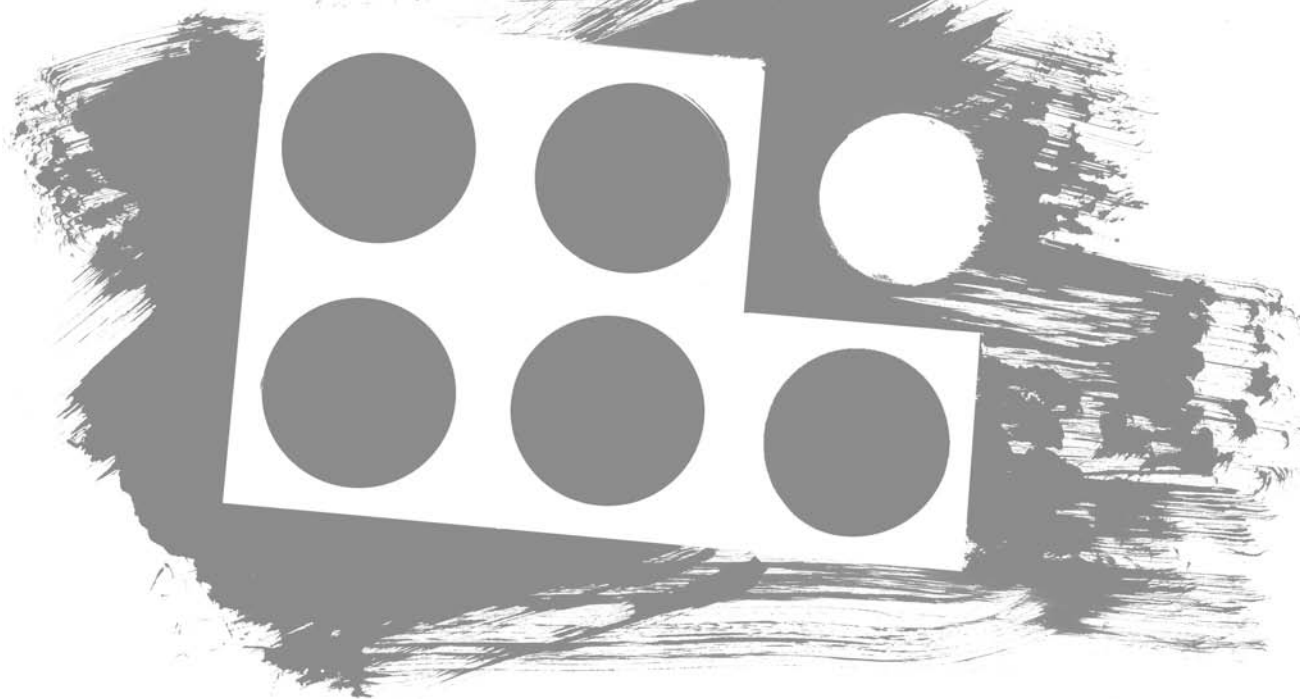


Review  
2006/07

# disability wales



# disability

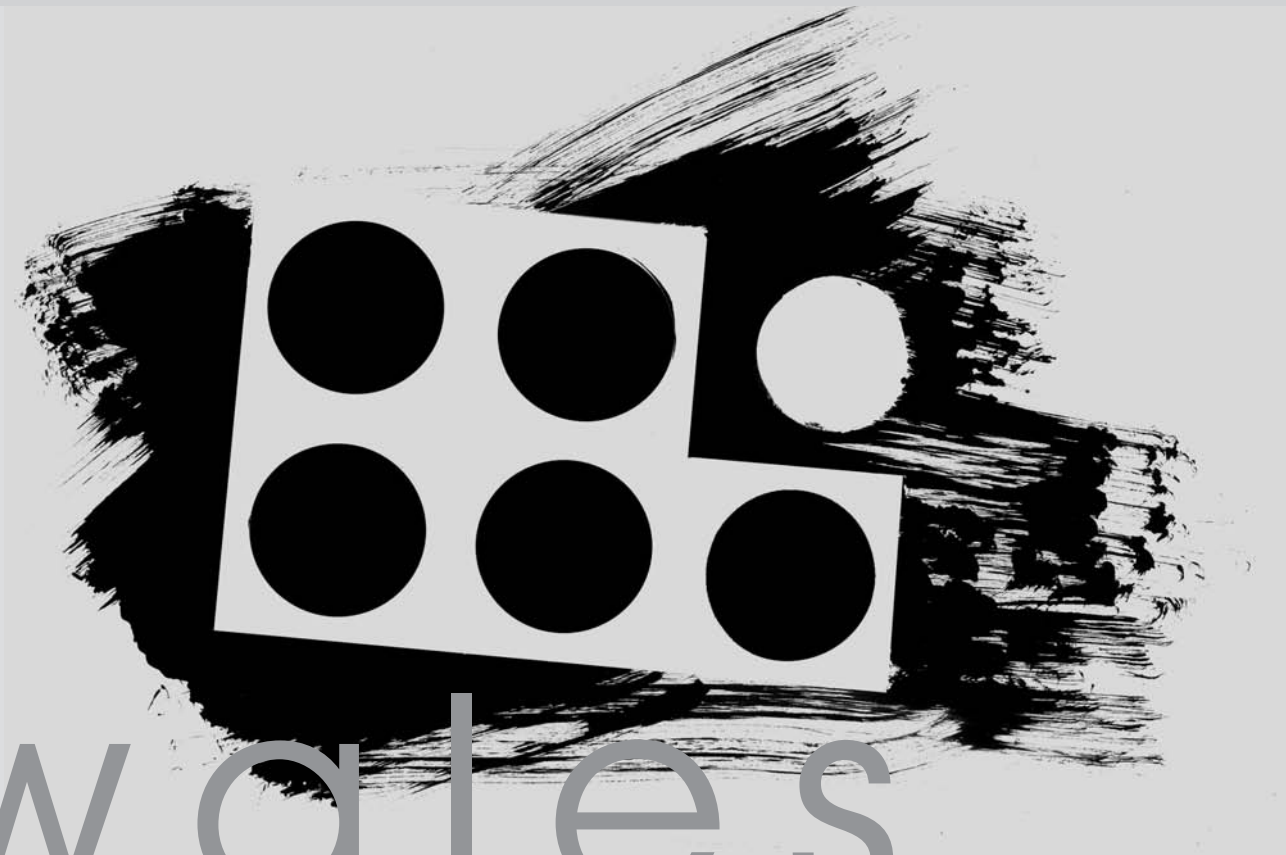
Disability Wales is the national association of disability groups striving to ach

This document is available in Braille, large print, audiotape and disc.



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# tywales

g to achieve rights, equality and choice for all disabled people in Wales

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Van Road,  
Caerphilly  
CF83 3GW**

