



Developing a campaign strategy for Socio-economic duty:

Pre-session briefing

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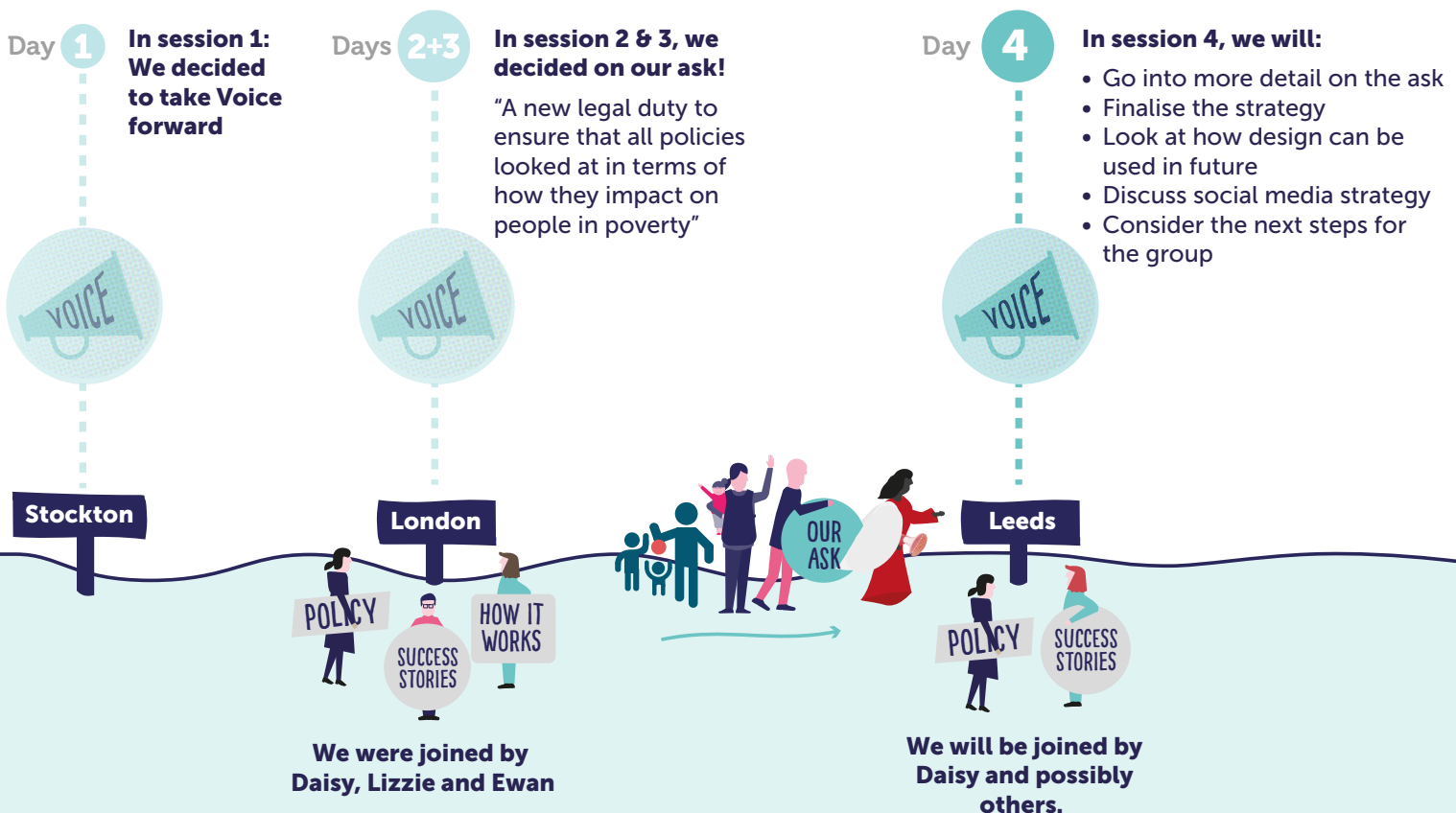
1st November 2018
St George's Centre, Leeds

