



CAPABILITY SCOTLAND

TURNING DISABILITY INTO ABILITY



1 in 4 Poll

Voting intentions survey 2007

VOTING INTENTIONS SURVEY

CAPABILITY SCOTLAND

APRIL 2007

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	1
1.1 Background	
1.2 Methodology and Sample	
2. Profile of Respondents	2
2.1 Gender and age of respondents	
2.2 Description of respondents	
3. 2003 Scottish Parliamentary Election	3
3.1 Voting in 2003 Parliamentary election	
3.2 Voting patterns in 2003 Scottish Parliamentary Election	
4. 2007 Scottish Parliamentary Election	4
4.1 Intention to vote in 2007 Parliamentary election	
4.2 Reason for not voting	
4.3 Voting intentions for 2007 Parliamentary election	
4.4 Comparisons of 2003 and 2007 Voting	
5. 2003 Council Elections	6
5.1 Voting in 2003 Council elections	
5.2 Party voted for in 2003 Council elections	
5.3 Intentions to vote in 2007 Council elections	
5.4 Reasons for not voting	
5.5 Voting intentions for 2007 Council Election	
6. Key Issues	8
6.1 Importance of key issues	
6.2 Views on Scottish Government's performance	
7. The Process of Voting	11
7.1 Methods of casting votes	
7.2 Problems encountered when voting	
8. Views on the Scottish Government	12
8.1 How the Scottish Government has made life better for disabled people	
8.2 How the Scottish Government has made life worse for disabled people	
8.3 Rating of the Scottish Government	
8.4 Contact with an MSP and councillor	

Appendix: Questionnaire

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

- Disabled voters are active citizens – with 94% intending to vote, and 65% having made contact with their MSP in the past
- Large proportion of ‘undecided’ voters - 28% of respondents state that they are unsure of how they will vote, meaning that the political parties have everything to play for.
- Disabled voters are generally unsatisfied with the performance of the Scottish Government so far, with the largest proportion of respondents rating performance as poor across all areas.
- Crime is the area where Government performance is considered worst. Health – also the top priority for disabled voters - is the area where performance is considered best, although note that 30% still rate performance as poor, compared to 25% giving a verdict of good.
- There is a general shift in voting preference away from Labour and towards the SNP and Conservatives. In 2003, 23% voted for the SNP in the constituency vote, with 26% stating they intend to do so in 2007. For Labour, the figure was 30% in 2003, down to 18% in 2007. Interestingly, 15% state that they intend to vote for the Conservatives in 2007, compared to 12% in 2003.
- Disabled voters rate health as the most important issue in the election campaign, with 93% rating this as important. The economy was considered to be the least important issue, although 68% still rated this as important.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This report describes the results of a self completion survey that was commissioned by Capability Scotland and conducted by Scotinform. The survey was carried out with 1 in 4 poll members to find out about voting intentions for the Scottish Parliamentary and Council elections on 3rd May 2007.

There were three key issues that Capability Scotland addressed in the survey:

- which political parties disabled people and carers will be voting for in the Scottish Parliament and Council elections
- what issues are important to disabled people and carers
- the accessibility of the voting process

1.2 Methodology and Sample

A total of 357 questionnaires were sent out to 1 in 4 poll members. 145 questionnaires were returned to Scotinform by freepost giving a 41% response rate.

A copy of the covering letter and questionnaire can be found in Appendix One at the end of the report.

2. PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

2.1 Gender and Age of Respondents

Table 2.1 shows that the respondents were slightly more likely to be female (54%) than male (45%).

Respondents were most likely to be in the older age groups with two thirds of respondents (63%) being 45-64 years old. Respondents were least likely to be 18-24 years old with only 2 respondents in this age group.

Table 2.1 Gender and age of respondents

Base: all respondents

	%
Male	45
Female	54
18-24	1
25-34	8
35-44	17
45-54	27
55-64	36
65 plus	11

2.2 Description of Respondents

81% of respondents were either disabled or a person with a medical condition/illness as shown in Table 2.2. Just over a quarter of respondents live with, or care for, a disabled person.