**Telephone:** 029 2088 7325  
(Please use announcer for Minicom)

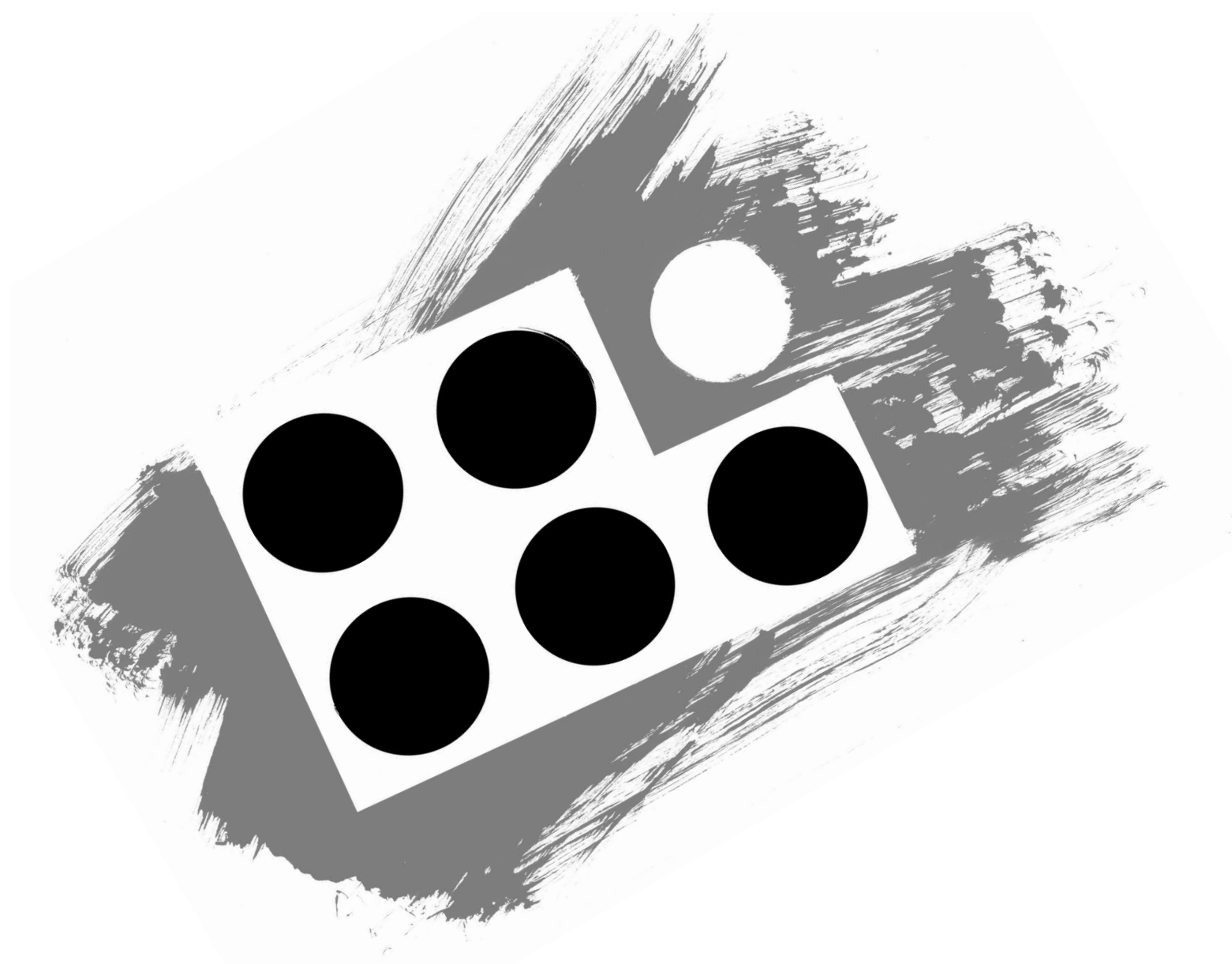
**Fax:** 029 2088 8702

**Email:** [info@disabilitywales.org](mailto:info@disabilitywales.org)

**Web:** [www.disabilitywales.org](http://www.disabilitywales.org)

# Aims

-  **1** To promote the understanding, adoption and implementation of the Social Model of Disability throughout Wales
-  **2** To remove all disabling barriers in society
-  **3** To recognise and address the nature of multiple discrimination against disabled people including race, gender, sexual orientation, age, belief and language
-  **4** To develop strong and effective organisations led by disabled people across Wales
-  **5** To represent the views, priorities, and interests of Disability Wales member groups



# Chairperson's report

This year sees the end of my three years as Chair of Disability Wales, which have flown by with milestone after milestone, and happily all positives.

Our Chief Executive has grown in stature year on year, which has been recognised throughout Wales. Her latest achievement being appointed as a member of the Wales Committee for the Commission for Equality and Human Rights. As part of her role she will represent Wales on the CEHR's Disability Committee as an ex-officio member, a position she thoroughly deserves, and which reflects well on DW.

The only downturn has been the demise of the Disability Rights Commission, who have been a tremendous support of DW. The Director of Wales Will Bee and the Chair Bert Massey have become great friends, and we wish them and their staff well for the future.

A first for DW for many years – a large bird has been seen flying over our office and three of our staff have recently or are about to give birth. Congratulations to Kelly, Michelle and Miranda.

I have received great support from my fellow Directors and through Rhian, a total support from all our staff, we have a great team spirit and this will continue to grow.

Our future plans will include diversity into regions. The plan is to have an office in North and West Wales. This will enable our members to have our staff on their doorsteps thereby working on not only national but local problems.

