

Plain English Summary

Making **Personal Independence Payments** work for people with learning disabilities



A group of Learning Disability England members and local people from Dewsbury met to do workshop for the Timms Review.



The Timms Review is looking at how the government can make Personal Independence Payments (PIP) better.



Thanks to Cloverleaf Advocacy for helping make this happen.



This is a summary of what people said.



We asked:

What do people use PIP for? Why is PIP important for them?

People said:

- Living a good life
- To help pay for my support
- Transport
- Bills
- Food
- Technology



We asked:
What do you think PIP should help people to do?



People said PIP should help people:

- Live happy ordinary lives
- Live healthy lives
- Live independently
- Stop people being lonely
- Give people choices
- Make people feel important and valued

We asked:
What is it like to apply for PIP? How does it make you feel?



People said:

- Overwhelmed
- Interrogated
- Traumatic
- Pressure
- Stressed
- Anxious
- Scared
- Scrounger
- Degrading
- Dumb
- Put on the spot
- Tricked



We asked:
What works well when applying for PIP?

Almost everyone said '**nothing**'

We asked:

What is difficult about applying for PIP?

People said:

- I need someone to help me, its too confusing to do it myself
- I cant choose how the assessment happens, its hard when its not in person
- I don't like talking about my worst days
- People doing the assessment didn't know how to work with people with learning disabilities



We asked:

What would you change to make PIP better?

People said:

- Things take a long time and that makes people anxious. Things should happen quicker
- They want to trust PIP assessors and know they understand disabilities and their impact on people's lives
- People want to be trusted and respected by assessors
- They don't want to be treated like they are lying, cheating the system, or 'scroungers'
- There needs to be more accessible information
- People who have a lifelong disability shouldn't have to be reassessed often