Table 2.2 Description of respondents

Base: all respondents

	%
A disabled person	68
A person with a medical condition/illness	13
Someone who cares for a disabled person	19
Someone who lives with a disabled person	9

Please note that the respondents with a disability or medical condition/illness and the respondents who are carers or live with a disabled person adds up to more than 100%. This is due to a small number of respondents who are both disabled and carers.

3. 2003 SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

Respondents were asked to give details of how they voted in the last Scottish Parliamentary election (2003).

3.1 Voting in 2003 Parliamentary Elections

A very high percentage of respondents voted in the 2003 election as illustrated in Table 3.1: 94% said that they had voted and only 6% saying they had not.

Table 3.1 Voting in 2003

Base: all respondents

	%
Yes	94
No	6

3.2 Voting Pattern in the 2003 Scottish Parliamentary Election

In the 2003 elections, the pattern of first and second votes were very similar, with respondents most likely to have voted for Labour in both the first and second votes, followed by SNP and the Liberal Democrats.

Table 3.2 Voting in the 2003 Scottish Parliamentary election

Base: those who voted in the 2003 Scottish Parliamentary election (133 respondents)

	First Vote	Second Vote
	%	%
Labour	30	28
Scottish National Party (SNP)	23	25
Liberal Democrat	18	19
Conservative	12	11
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)	6	8
Green	5	3
Independent	1	2
Christian	1	-
Not stated	5	5

4. 2007 SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

4.1 Intention to Vote in 2007 Parliamentary Election

94% of poll members intend to vote in the 2007 election and only 4% said that they do not intend to vote.

Table 4.1 Intention to vote in 2007 election
Base: all respondents

	%
Yes	94
No	4
Not stated	2

Two respondents (1%) will be voting for the first time in 2007: both were aged 55-64 years old.

4.2 Reasons for Not Voting

The five respondents who said that they would not vote in 2007 were asked for their reasons for not voting. The reasons were:

- politicians don't do anything for disabled people (3 respondents)
- not interested in politics (2)
- no faith in the government (1)

4.3 Voting Intentions for 2007 Parliamentary Election

28% of respondents said that they were not yet sure how they would vote in the 2007 elections, suggesting that publicity and promotion in the weeks leading up to the election will be critical in their choice of party. Respondents who are undecided were fairly evenly split in how they voted in the 2003 elections: they do not appear to come from one particular party.

SNP are the party that respondents are most likely to vote for, followed by Labour, with Conservatives and Liberal Democrats in third and fourth place.

Table 4.2 Voting intentions in the 2007 Scottish Parliamentary election
Base: those who intend to vote in the 2007 Scottish Parliamentary election (137)

	First Vote	Second Vote
	%	%
Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)	26	24
Labour	18	16
Conservative	15	12
Liberal Democrat	9	12
Green	2	4
Scottish Socialist Party	0	2
Solidarity	1	1
BNP	1	1
Not sure	28	28

4.4 Comparison of 2003 and 2007 Voting Intentions

Table 4.3 shows the differences between how respondents voted in 2003 and how they say they will vote in 2007.

The likelihood of voting for the Scottish Nationalist Party has remained the same between 2003 and 2007, but support for Labour and the Liberal Democrats has decreased significantly.

Table 4.3 Comparisons of Voting 2003 and 2007

Base = respondents who voted/intend to vote

	2003 – total first and second vote	2007 – total first and second Vote
	%	%
Scottish National Party (SNP)	48	50
Labour	58	32
Conservative	23	27
Liberal Democrat	37	21
Green	8	6
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)	14	2
Not stated/not yet decided	5	28

5. 2003 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

5.1 Voting in 2003 Council Elections

A high proportion (90%) of respondents voted in the Council elections in 2003.

