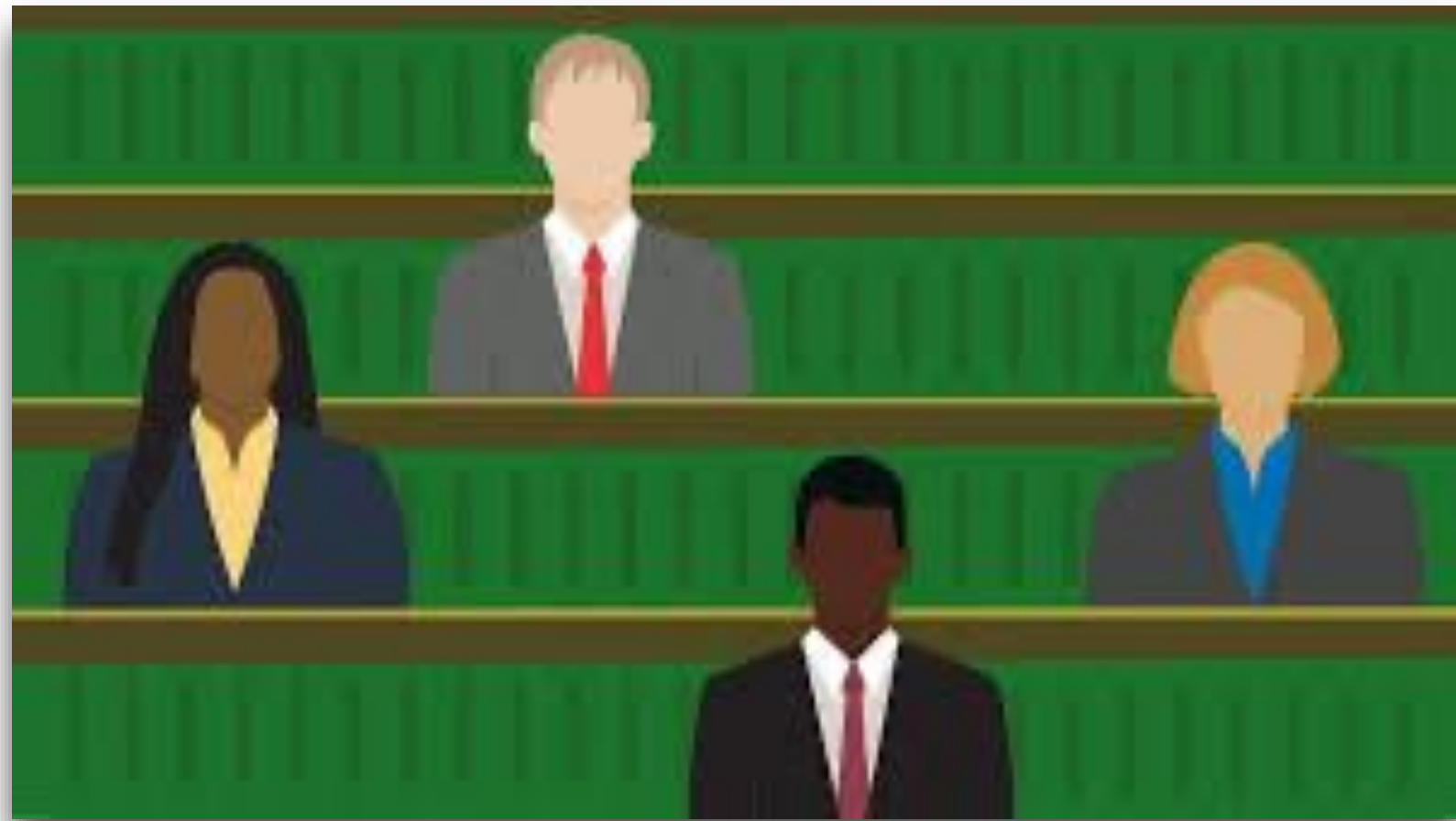


- Valuing People
- “Nothing About us Without Us”



