

Message from the DAA Chair

I am grateful to the DAA members who applied for a role in the **refreshed DAA Steering Group – and am delighted to welcome Dan Brooke, Hilary Farmiloe and Martin Austin** to the Group. I, along with an outgoing member of the Steering Group carried out an informal interview with the applicants in July. I am pleased to be able to say that we have been able to put together an excellent group of skilled individuals who will bring their individual expertise and knowledge to the Steering Group in order to ensure that we maintain the momentum in going forward. Further information is given below.

I want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the outgoing members of the Steering Group who have given of their invaluable time to set up an alliance based on the value of working together, across sectors and organisations, for greater inclusion of disabled people.

We have spent some time in this last quarter in putting together a **Strategic Plan for the DAA** for the next two years. About 100 members fed into this plan, through surveys and an event – and it spells out our vision and how we plan to achieve it, through enabling people to take action and share good practice; and through leading on a headline theme. Further information is below and the full details are available on the [DAA website](#). This is a core document for the DAA – and a strategy that belongs to **you**, members of the DAA, so please do get in touch with me, or with Roland Chesters, the DAA Project Coordinator at DRUK, if you have any comments you wish to make on it.

Talking of websites, I'm pleased to be able to say that one of our Steering Group members, Cam Nicholl, has once again very generously offered for her company, Digital Accessibility Centre, to build the **new DAA website**. The primary function of the new website will be to enable DAA members to interact directly with each other. This was the main feature requested by members that came out of the various member surveys and strategy meetings that took place earlier this year. We

hope to have the new website up and running by late Autumn and we shall be looking for members to beta test it for us, so please do look out for announcements!

As you will be aware, the grant from ODI which has enabled DRUK to continue to provide the Secretariat function to the DAA, will finish in February 2017. The Strategic Plan identifies a number of potential funding models which we shall be exploring, but I would be very interested to hear from members of any other suggestions or proposals you may have about how we can continue to fund this invaluable work.

These are exciting times for the DAA: refreshed Steering Group, new Strategic Plan, new website, but also challenging ones in which we have to find financial resources to keep the Alliance going in straightened times.

I am very much looking forward to reporting back in the next Newsletter on how we have progressed in these areas, but in the meantime if you have any other queries regarding the DAA please do not hesitate to get in touch with me, or with Roland.

Liz Sayce

DAA Chair

Refreshed Steering Group

It was agreed that, going forwards, each Steering Group member would have a particular area of responsibility for which they are accountable.

The composition of the Steering Group is now as follows:

NAME	ORGANISATION	STEERING GROUP ROLE
Liz Sayce	Disability Rights UK	Chair
Jason Jaspal	Disability Rights UK	
Ray Ashley	English Federation of Disability Sport	Partners & Networks – plus support on project delivery and evaluation
Cam Nicholl	Digital Accessibility Centre	Digital Development
Stephanie Harvey	ODI	National Government
Stephen Brookes	Disability Hate Crime	Project Delivery & Evaluation – leading on our main project, disabled people’s leadership; plus support on partners and networks
Charlie Willis	Independent Lives	Disability Expertise
Theresa Hodge	SENDPO	Disability Expertise

Dan Brooke	Channel 4	Communications & Marketing – esp. marketing and communications with national organisations
Hilary Farmiloe	Instructability	Communications & Marketing – esp. marketing to local & regional organisations
Martin Austin	Nimbus	Business Development & Revenue
Seeking Local Government Association nomination		Local Public Sector Commissioning / Delivery Expertise

We hope that a representative from the Local Government Association will be joining the Steering Group in the autumn, after their Board elections have taken place.

Full details about Steering Group members can be found on the [DAA website](#).

DAA Strategic Plan 2016-2018

The full Strategic Plan can be found on the [DAA website](#). The Steering Group has agreed that the **vision** for the DAA will be:

Successful cross-sector partnerships that deliver greater inclusion for disabled people

and that the **mission** will be:

Enabling communities of practice at all levels and across all sectors to work together to take action.

We will enable collaborations between members on any topic that supports inclusion of disabled people. In addition we have agreed a headline theme, which the Steering Group will pursue: Disabled People's Leadership in Public Life. The precise work programme on this theme is being scoped and further information will appear on the website soon.

New DAA Members

We are pleased to welcome the following organisations as new members to the DAA. Further details on each organisation can be found on the [website](#).

- R-U-Able2
- Buckinghamshire County Council
- Channel 4 Television Corporation
- ChesterPHAB
- Disability Talk
- Enhance the UK
- Independent Lives
- Japan Local Government Centre
- Marmax Products Ltd
- Thompsons Scotland Solicitors and Solicitors Advocates

DAA Project Updates

Sport and Physical Activity

Lead: English Federation of Disability Sport

The steering group met on the 20th April with 6 members varying from the sports and non-sports sector. The group held discussions on what we could realistically achieve as a group with ensuring that we could support the main aim of the group which is ***“increasing the number of disabled people participating in sport and physical activity opportunities.”***

The group maintained that the main focus would be to promote the EFDS Charter for Change which has three main “Asks” within it but the groups unique strength was its connections through the DAA membership and therefore we agreed that we would concentrate on “ASK 2” of the charter which is get more non sport organisations to make sport and Physical activity as a part of their offer.

