

# PUT IT TO THE PEOPLE MARCH

## 23 March 2019

Version 1.2 – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019



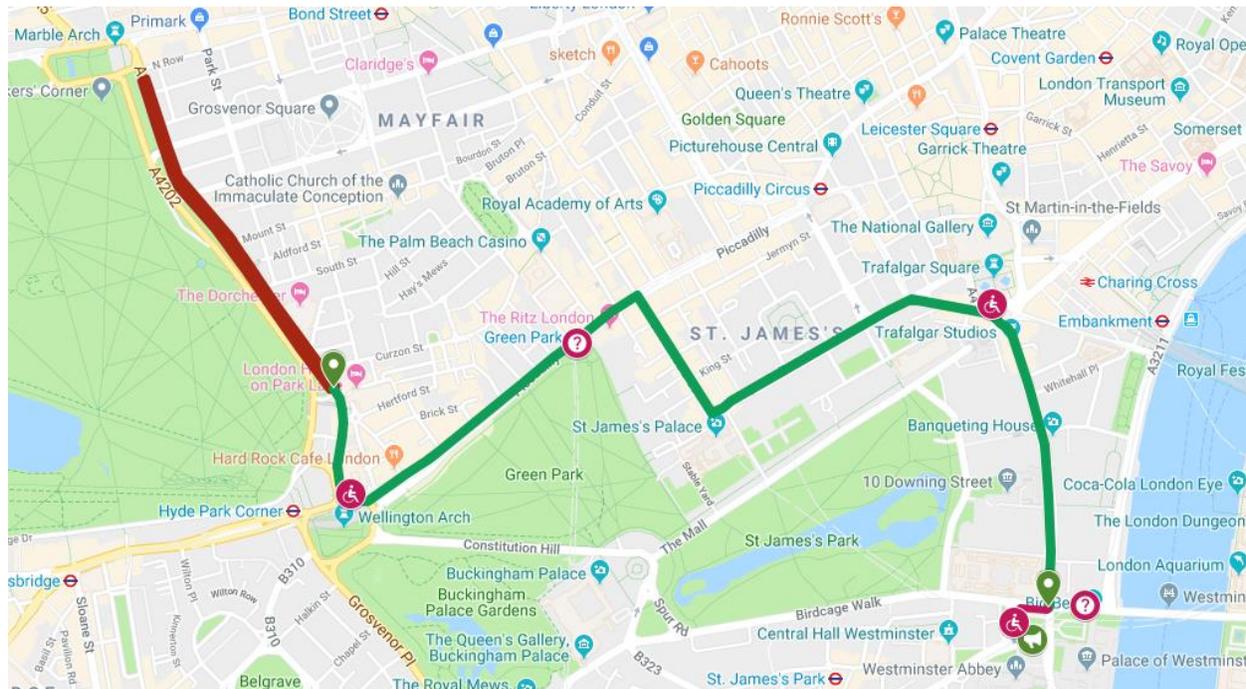
## ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE

The Put It To The People march is a protest march and rally being organised by the People's Vote campaign. The campaign, which calls for the public to be given the right to vote on the final Brexit deal, is powered by Britain for Europe, European Movement UK, and Open Britain, in collaboration with other pro-European organisations.

The organisers seek to deliver a fully inclusive event that is accessible to all regardless of real or perceived: age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, ability or disability, marital or civil partnership status, religion, nationality, and national origin. To ensure maximum participation the event is completely free following a successful crowdfunding campaign.

An accessibility policy is in place both for volunteers and participants. This policy will ensure that people with limited or reduced mobility, or any other specific accessibility needs, can fully participate in and enjoy the event.

### 1. Event Map



To load an interactive version of this map, where you can also view the nearest accessible toilets and water points to the route, to your phone or other device please visit <http://po.st/march23map>.

## **2. Participating in the March**

### **2.1 Travelling to the March**

Parking in Central London is extremely limited and due to a large number of events taking place in the city on the 23rd March roads are likely to be closed at short notice. For this reason we encourage all participants to travel by public transport if they are able to.

### **2.2 Taking Part in the March**

Based on feedback received after the October 20<sup>th</sup> march, people with accessibility requirements are advised to take part in the shorter march route **ONLY** and do not assemble at Park Lane.

This is to ensure that this group can be easily located within the march for the arrival at Parliament Square.

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONAL ACCESSIBILITY FACILITIES AT PARK LANE.**

### **2.3 Shorter March**

**Arrival:** A shorter and fully accessible march will start from Trafalgar Square. This route is shorter than the main march and is our recommended choice for people with accessibility requirements or reduced mobility.

