



Office for Disability Issues

HM Government



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Office for Disability Issues

Government commitment

By 2025 disabled people will be respected and included as equal members of society, and will have full opportunities to fulfil their potential



Role of the ODI

- promoting joined-up government
- involving disabled people in what we do
- being a source of evidence and expertise on disability
- ensuring effective disability rights and legislation
- communicating what is happening across government on disability





Independent Living – a five year cross-government Strategy

- Disabled people will have greater choice and control over the support they need to live their lives
- Disabled people will have greater access to housing, employment, health and social services and transport opportunities, and to participating in family and community life.

Co-production and joint ownership

- Worked with 5 government departments – Work and Pensions, Health, Communities, Transport, Children, Schools and Families
- Oversight by an Expert Panel
- Involved disabled people throughout
- Case study approach



What independent living means to disabled people

- Being included
- Participating
- Equal access
- Being ordinary
- Having a voice
- Being able to take risks
- Being respected and having rights
- Choice about where I live
- Choice about who I live with
- Choosing who supports me
- Choosing how my needs are met
- Being in control
- Being an equal citizen



Over 50 policy commitments

- Including:
- Action and Learning Sites: to demonstrate the effectiveness of user-led support, advocacy and brokerage
- Regional initiative to promote choice and control for older people with high support needs
- National strategy to enable disabled people to remain in employment
- Awareness campaign to bring about cultural shift to promote independent living
- Toolkit on independent living for older disabled people
- Continuing health care good practice guidance.



Scrutiny and monitoring progress

- Detailed measuring of outcomes
 - On an annual basis
 - Disabled people involved in monitoring progress
 - Reporting to Ministers
-and a commitment to review the need for new investment and/or legislation if satisfactory progress is not made.



Consultation

- How to involve disabled people at a national level in oversight of the IL Strategy
- How to take advantage of current initiatives to involve disabled people and service users
- Whether we need to do something in addition to these current initiatives (like foster a ‘network of networks’)
- How to build leadership capacity amongst disabled people and their organisations
- How to support implementation at regional and local levels



User-led organisations

- Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People included a commitment that, by 2010, each local authority area should have a user-led organisation modelled on existing Centre for Independent Living
- Commitment endorsed in the Independent Living Strategy





Action so far

- Department of Health set up a User-led Organisations Project
- ULO policy published in 2007
- £750,000 made available in Wave 1 of ULO Development Fund to support 12 action and learning sites from March 2008
- Second round of funding for 2009-2010

Contact details.....

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