- National Forum
- Government Task Force

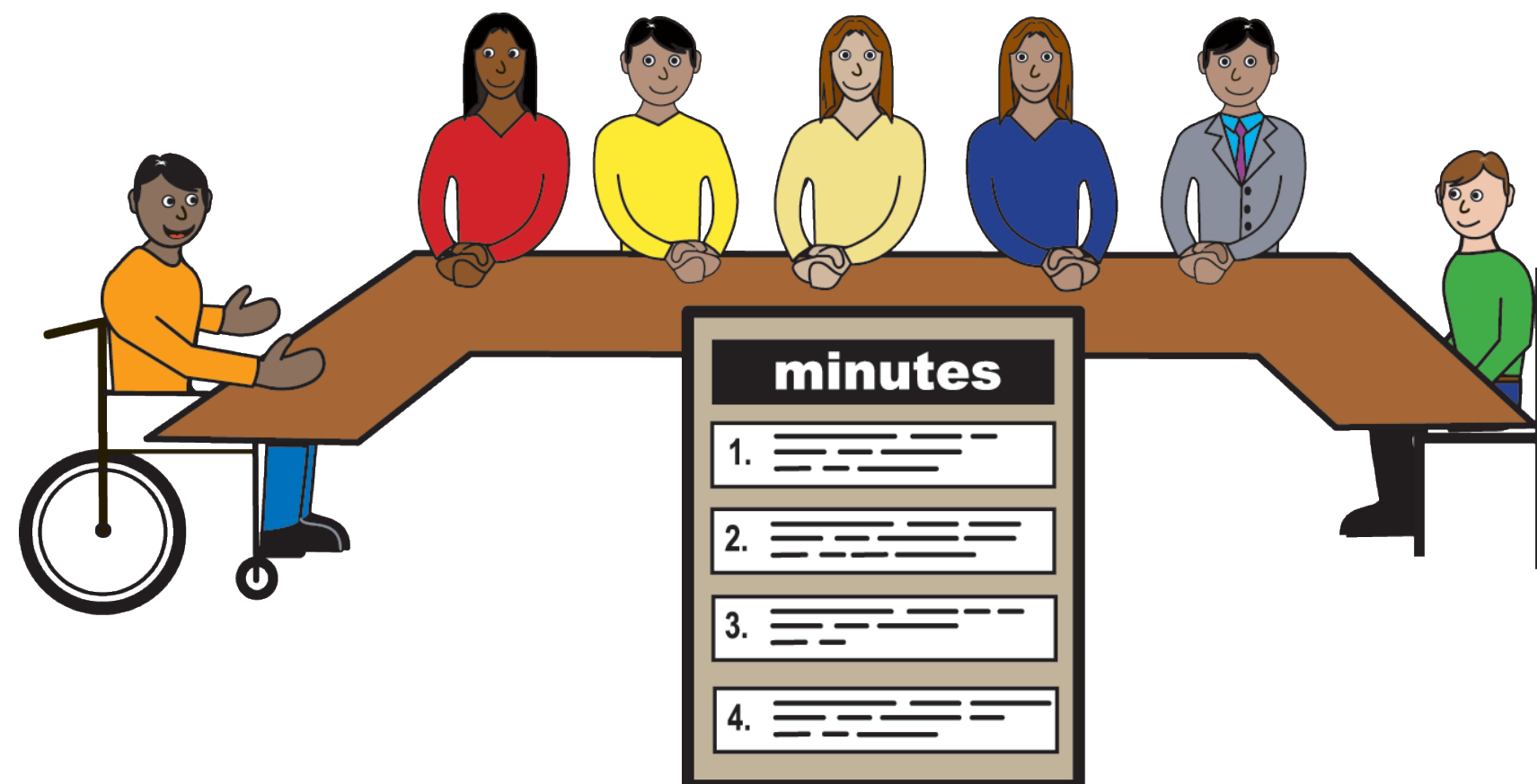
# MY EXPERIENCES WITH POLITICS AND POLICY



- Meeting local politicians

- Partnership Board

- ...and the challenges.



# A GOOD LIFE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO ME?



- Family

- Friends



- Independence

- Paid work

- Being Me



# THE FUTURE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO ME?



- Politics and Policy is about People

- Our Voices Count



# THE FUTURE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?



What would you do if you ran the country?