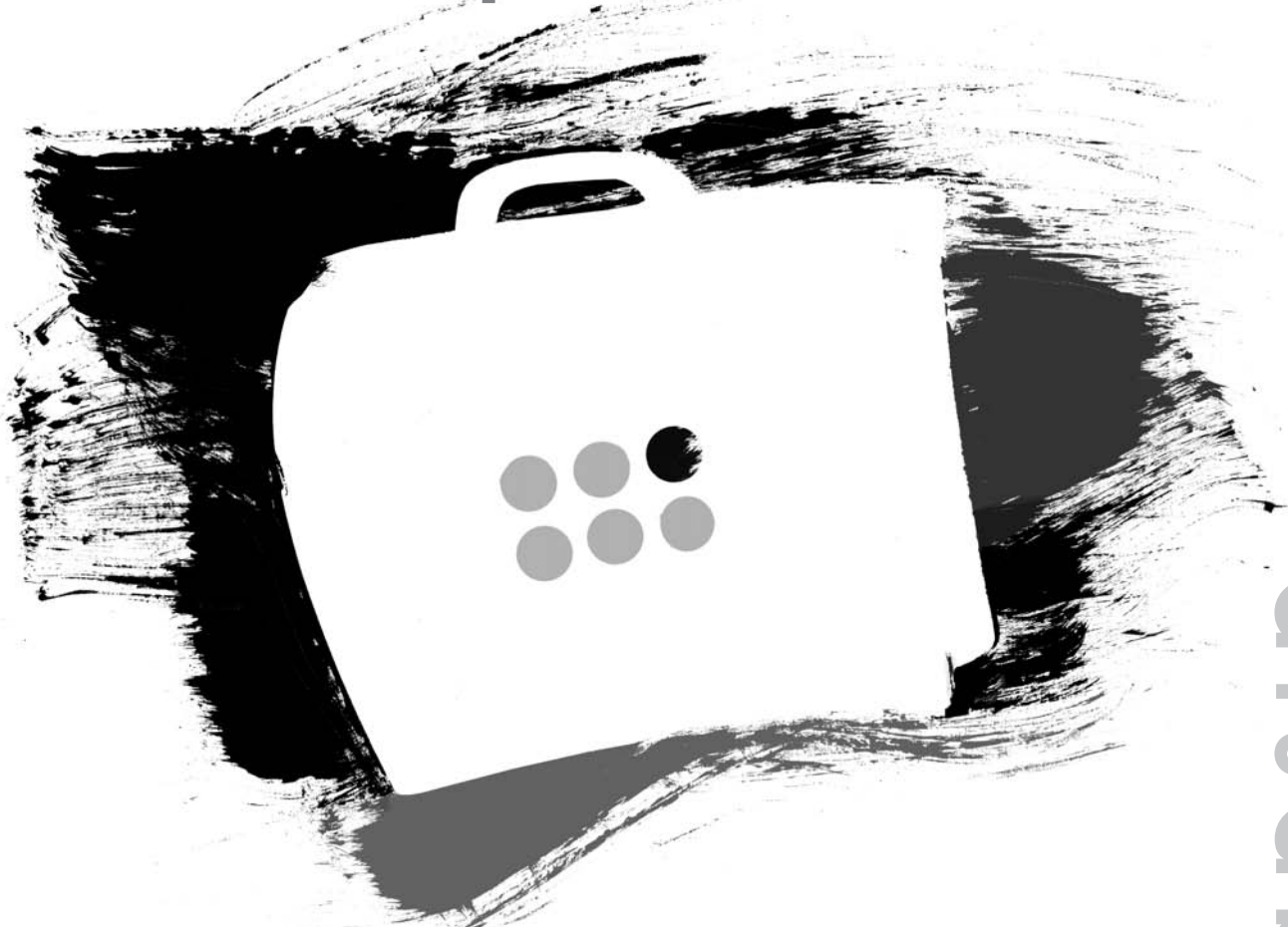
I would like to wish my successor all the best. We have the plans, let's get the grants and new income, and DW will continue to grow and therefore benefit our members throughout Wales.

**Keith Roberts, Chair Person**





# Chief *Executive's* report



*"The inequality experienced by disabled people is the inequality Government must address if it is to reach many of its core social and economic goals. Disability can no longer be ignored without risking massive public policy failure".*

(Changing Britain for good – Putting disability at the heart of public policy, The Disability Debate, DRC)

We should all take note of this stark message to Government from the outgoing Disability Rights Commission. Disability organisations let alone public sector bodies have been guilty of putting disabled people's issues in a box marked special and not recognising the wider implications of disabled people's social exclusion for a raft of public policy initiatives from ASBOs to

disability wales

climate change. In many parts of the country, disabled people form nearly 25% of the population. We are a part of the community not apart from it. Most issues affect us and we should have the opportunity to inform and influence how they are addressed.

In order to be involved disabled people need to be organised. Throughout the year, DW has endeavoured to fulfil its core aim of supporting the development of disability organisations across Wales. The quarterly Regional Networks have played an important part in this and tackled subjects such as Independent Living, developing your organisation and working with the media. The Access Group Networks have been equally successful and a number have contributed to the Access Group Capacity Building project following DW's successful bid to the DRC to facilitate the project. This will culminate in the launch of a website, information packs and training programmes aimed at Access Groups across England and Wales.