Table 5.1 Voting in 2003 Council elections

Base: all respondents

	%
Yes	90
No	7
Not stated	3

5.2 Party Voted for in 2003 Council Elections

Respondents were most likely to have voted for Labour in the 2003 Council elections, with nearly a third of respondents saying they voted Labour. SNP was the second most popular party, followed by the Liberal Democrats and Conservatives.

Table 5.2 Voting Pattern in the 2003 Scottish Council Elections

Base: those who voted in the 2003 Council election (128)

	%
Labour	30
Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)	25
Liberal Democrat	16
Conservative	13
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)	5
Green	2
Independent	2
Not stated	8

5.3 Intention to Vote in 2007 Council Elections

92% of respondents said that they intended to vote in the 2007 elections.

Table 5.3 Intention to vote in 2007 Council elections

Base: all respondents

	%
Yes	92
No	4
Not stated	4

5.4 Reasons for Not Voting

The six respondents who said that they would not vote, gave the following reasons for not voting:

- not interested in politics (2 respondents)
- politicians don't do anything for disabled people (2)
- don't know how to get a postal vote (1)
- unsure what it means (1)

5.5 Voting Intentions for 2007 Council Elections

Table 5.4 shows how respondents intend to vote in 2007 and compares this with how they voted in 2003. This illustrates an increase in the proportion of respondents saying that they will vote for SNP and Conservatives in 2007, and a significant decrease in Labour votes.

Table 5.4 Voting intentions for 2007 Council election

Base: those who intend on voting in 2007 Council elections (136)

	2003 vote	2007 voting intentions
	%	%
Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)	25	31
Conservative	13	18
Labour	30	17
Liberal Democrat	16	13
Green	2	3
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)	5	1
Not stated	8	17

6. KEY ISSUES

6.1 Importance of Key Issues

Respondents were given a list of key issues and asked how important each issue was to them and their decision on which parties to vote for.

The issue that respondents felt were most important was health; 93% felt that it was important.

The other issues were all rated as important by between 68%-79% of respondents, indicating the high levels of concern about all these issues. Respondents were very unlikely to rate any issue as 'not important', although a small but significant percentage did not rate issues such as the economy, poverty, transport, education, crime or community care.

Table 6.1: Importance of key issues (prompted)

Base: all respondents

	Not stated	Not Important	Neither/Nor	Important
	%	%	%	%
Health	6	0	1	93
Crime	12	1	8	79
Community Care/Social Work	11	1	11	77
Equal Rights	8	4	13	75
Education	12	2	14	72
Transport	13	1	15	71
Poverty	15	0	17	68
Economy	16	2	14	68

20 respondents made comments on the other issues that were important to them. The main comments related to the environment and carers' rights. The full list of answers is shown below:

- Environment (5 respondents)
- Carers' issues/rights (3)
- Planning (1)
- Arts (1)
- Trident (1)
- Employment issues for disabled people (1)
- Independent living support (1)
- Independence (1)
- Social housing (1)
- Accessibility (1)
- Business rates (1)
- Depends which election (1)
- Civil liberties (ID cards etc) (1)
- Indirect taxation (1)

6.2 Views on Scottish Government's Performance

Respondents were asked to rate the Scottish Government's performance on the key issues since the 2003 election. The results showed that respondents were more likely to rate the Government's performance as 'poor' than 'good'. The most positive views related to health, transport and equal rights: between a quarter and a fifth of respondents said the performance was 'good', and a third of respondents said performance was 'poor'. By comparison, views on the Government's performance in tackling crime and poverty were very negative: only 7% of respondents said the performance was 'good', compared with 36%-44% saying it was 'poor'.

