

## **Readme too: An Anti-Ableist approach to Open Data**

This deposit from the Wellcome Anti-Ableist Research Culture (WAARC) emerged from a two year funded project between May 2024 and April 2026.

***This document provides the essential contextual background for anyone thinking of using our archive. This document should be read before accessing any of the data.***

We follow the advice of Prosser et al 'data is deposited with a clear audit trail, reflexivity statement and overarching narrative that encourages the user to read and understand the data in terms of a time and place' (Prosser et al, 2023).

Moreover, as critical disability studies researchers we are keen to ensure that research improves the lives of disabled people; as fellow subjects in the driving of research knowledge. We oppose research that treats disabled people as merely objects of research and instead share our research materials and data in this deposit with the express aim of improving the working lives of disabled researchers and professional services colleagues in the university sector.

***Our deposit priorities emergent findings and recommendations reporting on our empirical, public engagement, participatory, knowledge exchange and impact work across four Phases. PIS and Consent forms relating to the distinct phases are available on request (see contact below).***

In order to authentically engage with the materials deposited in relation to the WAARC project we ask all users of the materials to follow **these strict guidelines**.

1. Before accessing any materials **please read all the background documents in the 'Phase 0 - over-arching project documents' folder - this necessarily contextualises the materials we share in this deposit**
2. If you intend to use the materials ask yourself the following questions:
  - In what ways will my use of the materials from the WAARC project improve the working conditions of disabled researchers and professional services colleagues in my university or organisation?
  - In what ways does my understanding of disability align with the perspectives of disabled people who understand disability as a human experience often marked by oppression and discrimination but also by possibility, opportunity, innovation and hope?
  - How might I draw on the materials from the WAARC project to feed into a wider project of research collaboration *with* rather than *on* disabled people?
  - To what extent does my use of the WAARC materials feed into a wider project of research collaboration with disabled people instead of extractive research about disabled people?
  - If you do use the materials please let us know - by contacting Professor Dan Goodley [d.goodley@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.goodley@sheffield.ac.uk)

## References

Prosser AMB, Hamshaw RJT, Meyer J, Bagnall R, Blackwood L, Huysamen M, Jordan A, Vasileiou K, Walter Z. (2023). When open data closes the door: A critical examination of the past, present and the potential future for open data guidelines in journals. *British Journal of Social Psychology*, 62(4), 1635-1653. doi: 10.1111/bjso.12576. Epub 2022 Sep 8.

PMID: 36076340; PMCID: PMC10946880.