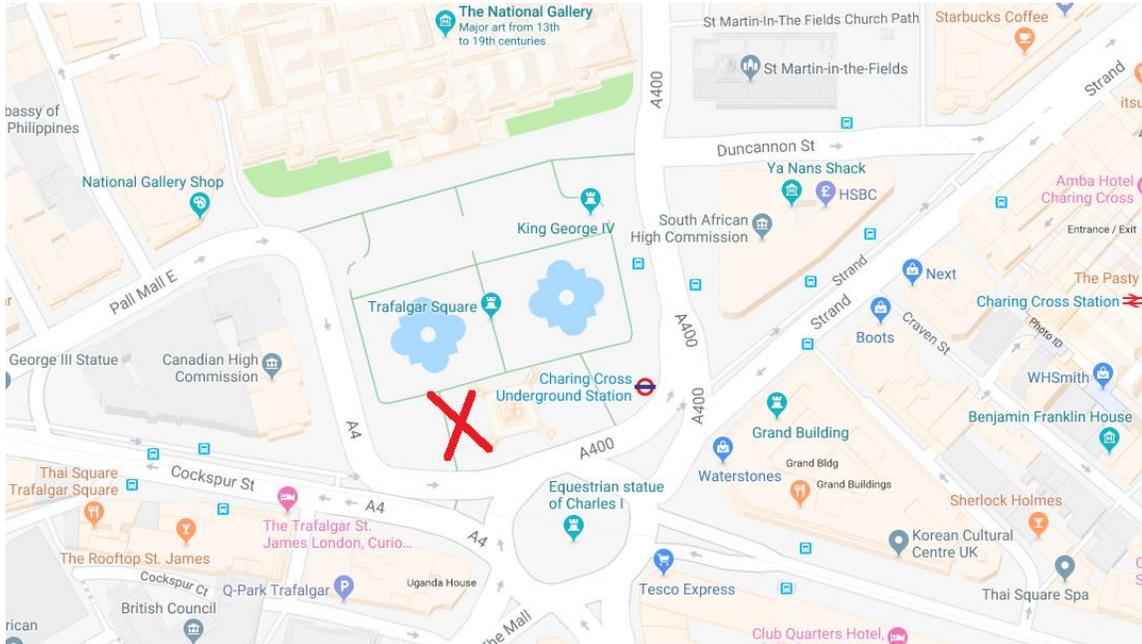
The nearest fully accessible station to Trafalgar Square is Westminster Underground and Charing Cross overground station. If travelling by train, rail operators will be able to provide assistance boarding and alighting trains when notified in advance. All London buses are fully accessible and include ramps and priority spaces for wheelchairs.

**Assembly:** The shorter march will assemble in the South-West corner of Trafalgar Square at the meeting point next to Nelson's Column, on the side facing the Canadian High Commission. We recommend accessing it via the fully accessible pedestrian crossings from the southern side of Trafalgar Square.

Experienced volunteer stewards will be on hand at the meeting point to answer queries and provide assistance. Clearly visible placards will identify these stewards. A photo and map showing the meeting location can be seen on the next page.

We recommend arrival at the assembly area at 12.30 to minimise the time waiting for the march to arrive. Given the numbers of people expected there may well be a wait.

A map and photo showing the assembly area can be seen on the next page.



*Location of accessible assembly area*



*Photo of accessible assembly area*

**Starting the march:** When the front of the main march is approaching the stewards will direct the group at Trafalgar Square to the correct position which can be easily merged into the main march. This will be at a step-free location.

#### **2.4 Rally only**

Should you wish to attend the rally without taking part in the march we recommend making your way to Westminster underground station. This station is fully accessible, and located directly across the road from Parliament Square, the location of the rally.

After exiting Westminster station please use the available lifts to reach street level, then turn right and make your way along the pavement. Parliament Square will be located diagonally opposite and is accessible by using the step-free pedestrian crossings.

Upon arrival in Parliament Square, our volunteer stewards will be able to direct you to the accessible viewing area and provide any additional assistance that may be required.

#### **2.5 March Procedure**

Whilst the march is moving anyone who requires additional assistance can march within the accessible section should they wish to. This section will be staffed by volunteer marshal who can answer questions, and upon arrival at Parliament Square, will direct participants to the accessible viewing area, detailed in section 2.7.

Please note that volunteers have no legal responsibility for the accessible group and are simply there to facilitate access and ensure enjoyment of the event.