Table 6.2 Views on Government's performance
Base: all respondents

	Not stated	Poor	Neither good nor bad	Good
	%	%	%	%
Health	5	30	40	25
Transport	6	31	41	22
Equal Rights	8	33	39	20
Education	8	27	46	18
Community Care/Social Work	11	38	32	18
Economy	12	30	44	13
Poverty	11	36	46	7
Crime	10	44	39	7

Sixteen comments were made on the other issues that the Scottish Government has covered:

- Environment (2 respondents)
- Carers' issues/rights (2)
- Arts (1)
- Trident (1)
- Employment issues for disabled people (1)
- Independence (1)
- Asylum seekers (1)
- Social housing (1)
- Safety in parks (1)
- Free ferry fares (1)
- Elderly disabled (1)
- Depends on election (1)
- Civil liberties (ID cards) (1)
- Indirect taxation (1)

Table 6.3 summarises the importance rating given to each issue and the proportion of respondents rating the performance of the Scottish Government as 'good'. This illustrates that the Government's performance on issues perceived as important has varied hugely. Health, for example, is the most important issue and also receives a relatively high rating for Government performance. By comparison Crime is also seen as an important issue, but respondents are unlikely to think that the Government has tackled this issue.

Table 6.3 Comparison of importance of issues and Government's performance
Base = all respondents

	Rated as important	Government performance rated as good
	%	%
Health	93	25
Crime	79	7
Community Care/Social Work	77	18
Equal Rights	75	20
Education	72	18
Transport	71	22
Poverty	68	7
Economy	68	13

7. THE PROCESS OF VOTING

Respondents were asked to give details on how they will cast their vote in 2007 and the key problem areas when doing so.

7.1 Methods of Casting Votes

Table 7.1 shows that two thirds of respondents (65%) said that they intend to vote in person at the 2007 elections. 29% intend to by post, including 38% of people with a disability and only 2% will vote by proxy.

Table 7.1 Method of casting vote

Base: all respondents

	%
In person	65
By postal vote	29
By proxy	2
Not stated	4

7.2 Problems Encountered When Voting

Respondents were most likely say that the process of casting their vote, including folding the ballot paper and using the polling booth, was 'easy', suggesting that the actual mechanics of voting are relatively straightforward.

The areas that respondents had most difficulty related to access to information (on candidates and on how to vote) and accessing the polling station and polling booth. Improving access to polling stations and booths is clearly important in encouraging disabled people and their carers to vote.

Table 7.2 Views on problems encountered when voting

Base: all respondents

	Not stated	Difficult	Neither easy/difficult	Easy
	%	%	%	%
Casting your vote	19	11	13	58
Folding the ballot paper and putting it in the box	21	11	14	54
Using the polling booth	20	9	20	51
Getting help on what to do	21	9	18	51
Being able to read information/hear what people say	18	21	13	48
Accessibility of information about how to register to vote	16	14	23	47
Getting a lift to and from the polling station	18	17	19	46
Getting to the actual polling booth	21	15	18	46
Accessibility of information on how to vote	18	13	26	44
Getting inside the polling station	20	18	20	42
Accessibility of information from candidates about who to vote for	18	23	21	39

8. VIEWS ON THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Respondents were asked their opinion on what the Scottish Government does or does not do for disabled people.

8.1 How the Scottish Government has Made Life Better for Disabled People

16% of respondents said that the Government had not done anything to make life better for disabled people and a further 35% did not make any comments. 49% of respondents were able to suggest, unprompted, ways in which the Scottish Government had made life better for disabled people.

The main area that respondents felt had been improved by the Scottish Government related to travel and transport, with 21% mentioning this unprompted. The full list of comments is shown below:

- Travel/Free bus pass/ramps to buses (30 respondents)
- Improved access to buildings (16)
- Disability Discrimination Act (5)
- Free personal care (3)
- Voting easier (3)
- Smoking ban (2)
- 'Same as you' report (2)
- Direct payments (1)
- More children in mainstream schools (1)
- Awareness through advertising (1)
- General attitude to disabled people is better (1)
- Through funding old folks homes (1)
- Lowered pavements (1)
- Introduced the DED (1)
- Good on health (1)
- Proposed parking regulations (1)
- Having your own place (1)
- Easier access to elected representatives (1)
- Disabled friendly housing now being built within communities (1)
- Provision and funding for better neighbourhood services (1)
- Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (1)