During the year, DW was also delighted to support the establishment of two new Coalitions of Disabled People – in Bridgend and Newport respectively. In order to further progress its strategy for developing new and existing disabled people's organisations DW invested considerable time and energy submitting applications to government and charitable funding bodies. Frustratingly our vision for establishing regional bases devoted to empowering disabled people through their organisations has yet to win financial backing. As ever, while it remains possible to secure funding to deliver specific services, funding for development work continues to be elusive. The Government agenda concerning involvement of disabled people remains rhetoric rather than reality without the resources to realise it.

We continued to keep members informed throughout the year via DW News. The last issue considered by many to be the best ever was produced in February and from April we introduced a new format of monthly e-bulletins and a twice-yearly journal. Feedback from members indicates this has been well received with the e-bulletin enabling us to be more up to date with information.



The Conference *'All Together Now'* held at St David's Hotel during October was a highlight of the year. Attended by nearly 200 participants, it prepared members and allies for working across the various equality strands when the new Commission for Equality and Human Rights is launched. Thanks and appreciation goes to the main conference sponsor, the Disability Rights Commission as well as the combined Fires Service Authorities in Wales and the BBC. An innovation included the live web cast, which enabled people to participate across not only Wales but also the World.

One way in which DW has been able to tackle exclusion from economic activity has been through DW Enter, which has supported thousands of disabled people interested in forming their own businesses. Crucially it has also worked with mainstream business advice agencies to ensure that their services are fully accessible. The Project was expected to end in March 2007, but WAG provided funding to maintain it for a further year in acknowledgement that advice agencies needed more time to develop policy and practice in meeting the needs of disabled people. During the year three members of staff involved in Enter DW left: Donna Bevan, Abu Askira and Martin Moore. We thank them for their hard work in making the project such a success and wish them well in their new roles.

Through its work in the enterprise sector, DW has joined two important new partnerships: Empower Cymru and Business Dragons. Empower Cymru involves organisations working in other equality fields (gender, age, ethnicity, and Welsh Language) and Business Dragons is a Social Partnership including Chambers of Trade, the TUC and the voluntary sector. Both partnerships are bidding for EU Convergence Funding to further tackle economic inactivity in Wales. DW is proud to be a member of both and ensure that disabled people are at the heart of economic regeneration in Wales.

DW's Disability Equality in Action project funded by WAG's Strategic Equality and Diversity Unit works across WAG departments to support the implementation of the Social Model of Disability. It worked with SEDU in arranging WAG's Involvement Events, which contributed towards producing

its Disability Equality Scheme. It has run a number of sessions on the Social Model for WAG officials and gathered examples of good practice concerning the implementation of the Model across the UK, which are collated in a database accessed via DW's Website. It excited much interest at an important conference held in Manchester, which debated the Social Model and its place within the Disabled People's Movement and society as a whole.

As the national disability equality organisation, DW has a vital role to play in many policymaking and representative forums. It continues to be a key player in the Wales Disability Reference Group, representing disability interests on the Voluntary Sector Partnership Council and at Ministerial meetings. The year saw the launch of WAG's Accessible Venues Guidance, which was an initiative instigated by WDRG.

DW is also a member of the Wales Equality Reference Group and the WCVA Equality and Human Rights Coalition through which it has been able to inform the development of the new Commission for Equality and Human Rights.

The issue of free home care dominated the year and DW plays a leading role in the Coalition on Charging Cymru (COCC). This campaigning body was very vocal in response to WAG reneging on its Free Home Care pledge in the 2003 Assembly Elections. COCC provided numerous briefings for all political parties and the media as well as organising a very successful and well attended lobby at the Assembly on 4 July – Independence Day. Disabled people, older people and carers were able to call the Health and Social Services Minister to account for the U-turn. COCC was represented on WAG's Task and Finish Group to advise the Minister on the revised proposals concerning charging. While maintaining its critical stance over WAG's actions COCC played a significant role in securing the best package of measures possible to reduce the impact of charging. COCC continues to campaign for the abolition of charging and launched its Manifesto setting out its demands in the run up to the Assembly Elections. Following the election WAG announced its intention to introduce legislation to further address charging issues and COCC anticipates active involvement in this process.

Since last year, many changes have taken place: a Coalition Government, new legislative powers, the implementation of the Disability Equality Duty and shortly the launch of the Commission for Equality and Human Rights. Against this backdrop, DW is undertaking its own Strategic Review to ensure it remains equipped to respond to the challenges and opportunities it is presented with as well as to secure the position of disabled people in Wales as active and valued citizens.