Introduction

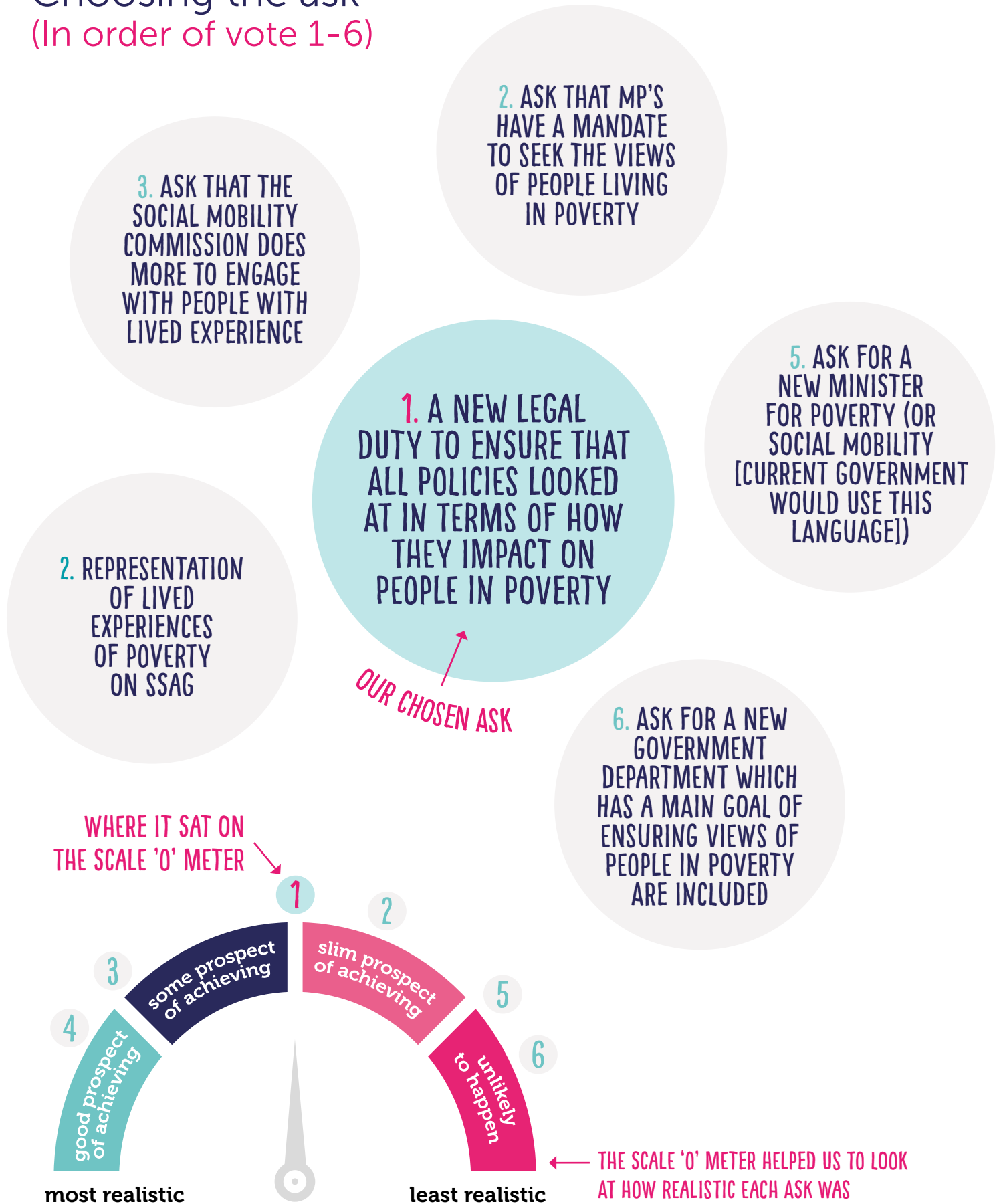
We're really looking forward to seeing you all at the next workshop in Leeds 1st November. The last two-day workshop at ATD fourth World really pushed us on and now we have developed an ask we can put our weight behind as a group. This session will be all about picking up where we left off and developing the strategy and making plans for an event that will kick things off.