8.2 How the Scottish Government has Made Life Worse for Disabled People

10% of respondents said that the Government had not made life worse for disabled people, but 54% made unprompted suggestions on areas that were worse under the current Government. A wide range of issues were highlighted, the majority by one person only: the full list of responses is shown below:

- Not implementing/enforcing the Disability Discrimination Act (6 respondents)
- Access to buildings is still difficult (4)
- Budget cuts/cuts in funding (3)
- Parking/abuse of blue badge system (3)
- Independent living (3)
- Not listening (2)
- I don't think disabled people are on the agenda (2)
- Free personal care (2)

- Rising prices (2)
- Tightening up of benefits (2)
- Transport infrastructure has worsened (2)
- Not investing in social housing (2)
- Insufficient care funding (2)
- Penalised by regulations on permitted number of hours you can work (2)
- General apathy in attitude towards accessibility (1)
- Not doing enough about crime (1)
- Too much political correctness (1)
- Access to computer software (1)
- Not implementing legislation to make taxis accessible (1)
- They should have a travel card for people like me who have a mild disability (1)
- Closing accident and emergency units in hospitals (1)
- Trams in Edinburgh; I feel they are dangerous and a step backward (1)
- Pedestrianisation of city centre for disabled motorists (1)
- Helping with employment (1)
- No improvement in carers allowance (1)
- Wasting taxpayers money (1)
- Too much legislation on health and safety, stops people trying to help the physically disabled (1)
- Not enough on offer for social life (1)
- Health and social services (1)
- 60 per cent rise in council tax (1)
- Getting on and off buses (1)
- Disabled people haven't been recognised for what they can do (1)
- Closing special schools too quickly (1)
- Many things are just the same (1)
- Transport (1)
- Too long to wait for an occupational therapist (1)
- Benefits appear to be paid to all disabled people regardless of specialised need or amount of outside care required (1)
- They have turned community buses away and disabled people cannot get out if they live in the countryside (1)
- Further taxes (1)
- Taking card from disabled people (1)
- Lack of social work care (1)
- No access to legal aid for human rights lawyer (1)
- Travel restrictions on bus does not allow travel to work (1)
- Postal office closures and bank branches (1)
- Still poverty in 2007 (1)
- Social work not supposed to be a universal service with resources and responsibilities towards disabled children (1)
- Combining funding awards for training to organisations of multi-disabled rather than specialist such as the blind (1)
- Lack of funding to social work departments and cuts in local resource centre services (1)
- Not changed the £20 disregards since 2001; I feel it should be increased to £30 to allow disabled people to work for a few hours per week (1)
- Cases of abuse now mean that social workers treat children at risk as their priority; which means my disabled son is not my priority (1)
- The standard of care staff and their qualifications is a disgrace; there is a cycle of poor pay, poor working conditions; exploitation and poor service (1)

- Ability to access help with filling in forms (1)
- Nothing for young disabled people aged over 16 years old (1)
- Lack of money for local authorities to provide care and housing (1)
- Failure to fully fund care in the community (1)
- Services for adult users do not seem to be improving (1)
- Health provisions is inadequate annual specialist appointments don't occur (1)
- Increased costs in care (1)
- Drive to put disabled people into work (1)
- Single status/job evaluations – if my appeal to my council employer is unsuccessful, my salary will be reduced by £1500 (1)
- Nothing (14)

8.3 Rating of the Scottish Government

Only 13% of disabled people and their carers felt that they were better off under the current Scottish Government.

Over a quarter of respondents (28%) feel that they are worse off under the current Government and a further 54% said that their life was no different.