#### **2.6 March Route**

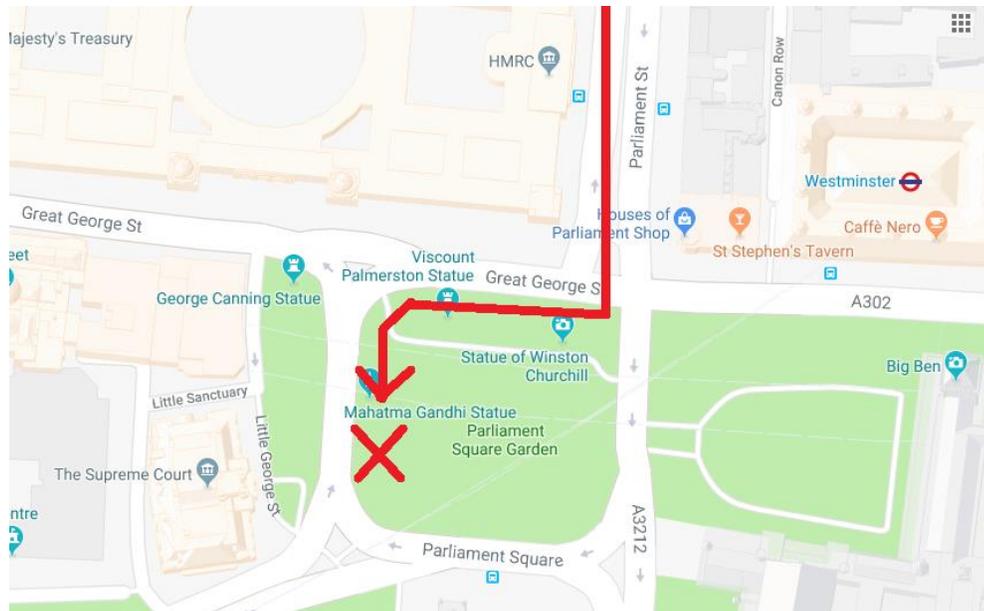
The entire route is on hard surfaces and flat ground. There are no steps along the planned march route. The main rally takes place on grass, surrounded by hard surfaces that are flat and fully accessible.

#### **2.7 Viewing the Rally**

The wheelchair viewing area will be on the West side of Parliament Square near the statue of Mahatma Gandhi. This location is on a flat concrete surface, and while not directly next to the stage, has been chosen as it is raised and will provide the best view of the stage and screen.

The accessible viewing area is accessed by travelling along the north edge of Parliament Square from the statue of Winston Churchill, and then south along the west side of the square. It cannot be easily accessed via other routes due to steps.

Please note this area is not dedicated and will be on a first-come-first-served basis, there may well be a wait.



*Advised route to the raised viewing area*



*View from the recommended raised viewing area near the statue of Gandhi*

## **2.8 People with Visual Impairments**

Participants with visual impairments should make themselves known to stewards at the earliest opportunity so we can facilitate a location closer to the stage.

## **2.9 People who are Deaf / Hard of Hearing**

At the time of writing, a BSL interpreter has not been booked. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, please contact us as far in advance of the event as possible so that we can discuss how to maximise the accessibility and enjoyment of the event for you.

### **2.10 People with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs)**

The Put It To The People march is expected to be a noisy environment with large crowds of people. This may not be suitable for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders and should you be sensitive to loud noises or large crowds we recommend making use of the shorter march starting from Trafalgar Square.

If you need any other advice, please e-mail [peoplesvotevolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:peoplesvotevolunteers@gmail.com) and we will be able to provide tailored advice based on your individual requirements.

### **2.11 Following the Event**

Buses will be disrupted and diverted without warning due to the road closures in place for our event. As a result we recommend travelling home by London Underground or National Rail. Westminster underground station is next to Parliament Square but is likely to be closed to be exit only for a period after the rally. However nearby National Rail stations such as Victoria and Waterloo are accessible via flat ground routes.

We advise against leaving the area south along Abingdon Street / Millbank as there are fewer onward transport options in that direction.

### **2.12 Volunteer Stewards**

Volunteer Stewards will be fully briefed on how to ensure that your access to the event is maximised and that you have an enjoyable event.

### **2.13 Seating**

Due to the outdoor nature of the event there is no additional seating at the rally location or along the route. Trafalgar Square has multiple surfaces that can be used as seating.