The group have a realistic understanding of what they can do to promote PA and sport to the non-sport sector and agreed the following:-

- ***Promote the Charter for Change with specific emphasis on “Ask 2” within the DAA membership.***

The group have organised a Mini conference last November that was supported by the Minister for Disabled People (Justin Tomlinson) at Central Hall Westminster as was attended by over 70 non sporting and sporting organisations in promoting and launching the charter for change. The group have also organised 2 Regional days in the North West (Preston) and Yorkshire (Sheffield) to promote the charter and to build effective partnerships between the strategic sports sector and local

DAA members with over 35 differing organisations in attendance on both days.

- ***To develop a resource page for sport and non-sport organisations on the DAA website.***

The resource page has been developed by EFDS in conjunction with DAA secretariats that covers contacts, resources and good practice. The group agreed that this needs reviewing with the newly appointed secretariats with DRUK.

- ***To promote good practice via the website, especially with non-sport case studies.***

3 case studies have been developed for Gloucestershire, Staffordshire and Tees valley that fit within the resource page. 2 new case studies for Essex and Northants have been produced and are awaiting to go on the resource page after discussions with the DRUK secretariat.

- ***To connect non sport and sports organisations together through appropriate contacts and networks.***

45 Service and mapping county documents have been produced that identifies key organisations from the non-sport sectors including third, voluntary, private and statutory services that provide key services to disabled people. These documents have been shared with every County Sport partnerships in the country in order to build effective partnerships and relationships. This has resulted in 33 county disability steering groups being developed with key members coming from both sectors.

- ***To develop a non-sport resource that educates and informs the sector about sport and PA.***

The Non sport resource has been designed and developed and will be a part of the Web based Disability Rights UK personalisation resource. The paper format will align to the EFDS engagement resources and will have the DAA and DRUK logo and be finalised in September 2016.

- ***To promote free inclusive community sport/PA training to the non-sport sector organisations.***

Inclusive Community training has been promoted at all three events (London, Yorkshire and Preston) as well as been promoted to all DAA members.

Total number of individuals from NCS attending open workshops - 36

Total number of workshops booked - 21

Total number of workshops being organised – 1 (possibly 3 in total)

Total number of bespoke workshops already delivered – 1 (participant numbers tbc.)

Transport

Steven Brookes, Chair of the Transport project reports how he has been able to use his local influence to gain real outcomes of involvement of disabled people in awareness and training of drivers and staff at Blackpool Transport, which is now being seen as best practice.

Northern Rail is also looking at ways of using the awareness raising undertaken by Blackpool Transport and also have asked him to help create a disability reference group, whilst local Blackpool Station which is one of very heavy usage is going to trial a local session with station staff. He is also working on a larger user consultative group between bus and train operators and the council. This seems to be a fairly good example of success for DAA.

He is also setting up with local key companies and the council portfolio holder a volunteering/involvement, and neither of these projects would have been successful without the full cooperation signposting and support of other members of the DAA.

News from DAA Members

If you have a news items that you would like to appear on the DAA website and in this Newsletter, please send it to roland.chesters@disabilityrightsuk.org or to martin.inch@disabilityrightsuk.org. We are always happy to hear from members!

- [Peer support could boost work prospects for disabled people report from Disability Rights UK](#)
- [Inspire Peterborough is named as Sainsbury's Charity of the Year!](#)
- [Peterborough Disability Forum has just issued its August 2016 NewsLink](#)
- [New resource from NICE](#)
- [TCV Scotland are running a one-day course on 1 September](#)
- [Inspire Peterborough held Peterborough's first Inclusive Ice Skating competition](#)
- [Disability champion Lynda Hesketh receives prestigious award](#)
- [New resource on dementia care added](#)

- [Give your views on accessibility within the railway system](#)
- [Japan Local Government Centre in London invitation to DAA members](#)
- [Asif Iqbal nominated for National Diversity Award](#)
- [Minority Mental Health 2016 conference](#)
- [What leaving Europe means for charities](#)
- [Channel 4 unveils coverage plans for the Paralympics](#)
- [New campaign encourages more disabled people to be active](#)
- [Blue Light days](#)
- [InstructAbility scheme wins award](#)
- [Trustees wanted for Disability Rights UK](#)
- [Marmax Products design competition](#)

Further Information

If you need any further information about the Disability Action Alliance, please contact the Project Co-ordinator, Roland Chesters on roland.chesters@disabilityrightsuk.org or DAA@disabilityrightsuk.org.