Table 8.1 Feelings on the Scottish Government

Base: all respondents

	%
We're better off	13
No different	54
We're worse off	28
Not stated	5

8.4 Contact with MSP and Councillor

Two thirds of respondents have had contact with an MSP in the past and a third have not.

Table 8.2 Contact with MSP or Councillor

Base: all respondents

	MSP	Councillor
	%	%
Yes	65	60
No	32	37
Not stated	2	3

APPENDIX ONE: QUESTIONNAIRE

1 in 4 Poll: Voting intentions 2007

In 2003, the 1 in 4 Poll asked members how they intended to vote in the Scottish Parliamentary elections. We used this information to build up a picture of what political issues matter to disabled people and carers. This survey is about the Scottish elections on 03 May, 2007. You will be voting for MSPs and for local councillors. At the last Scottish Parliamentary election, Labour won most seats in the Scottish Parliament and, together with the Liberal Democrats, formed the government of Scotland – called the Scottish Executive. Most councils have been run by Labour since 2003 as well. The issues covered by the Scottish Parliament and councils are largely the same – education, transport, crime and health.

This survey is about voting in these 2007 elections – who you'll be voting for, why you vote and how easy you find it.

Capability Scotland will use this survey's findings to highlight 3 issues:

- who disabled people and carers will be voting for in the Scottish Parliament and Council elections
- what issues are important to disabled people and carers
- the accessibility of the voting process

This survey is for disabled people and carers who are 18 or over. The information you give will be kept confidential. Your views as an individual will not be revealed. No one will know how you intend to vote. The survey report will look at how many people intend to vote for different political parties and why.

How to answer the questionnaire

Please answer as many of the questions below as you can, either by ticking the box/es or writing in your answer.

Before you start, read each question and all the possible answers carefully. Most questions ask you to tick the box or boxes which apply to you. At some questions more than one answer may apply to you, so tick all those boxes. Completed questionnaires should be returned by **30th March 2007**

If you need this questionnaire in a format that better suits your needs, or if you would like more copies of this questionnaire, please contact Janet Sylvester at Scotinform Ltd, 12b Timber Bush, Edinburgh EH6 6QH or by telephoning 0131 555 1104.

Q1 Are you? Please tick the box which applies to you

Male

Female

Q2 How old are you? Please tick the box which applies to you

18-24 years old

25-34 years old

35-44 years old

45-54 years old

55-64 years old

Over 65 years old

Q3 Which of the following best describes you? Please tick one box only

A disabled person

A person with a medical condition or illness

Someone who cares for a disabled person

Someone who lives with a disabled person

Q4 Did you vote in the last Scottish Parliament elections in 2003? Please tick the box which applies to you

Yes

No

PLEASE ANSWER Q5

PLEASE SKIP TO Q7

Q5 You have 2 votes for the Scottish Parliament. The first one is to elect a constituency MSP. For the last Scottish election in **2003**, which party did you vote for on the first vote? Please tick the box which applies to you

Conservative

Green

Labour

Liberal Democrat

Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)

Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)

Other PLEASE WRITE IN WHICH PARTY OR CANDIDATE YOU VOTED FOR IF IT IS NOT LISTED ABOVE

.....

Q6 The second vote is for a political party and to elect MSPs to represent the region you live in. For the last Scottish election in **2003**, which party did you vote for on the second vote? Please tick the box which applies to you

Conservative

Green

Labour

Liberal Democrat

Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)

Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)

Other PLEASE WRITE IN WHICH PARTY OR CANDIDATE YOU VOTED FOR IF IT IS NOT LISTED ABOVE

.....

