



Join us on Zoom: Kōrero for Change – Political and Democratic Processes



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We invite you to our kōrero / talk



This is an Easy Read document about **Kōrero for Change**.



Kōrero for Change is about talking to make things better for people with disabilities



You are invited to take part in our Kōrero for Change being held online using **Zoom**:

- **Wednesday 17 June 2026**
- **9 am to 11 am**



You can join the Zoom meeting using this link: [**Click Here**](#)

Information about the kōrero / talk



The kōrero / talk is being run by **Access Matters Aotearoa**.



Access Matters Aotearoa:

- are speaking up to make sure that all places / things are:
 - accessible
 - easy for everyone to use
- are speaking up about accessibility rules that will make life better for all people with disabilities
- want there to be rules about accessibility that must be followed.





At the kōrero / talk we will talk about **access to voting and having a say:**

Voting means:

- we can choose the people who lead us
- our vote is private
- we choose who we want to represent us



We will talk about how we can make having a say and voting more:

- accessible
- inclusive for everyone
- easier.





We will also talk about how having **rules** will help voting and having a say to be more:

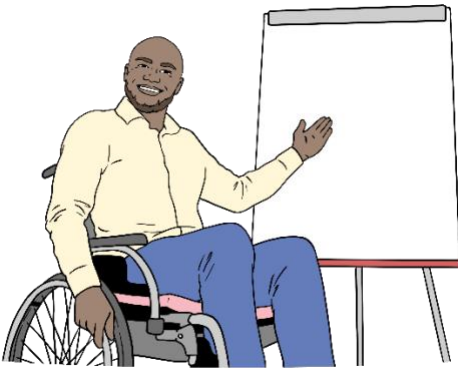
- accessible
- inclusive
- fairer.



People think about what is needed to make this happen.

Things like:

- easier access
- training
- awareness.





We will also talk about what **ableism** looks like with voting and having your say:

Ableism is when people are treated unfairly because they are disabled.

Who is presenting at the kōrero / talk



Talk leader:

Mojo Mathers

Chief Executive

Disabled Persons Assembly



Main speakers:

David Corner

National Self Advocate Advisor at IHC
New Zealand



Shara Turner

Senior Advocate at IHC New Zealand



Dr Huhana Hickey

Disability Rights Lawyer



Panel – Deciders / Thinkers

Anusha Guler

Deputy Chief Executive Operations
Electoral Commission New Zealand



Rebecca Elvy

Deputy Chief Executive
Ministry of Disabled People



Dr Emily Beausoleil

Associate Professor in Politics
Victoria University of Wellington



Dr Robbie Frances Watene

Disabled Research Lead
Donald Beasley Institute

Panel – Creators/Doers



Nick Ruane

Disability Activist, Thought Leader
Independent



Will Kim

Kiwi Access Manager
Hospitality New Zealand



Susan Martell

Legal Supervisor Associate
Aotearoa Disability Law



Dr Sarah Paterson-Hamlin

Whau Ward Councillor
Auckland Council

Kōrero Assistants:



Umi Asaka

Researcher

Donald Beasley Institute



Piotr Mierzejewski

Director

Aotearoa New Zealand Association of
Social Workers

The plan for the kōrero / talk

There are 7 parts to the kōrero /talk.



9.00 am - Part 1: Welcome from Mojo Mathers

Mojo Mathers will start by going over what we are going to do during the Zoom talk.



9.05 am - Part 2: What is ableism – David Corner and Shara Turner

David and Shara will talk about what ableism is.



David and Shara will also talk about what ableism is in how we:

- choose our leaders
- vote
- access information



9.15 am - Part 3: Speaker on how leaders can make changes

Dr Huhana Hickey will explain how rules:

- can help

and

- also not help.



9.25 am - Part 4:

Panel Talk – the Deciders / Thinkers

Sharing their thoughts on how they can improve access to voting and choice for people with disabilities:

- Rebecca Elvy
- Anusha Guler
- Dr Emily Beausoleil
- Dr Robbie Francis Watene



Part 5: Questions and Answers

A chance for people to ask questions.



10.10 am - Part 6:

Panel talk – the Creators / Doers

Sharing their thoughts about their research and lived experience for people with disabilities:

- Nick Ruane
- Will Kim
- Susan Martell
- Dr Sarah Paterson-Hamlin



Part 7: Questions and Answers

A chance for people to ask questions.

Where you can find more information



You can find more information about Access Matters Aotearoa on their **website:**



www.accessmatters.org.nz



You can also **email** Kimberly Graham with any questions:

Kimberly@accessmatters.org.nz



This information has been written by Access Matters Aotearoa



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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