

Impact Report 2017-18

Introduction

Disability Wales (DW) is the national association of disabled people's organisations in Wales striving to achieve rights, equality and independent living for all disabled people. Its core role is to reflect the views and priorities of its members to government with the aim of informing and influencing policy.

DW's strategic aims and objectives are:

1. To represent the interests of disabled people in Wales to Welsh Government and other decision makers

- To secure rights, equality and independent living in order to improve the well-being of disabled people
- To influence policy and decision makers at all levels, through acting as an effective advocate for the views, priorities and interests of our members

2. To develop and support the work of organisations managed and controlled by disabled people

- To provide information, advice and support to member organisations
- To design and deliver training and development programmes for member groups

3. To lead and develop an effective, sustainable organisation and ensure sound and robust governance

- To lead and manage an effective and efficient organisation for the benefit of disabled people
- To ensure sound and robust governance of the organisation
- To innovate, develop and deliver a range of income generating services that benefit disabled people

Unique Role

DW is the only national pan-impairment organisation representing disabled people and their organisations in Wales. It plays a crucial leadership role in campaigning for disability rights and equality in Wales.

DW has a strong track record and expertise in employing, engaging with and representing disabled people. It is uniquely placed to support Welsh Government and other bodies to achieve best practice in line with duties under the Equality Act (2010) and other legislation, whether as decision makers, employers and/or service providers.

Chairperson – Wendy Ashton



How do we support people across the whole of Wales, with so few staff, and all our other commitments? Well, we still do! through providing more, larger, regional events, seminars and conferences.

The Board of Directors have been particularly busy this year, with strategic changes being implemented across the organisation in our effort to become more financially stable and sustainable. Our focus remains in securing long-term funding, and growing the organisation, as well as increasing our reach to disabled people. Things are changing, and the atmosphere is one of positivity and optimism.

I must thank all the Directors for the support they have shown me and the organisation, in yet another challenging year. I also wish to thank the staff for holding the operational side together, maintaining the projects, delivering training and events, alongside an office relocation.

Treasurer – Mandi Glover



2017/2018 has therefore been yet another difficult year for us financially, but with a plan, a new base, and a committed staff team, we looked to the arrival of 2018 as an opportunity for a new start.

We still have a long way to go to achieve financial stability and sustainability, for the organisation, but we are in a much more encouraging position than at the end of 2016/2017. Things will be challenging, as we compete with the rest of the voluntary sector, for ever diminishing resources, but with a new base, greater focus on income generation, and an enthusiastic team, we are on the way to building a new, positive, future for Disability Wales.

Chief Executive – Rhian Davies



Despite decades of equality legislation and building regulations, DW's experience of searching for new premises illustrates the barriers to employment for so many disabled people, with many workplaces in Wales being inaccessible. It gave validity to much of our policy influencing work over the year regarding tackling the high disability employment gap.

While some issues affecting disabled people are devolved to Welsh Government, UK Government austerity cuts have impacted negatively on many areas of life. Nevertheless through the review of the Framework for Action on Independent Living, DW urged a renewed focus on tackling barriers to disabled people's full participation in Wales

On a positive note a portfolio of photographs was created of each #IAMEmbolden finalist together with case studies of their achievements which are available on DW's website. The images depict the talent as well as outstanding contribution many disabled women are making in the field of arts, sports, education, employment and community life.

Statement of Financial Activities

Including income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 March 2018

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2018	Total 2017
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	203,902	-	203,902	303,842
Charitable activities	58,836	202,440	261,276	412,154
Investments	560	-	560	619
Total income	263,298	202,440	465,738	716,615
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	316,624	178,159	494,783	684,346
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds	(53,326)	24,281	(29,045)	32,269
Fund balances at April 1 2017	383,839	30,837	414,676	382,407
Fund balances at 31 March 2018	330,513	55,118	385,631	414,676

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2018

	2018	2017
	£	£
Current assets		
Debtors	60,451	65,169
Cash at bank and in hand	354,373	396,717
	414,824	461,886
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(29,193)	(47,210)
Net current assets	385,631	414,676
Income funds		
Restricted funds	55,118	30,837
Unrestricted funds		
Designated funds	226,237	222,583
General unrestricted funds	104,276	161,256
	330,513	383,839
	385,631	414,676



UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled People (CRDP)

With funding from the Equality and Human Rights Commission, DW representatives joined the delegation of Disabled People's Organisations in Geneva to present the shadow report to the UN Committee on the Rights of Disabled People



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MEMBERS

INDIVIDUALS

GROUPS/ORGANISATIONS

Framework for Action on Independent Living Review

DW has continued this role during the Review of the Framework with the Chief Executive chairing the National Stakeholder Steering Group. It actively contributed to a series of engagement activities including four round-table meetings and an online survey to gather the views of disabled people regarding progress in tackling barriers since 2013.