In the absence of the DRC, DW and its sister organisations must take forward its challenge to Government to address the exclusion of disabled people within the wider policy context of addressing social and economic inequality. On behalf of DW, I pay tribute to the work of the DRC in Wales, led by its Director Will Bee and the support it gave to disabled people and their organisations. In looking forward to the cross-equality strand opportunities presented by the CEHR, we acknowledge the loss of a body that was dedicated to the rights of disabled people.

Finally, I express my thanks once again to the Directors and Staff of DW for their unfailing commitment to Disability Wales.

**Rhian Davies, *Chief Executive***

# Treasurer's report

Our accounts appear to get more complex as the years go by but, in essence, they accurately reflect the complexity of the organisation and its ability to move accordingly through proper planning and effective use of all its resources.

Whilst our overall income has dipped slightly, largely due to funded projects coming to their natural conclusion, others are starting to take over. I remain confident that this will continue into the years ahead through the hard work of our diligent Staff and the unswerving dedication of the Directors to ensure the future of Disability Wales.

Voluntary and investment income has risen by some £10.5k whilst income generated through our charitable activities has reduced our total by £140k on the previous year. One should not forget however that last year included the largest tranche of funding for the contract period for our biggest project which is now being run down as it comes to an end. The end result showing a reduction of some £130k.

On the other hand, reflecting both the reduction in project expenditure and our ever increasing costs, resource expenditure has gone down by some £67k, but we do have to remember that at the end of last year we were owed some £105k more than we ended on this year, pushing up our 'cash at bank' figure up by a net £77.5k. The difference has come from our reserves but only in a calculated and measured manner to ensure the continuation of our work and to invest in the future of the organisation.

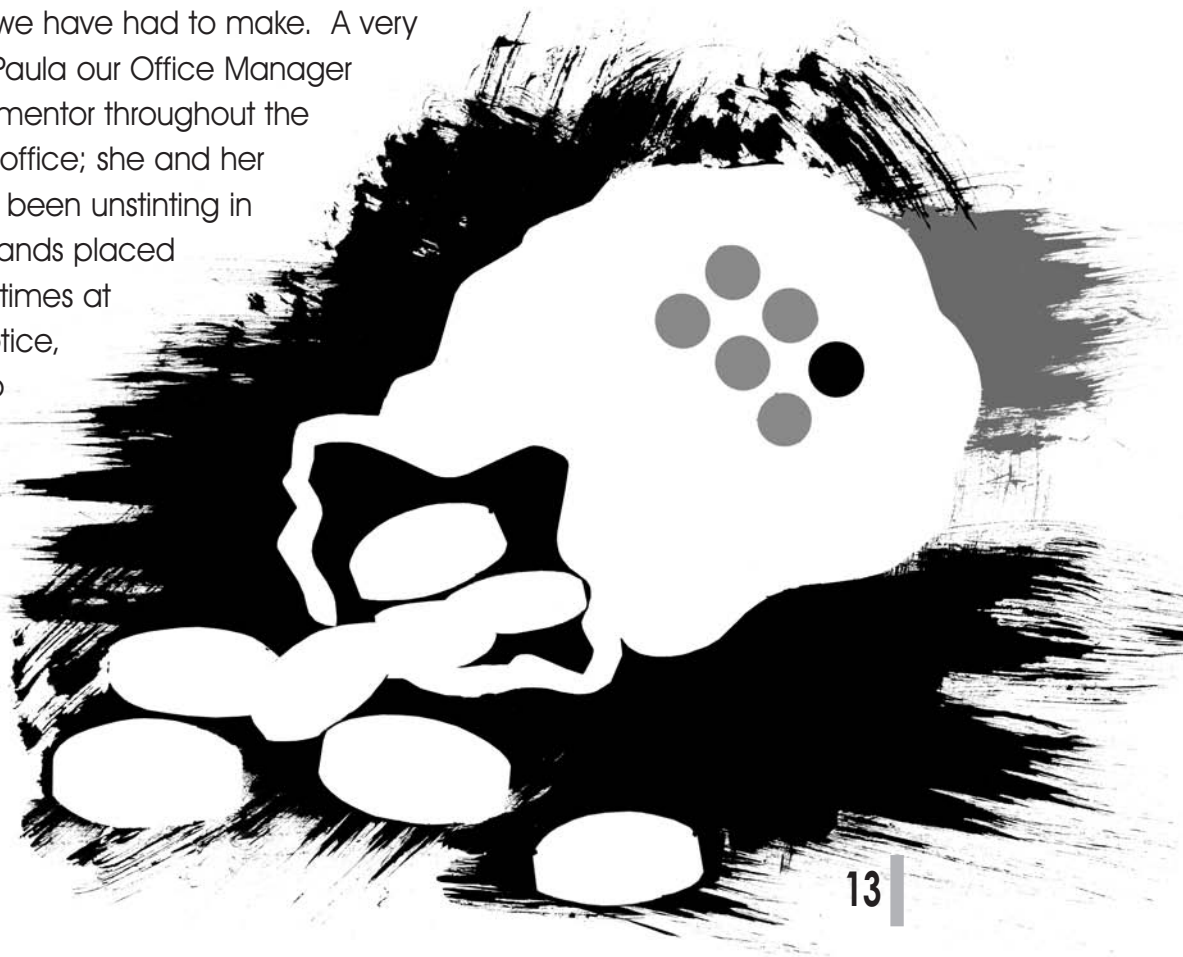
You will note that Governance costs have been reduced by 44% as we did not have any recurrence of the review cost that was met last year. The cost of trustees and committee development has also been drastically reduced, reflecting the changes made in how the organisation is run. We have made savings in our professional costs, again largely due to the restructuring, incurring no further significant costs after making the move to our new premises. Our wages bill has reduced slightly but this has been overtaken by increases in Social Security and Pension costs, again reflecting the recognition that we need to act as a good employer, look after our staff; rewarding them for the high quality work that they do and the

