# Transcript

**Ealish**

I am really passionate about easy read or accessible information. I'm getting these manifestos through the post and the print is really small, the words are quite complicated, the language is quite complicated. That excludes, I think, a number of the population, and if you're trying to encourage more people to vote. I think you need to be making this accessible to ensure that everyone who can vote, and I think it's all that informed choice as well. I think that every candidate should be doing it, because if you only have one or two creating accessible information, then again that's not an informed choice. You're not giving people the full breadth of every candidate that they could vote for. Really, I think everyone should do this to create that opportunity to be able to vote like the rest of us can, when we can all read every manifesto.

I use easy read and accessible information for people with a learning disability or autism who have every right to vote in these elections and should be encouraged to vote in these elections. But equally, it can be used for anyone: people have dyslexia, people have English as an additional language and I love an easy read. I read easy reads myself. I just think information being more accessible is just easier for everyone.

**Beth**

So you’re going to have to explain to us then what an easy read actually is?

**Ealish**

There are some specific guidelines on creating an easy read, they can be found on the internet if you just Google it. There's usually pictures and the pictures relate to the information that you're giving, so there will be one sentence with a picture that directly relates to it. The front is usually bigger, the language is usually simplified, but not in a way that's patronising, but in a way that's just clear. You don't need to use all this complicated language, if you could say it in the simplest way, why not just do that? There's one sentence and a picture, it's really broken down, it's just keeping it really clear with the salient points.

I love the fact that the you can add pictures in, so you can make it personalised. When I create easy reads for the people I work with, I try and use personal pictures. It might be a picture of them, or it might be a picture maybe the day center that they go to. If you're creating an easy read manifesto, you can put a picture of yourself on it. You can put a picture of yourself, I don't know canvassing or you can put a picture of the polling station. You know you can make it as personalised as you want. It's so flexible.