After the last session peoples feedback was that it was really useful to have Daisy, Lizzie and Ewan at the last event to bring in their expertise. So once again we will be joined by Daisy and hopefully a few other people who will be able to help us take things further.

The latest part of the journey



Where we got to: Choosing the ask (In order of vote 1-6)



A legal duty

What does it mean?

“A new legal duty to ensure that all policies looked at in terms of how they impact on people in poverty”

Here are some case studies that give us a greater understanding of what our ask could mean. The first case study relates to the existing Public Sector Equality Duty and the second the situation in Scotland where they are already putting our ask in place!!!!!!

Case study 1: What is the Public Sector Equality Duty?

As taken from the Equality and Human Rights Commission website:

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance-faq/general-duty-faqs-gb>

The equality duty was created by the Equality Act 2010 and replaces the race, disability and gender equality duties. The duty came into force in April 2011 and covers age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. It applies in England, Scotland and in Wales. The general equality duty is set out in section 149 of the Equality Act. In summary, those subject to the general equality duty must have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity between different groups
- Foster good relations between different groups
- The duty to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination also covers marriage and civil partnership.

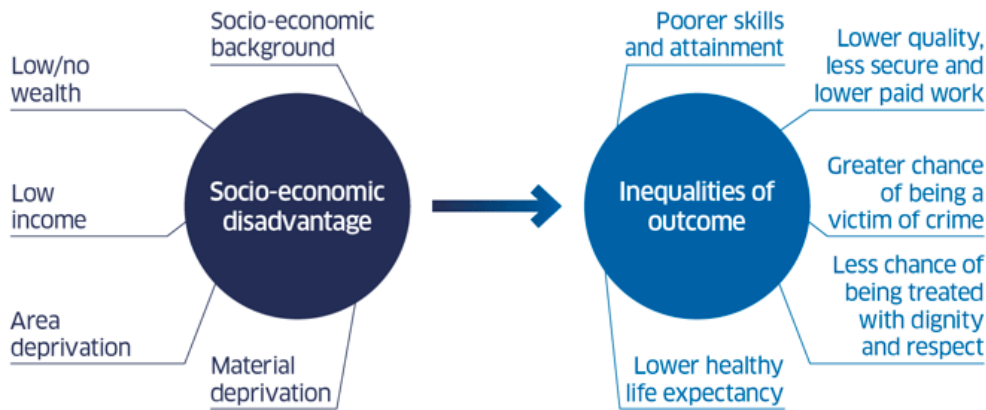
There's some really useful case studies of how this is being used at this website: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty-case-studies>

Case study 2: One step ahead - The Fairer Scotland Duty

As taken from the Scottish Govt website: <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-interim-guidance-public-bodies/pages/2/>

What is Fairer Scotland Duty?

The Fairer Scotland Duty, Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, comes into force in Scotland from April 2018.



It places a legal responsibility on particular public bodies in Scotland to actively consider ('pay due regard' to) how they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. This is set out in a diagram below, with more explanation in the pages that follow.

We know that many in the public sector and beyond see this new Duty as an opportunity to do things differently and to put tackling inequality genuinely at the heart of key decision-making. People in Scotland still experience significant socio-economic disadvantage and resulting inequalities of outcome. Over a million Scots are living in poverty, including one in four children; and health inequalities and educational attainment gaps are far too wide. This unfairness isn't inevitable. We can reduce poverty and inequalities of outcome, helping to realise the rights of the people who have experienced them.

To fulfil their obligations under the Duty, public bodies must be able to meet what we've called the key requirement in each case:

- to actively consider how they could reduce inequalities of outcome in any major strategic decision they make; and
- to publish a written assessment, showing how they've done this

Over to you

1. Have you had any more thoughts or questions about our ask since the last workshop and/or after reading about the two case studies above?

STOP PRESS 1 for Equality campaign

1forequality.com/

Ruth has been contacted by Koldo from the 1 for Equality campaign which has a purpose very close to our own!

This is taken from their website home page:

#1forEquality is a campaign led by Just Fair and The Equality Trust, and supported by many groups and individuals, to urge the UK Government to implement the Socio-Economic Duty by commencing Section 1 of the Equality Act.