DW in the Media

DW's profile in the mainstream media remained high, with staff and members featuring in more than a dozen stories in news and current affairs programmes, websites and print media.



Four Nations Research

As part of the DRILL Programme, DW worked alongside Inclusion Scotland, Disability Rights UK and Disability Action Northern Ireland to develop a coproduced, qualitative research project examining negative attitudes towards disabled people. As a contribution to this research, the particular focus for DW will be an exploration of the experiences of peer researchers in DRILL funded projects.

Citizen Directed Co-operatives Cymru (CDCC)

CDCC supported Direct Payments recipients living in Monmouthshire to set up the Moncare Co-operative Ltd.



Regional Workshops

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MEMBERS PARTICIPATED

“New information, good review of post Brexit and DRILL Project.”

“It was good to be able to share issues relevant to North Wales amongst peers.”

“I found the content; networking with others and the information on Brexit and Human Rights very useful.”

Disability Research on Independent Living and Learning (DRILL)



The second call for research proposals closed in August 2017. In total more than **100** applications were received from across the UK for this second – and final – call, of which **11** were awarded funding.

Impact of DRILL in Wales: second call

8 WELSH APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

1 SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

£149,946 AWARDED

Embolden: Spirit of Disabled Women

Funded by Fawcett Society and Spirit of 2012 to celebrate the Centenary of some women achieving the vote: the Embolden project was aimed at challenging stereotypes of disabled women, celebrating their achievements through an Awards scheme and creating a free to use bank of positive photographic images.

- 3 workshops**
- 31 women attended**
- 43 women nominated for award**
- 7 categories**
- 8 winners**
- 90 people attended awards ceremony**

#IAmEmbolden categories and award winners

Amazing In Any Other Way

Janice Partridge
Sponsored by OGL Computers

Career Success

Sian Preddy
Sponsored by Hugh James Solicitors

Community Activist

Anita Davies

Contribution to The Arts

Stephanie Back
Sponsored by MHA Broomfield Alexander, Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

Educational Achievement

Barbara Stensland
Sponsored by Leabold Financial Management

Sports Excellence Award 2018

Anastasia Blease
Sponsored by Legal & General

Sports Excellence Award 2018

Tina Evans
Sponsored by Legal & General

Memorial Award 2018

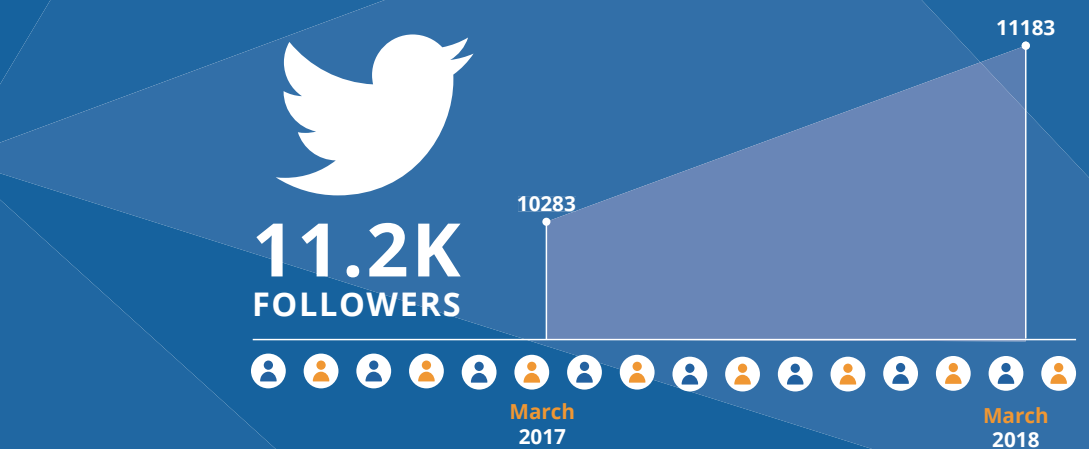
In memory of Julie Marsh (1962-2002)

DW maintains an active presence online and via social media

Achievements through the year included:

- 4 issues of e news**
- 900 new Twitter followers**
- 449 new Facebook likes**

38 BLOG POSTS



If you would like to know more about our work, please contact us at:

Disability Wales
Brydon House, Block B
Caerphilly Business Park,
Van Road, Caerphilly, CF83 3ED

Charity Number: 517391
Company Number: 1998621
Disability Wales received funding from the Welsh Government

02920 887325
(use annoucer for Mincom)

02920 888702

info@disabilitywales.org

www.disabilitywales.org

@disabilitywales

@disabilitywales