EVERYONE SHOULD ANSWER Q7

Q7 Do you intend to vote in this Scottish Parliamentary election in May 2007? Please tick the box which applies to you

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE SKIP TO Q9
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE ANSWER Q8

Q8 If no, why not? Please tick the box(es) which applies to you

Not interested in politics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have never voted	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know how to register my vote	<input type="checkbox"/>
Politicians don't do anything for disabled people	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can't get to or inside the polling station	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know how to get a postal vote	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other answer – write in	

PLEASE NOW GO TO Q12

Q9 Are you voting for the first time? Please tick the box which applies to you

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q10 You have 2 votes for the Scottish Parliament. The first one is to elect a constituency MSP. In these elections in **May 2007**, which party do you intend to vote for on the first vote? Please tick the box which applies to you

Conservative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labour	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liberal Democrat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not sure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other PLEASE WRITE IN WHICH PARTY YOU INTEND TO VOTE FOR IF IT IS NOT LISTED ABOVE	
.....	

Q11 The second vote is for a political party and to elect MSPs to represent the region you live in. In these elections in **May 2007**, which party do you intend to vote for on the second vote? Please tick the box which applies to you

Conservative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labour	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liberal Democrat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not sure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other PLEASE WRITE IN WHICH PARTY YOU INTEND TO VOTE FOR IF IT IS NOT LISTED ABOVE	
.....	

EVERYONE SHOULD ANSWER Q12

Q12 Did you vote in the last council elections in 2003?

Yes Please answer Q13
No Please skip to Q14

Q13 Which party did you vote for in the last council elections in **2003**?

Conservative
Green
Labour
Liberal Democrat
Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)
Other PLEASE WRITE IN WHICH PARTY YOU INTEND TO VOTE FOR IF IT IS NOT LISTED ABOVE

EVERYONE SHOULD ANSWER QUESTION 14

Q14 Do you intend to vote in these council elections in **May 2007**?

Yes PLEASE SKIP TO Q16
No PLEASE ANSWER Q15

Q15 If no, why not? Please tick the box(es) which applies to you

Not interested in politics
Have never voted
Don't know how to register my vote
Politicians don't do anything for disabled people
Can't get to or inside the polling station
Don't know how to get a postal vote
Other answer – write in

PLEASE GO TO Q17

Q16 Which party will you vote for in these council elections in **May 2007**?

Conservative
Green
Labour
Liberal Democrat
Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP)
Scottish Socialist Party (SSP)
Other PLEASE WRITE IN WHICH PARTY YOU INTEND TO VOTE FOR IF IT IS NOT LISTED ABOVE

EVERYONE SHOULD ANSWER QUESTION 17

Q17 Which issues are important to you and help you decide who to vote for? Please tick the box which applies to you

	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not important
Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equal Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Care/Social Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other PLEASE WRITE IN OTHER ISSUES			

.....

Q18 How do you think the Scottish Government's performance has been on these issues since the last election? Please tick the box which applies to you

	Good	Neither good nor bad	Poor
Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equal Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Care/Social Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other PLEASE WRITE IN OTHER ISSUES			

.....

Q19 How will you cast your vote? Please tick the box which applies to you

In person	<input type="checkbox"/>
By proxy	<input type="checkbox"/>
By postal vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q20 The list below shows some problems that disabled people often find in voting.
Please tick the boxes which apply to you

	Easy	Neither easy nor difficult	Difficult
Accessibility of information about how to register to vote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accessibility of information from candidates about who to vote for	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Getting to the polling station	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Getting inside the polling station	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Getting to the actual polling booth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using the polling booth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casting your vote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Folding the ballot paper and putting it in the box	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Getting help on what to do	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accessibility of information on how to vote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being able to read information/hear what people say	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q 21 Please write in one thing the Scottish Government has done which you think has made.....

life better for disabled people:

.....

life worse for disabled people:

.....

Q22 Under this Scottish Government, do you and your family feel....
Please tick the box which applies to you

Better off	<input type="checkbox"/>
No different	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worse off	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q23 Have you ever had contact with an MSP? Please tick the box which applies to you

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q24 Have you ever had contact with your local councillor?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

THANK YOU FOR ANSWERING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.
Please return the questionnaire by Friday 30th March 2007 in the
freepost envelope provided. **NO STAMP IS REQUIRED**