TAKE ACTION

Ask your MP to support Early Day Motion 591 to call on the Government to bring the Socio-Economic Duty into effect

The UK is one of the most economically unequal countries in the developed world. But inequality is not inevitable. The Government has a powerful tool at its disposal. It could bring to life the **Socio-Economic Duty of Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010, which requires public bodies to adopt effective and transparent policies to reduce the inequalities that result from socio-economic disadvantage.**

Despite being passed by Parliament in 2010, successive governments since then have failed to bring Section 1 into force.

Over to you

2. Have a look at the supporters to the campaign (see <https://1forequality.com/supporters/>)
 - Who does the group know already? Are there others in the list who we don't yet know but could build alliances with?
 - And/or do people have ideas about how we might want to link up with the campaign?(options here might include a) signing up to it, b) becoming one of its supporters, or c) exploring more possibilities for joint work with the organisation who launched the campaign - Just Fair (<http://justfair.org.uk/>) and The Equality Trust (<https://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/>)

The way forward: Beginning of a plan

In the last part of our last session we started to look at a strategy.

Who will we make the ask of?

Target

- Government
- House of lords
- Solicitor general
- Mp's to support / buy into e.g. Harriet Harman

What's our strategy?

Tailoring pitching the ask

Think about "framing" it in a way that triggers a way to appeal to people in power.

Allies

- Political commentators - National ask
- Media
- Bishop of Durham

Get allies on board to help develop / comment / support this ask

- MP's to sign up to this - broad church of voices
- Leaders of parties (wider circle of influencers. develop relationships)

Opponents

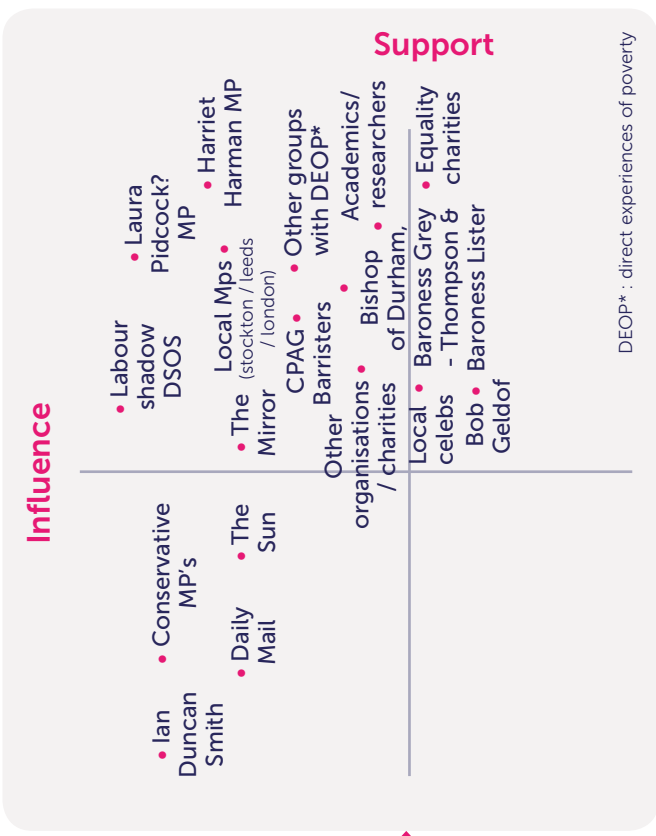
- Current government to a point

Ask in manifesto

- Develop relationship with political parties - team who develop manifestos.
 - Have it considered / put in manifestos

There is a duty already with protected characteristics. Par / soc economic > why is this not considered? therefore harder to oppose this, its unfair!

Who might we work with? (allies/strategic/unlikely allies)



The event

An event??

- Strategy idea: to have a discussion / consultation event on legal duty
- Consultation / comment / seeking support.....
 - Invite allies / supporters / influencers

Over to you

3. Have you had any more thoughts on how we might add to our plan or progress the ask?

One idea for the event that will take place at the end of this project (we need to hold an event as part of our funding) is a meeting with representatives of the labour party to see if they will support our ask.

4. What do you think to this idea and what would you want to get out of this meeting?

5. What would we need to do to be fully prepared for this meeting?