People who are unable to stand for an extended period should bring a folding chair. If you bring one we recommend sitting in the accessible viewing area as described in section 2.7 to maximise the ability to view the stage and screen.

### **2.14 Noise levels**

The assembly area, march route, and rally are likely to be loud from crowd noise. As a result we encourage people with sensitivity to sound to bring ear plugs with them.

### **2.15 Assistance animals**

Guide dogs and other assistance animals are welcome at the event, on the march and at the rally. Water will be available from the marshals, subject to availability, but we recommend bringing a sufficient amount with you, along with a bowl.

NB: Water will only be available for assistance animals, and not pets. We recommend against bringing pets to the event, where possible, as it will be a loud and noisy environment which will not be suitable for animals that are not trained for it.

## **2.16 First aid**

A professional medical team has been contracted to provide first aid assistance. They will be located in Parliament Square and have ambulances and mobile medics in other locations depending on operational needs on the day.

If you need first aid assistance, contact your nearest member of event staff, a volunteer, or a member of the emergency services. Alternatively, if near Parliament Square please make your way to the backstage entrance to the stage.

## **2.17 Accessible Toilets**

There are several coffee shops near the accessible assembly area such as Pret, Café Nero, and Starbucks. Most of these have accessible entrances and toilets available. Our marshals will point you towards the one closest to the accessible assembly area.

Along the route, the recommended locations with accessible toilets are McDonalds at Trafalgar Square, and The Silver Cross on Whitehall. The Silver Cross has two entrances – the right one is accessible.

The closest accessible toilet to the rally is in Central Hall, Storey's Gate, SW1H 9NH. As it is a religious venue, there is a suggested donation for the use of their toilets.

The closest changing places toilet is at Embankment station.

Other accessible toilets may be available, where information was not found online.

## **2.18 Signs**

The accessible start points will be indicated by clearly visible placards held by Stewards. The accessible viewing location on Parliament Sq will be clearly indicated by signs attached to lamp posts

All signs will use yellow writing on a black background to assist people with visual impairments.

## **2.19 Use of Accessibility Options**

The use of all accessibility options is voluntary and there no obligation to make use of them if you would prefer not to. They are simply an additional service for people who may wish to use them.

You will not be asked to prove the need to use the services, and anybody who self-declares as needing them will be able to use them without question.

The event is completely free. There is no cost for the use of the accessibility options

### **3. Volunteering at the March**

Volunteers are a core part of the event. They will be on hand to assist march participants that have accessibility requirements. We welcome volunteers of all abilities who wish to help us make the march a success.

There are a small number of volunteer roles which may not be accessible to everybody due to the duties required and the terrain of Parliament Square. However, the organisers of the march have put in place the following steps to ensure maximum participation for volunteers with disabilities.

A full accessibility guide covering volunteering at the event will be provided to volunteers who self-identify as having a disability or any accessibility requirements.

### **4. Requirements not covered in this guide**

If you have specific requirements either as a volunteer or a participant that are not covered by this guide, please email [peoplesvotevolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:peoplesvotevolunteers@gmail.com). Our Volunteer Manager, Scott, and team will work with you to maximise your enjoyment and accessibility of the event.

<http://www.inclusivelondon.com>

### **5. Briefing for staff and volunteers**

Staff and volunteers will be given a full volunteer guide in advance of the event and a briefing upon signing on. Both the guide and the briefing will include an expanded version of section 4 above, and information about ensuring maximum accessibility and enjoyment for participants.

Specific advice given to volunteers will include, but will not be limited to:

- Never assume anything about the abilities or disabilities of others
- Ask what help the person needs, don't assume you know what help to give
- Always address the person who needs help, rather than their carer or anybody accompanying them (if applicable)
- Avoid using gendered pronouns. For example, use "they" not "he" or "she", and address groups of people using "everybody" not "guys" or "ladies and gentlemen"
- When giving directions, ask questions to ensure maximum understanding. For example: "Do you see the red phone box there?" \*points\* \*waits for answer\* "Go past that phone box and take the next right"
- If you see a person who needs help, be proactive and ask how you can help

- Report all accessibility issues or complaints immediately to the Volunteer Manager

## 6. Changes to this guide

This guide is subject to future amendment, if necessary. When any changes are made, an updated version will be placed online at [www.peoples-vote.uk/march](http://www.peoples-vote.uk/march). We recommend checking the website the day before the march, to ensure that you have the latest version of this guide.

Changes to the volunteer briefing will be communicated directly to volunteers.

**A large print version of this document  
is available on request**