dedication they show in their individual roles within the organisation.

This is my last year as Treasurer and I am confident that the finances of Disability Wales remain strong and that the plans being taken forward will continue to enable the organisation to grow and meet the ever increasing demands placed upon it. The need to find income from more diverse sources and through Social Enterprise is now enshrined in the plans and hopefully this will play an increasing role in securing unrestricted funding to enable more growth within the company.

My personal thanks go to my fellow Board members for their patience when I, or they, have raised the thorny issues of finance; especially to Keith, our Chairman, who has managed to bring all the discussions to strong conclusions; also Rhian, our Chief Executive, for advising on and working with the sometimes difficult decisions we have had to make. A very special thanks to Paula our Office Manager and my personal mentor throughout the three years of my office; she and her support staff have been unstinting in meeting the demands placed upon them, sometimes at extremely short notice, always coming up with the answers.

**John Fitzpatrick**  
*BSc Econ. (Hons)*





# Statement of Financial Activities

year ended 31 March 2007

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2007	Total Funds 2006
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generating funds				
Voluntary income	<b>387,482</b>	–	<b>387,482</b>	376,665
Investment income	<b>10,858</b>	–	<b>10,858</b>	11,156
Incoming resources from Charitable activities	<b>5,602</b>	<b>519,531</b>	<b>525,133</b>	666,693
Other incoming resources	<b>714</b>	–	<b>714</b>	–
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>404,656</b>	<b>519,531</b>	<b>924,187</b>	1,054,514 >

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2007	Total Funds 2006
	£	£	£	£
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Charitable Activities	<b>(418,589)</b>	<b>(512,043)</b>	<b>(930,632)</b>	(978,518)
Governance costs	–	<b>(25,502)</b>	<b>(25,502)</b>	(45,453)
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>(418,589)</b>	<b>(537,545)</b>	<b>(956,134)</b>	(1,023,971)
<b>NET (OUTGOING)/ INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<b>(13,933)</b>	<b>(18,014)</b>	<b>(31,947)</b>	30,543
Transfer between funds	<b>(4,178)</b>	<b>4,178</b>	–	–
<b>NET (OUTGOING)/ INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>	<b>(18,111)</b>	<b>(13,836)</b>	<b>(31,947)</b>	30,543
<b>OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>				
Losses on investment assets	–	–	–	3,384
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<b>(18,111)</b>	<b>(13,836)</b>	<b>(31,947)</b>	33,927
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>				
Total funds brought forward	<b>336,037</b>	<b>54,987</b>	<b>391,024</b>	357,099
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>317,926</b>	<b>41,151</b>	<b>359,077</b>	391,026 >

# Income and Expenditure

## Account

year ended 31 March 2007

	2007 £	2006 £
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>912,729</b>	1,043,358
TOTAL INCOME	<b>912,729</b>	1,043,358
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<b>(954,424)</b>	(1,022,251)
OPERATING (DEFICIENCY)/SURPLUS	<b>(41,695)</b>	21,107
NON-OPERATING EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS		
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	<b>600</b>	3,384
	<b>(41,095)</b>	24,491
OTHER INCOME		
Income from shares in listed companies	–	2,736
Interest receivable and similar income	<b>10,858</b>	8,420
	<b>10,858</b>	11,156
	<b>(30,237)</b>	35,647
INTEREST PAYABLE		
Committee development	<b>(1,710)</b>	(1,720)
(DEFICIT)/RETAINED SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	<b>(31,947)</b>	33,927 >

These Accounts are the Auditor's summary of their report to the Trustees.  
A copy of the Auditor's Notes to the Accounts is available from the Treasurer.

### Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at 31 March 2007 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 1985.

### Carston & Co (Cardiff) Limited

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors  
Tudor House, 16 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF1 6HE

# Balance Sheet

year ended 31 March 2007

	2007 £	2006 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible assets	<b>13,765</b>	19,714
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	<b>47,509</b>	156,714
Cash at bank and in hand	<b>329,749</b>	252,020
	<b>377,258</b>	408,734
<b>CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)</b>	<b>(31,946)</b>	(37,422)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>345,312</b>	371,312
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>359,077</b>	391,026
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>359,077</b>	391,026
<b>FUNDS</b>		
Restricted income funds	<b>41,151</b>	54,987
Unrestricted income funds	<b>317,926</b>	336,039
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>359,077</b>	391,026

# Summary of our activities

## Development & training

### Development team

Community Development is at the heart of the work that Disability Wales does with our member organisations across Wales.

The development team who carry out the majority of this grass roots work continues to be led by the Development Manager **Michelle Herbert** and consists of:

**Graham Findlay** - Principal Access Officer

**Miranda Evans** - Disability Equality Officer

**Karen Jones** - Disability Networks Co-ordinator

**Julie Thomas** - Information & Resources Officer

### Regional Networks

During the last year, we have run regular Regional network events to further develop the skills, knowledge and networking opportunities for our members groups. The themes of these events have varied and included Independent Living, Disability Equality, Information for Groups and how to share it.

### Training

The team have taken part in a number of courses both internally and externally which have included Train the Trainer, Planning an Event, Tools and Techniques for Community Development, Stage 1 British Sign Language, Database training & Website training.



Personnel development of skills continues to be a part of the work of the team and our move to increase our knowledge and skills base.

### **Access Networks**

As well as Regional Network events, we organise opportunities for local access groups to get together. The groups meet four times a year in north, south east and south west Wales making a total of 12 meetings each year. Their discussions range through Disability Equality Duty, information exchange, current awareness good practice updates, and so on, to mutual support and ideas about fundraising.

### **Disability Equality in Action Project**

Disability Wales has continued to raise awareness and promote a better understanding of the Social Model of Disability across both the Voluntary and Statutory sector in Wales. The Disability Equality Officer (DEO) has delivered seminars, workshops, presentations and training to a wide spectrum of organisations.

### **Summary**

DW Events include:

- DW Access group stakeholder meeting on WAG proposals to introduce access statements (North Wales)
- Focus groups for Arriva Trains Wales on inclusive access to rail services in Wales
- Access group network meetings x 7
- Guest speakers: Planning Aid Wales; Citizens Advice Bureau; DRC
- Discussion Day: joint session with Planning Aid Wales on Local Development Plans and Access Statements (Llandudno) 3 guest speakers and workshops – aimed at planners and access groups
- 2 events in partnership with the Equal Opportunities Commission – Disabled Women in the Workforce events – ‘breaking down the barriers to employment’
- Disability Equality Training
- Regional Network meetings x 14

## **EQUIP Cymru**

EQUIP Cymru was set up by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) in Wales to provide an introduction to disability equality issues to GP's and frontline staff in GP surgeries in all 22 Local Health Boards across Wales.

EQUIP training sessions aim to cover the broad issues as well as 3-4 workshops, which are facilitated by Disability Wales along with partner organisations RNID, RNIB, MENCAP and MIND to introduce primary care staff to the concepts of disability equality as well as the huge amount there is to know and learn.

The workshops focus on identifying the barriers disabled people face when accessing primary care services and how these barriers can be removed.

However, EQUIP training is by no means a replacement for in-depth Disability Equality Training provided by many organisations of disabled people in Wales.

Look who's received this training so far:

- Caerphilly Local Health Board (LHB)
- Neath/Port Talbot LHB
- Pembrokeshire LHB
- Wrexham & Flintshire LHB
- Blaenau Gwent LHB

## **Enter Disability Wales**

March 2007 should have been the end of Enter DW and although it did signal the end of the Potentia project as a whole both Enter and Ethnic Business Support Programme had a reprieve for an additional year.

## **Positive Action**

Enter has assisted its two thousandth client and have continued with positive action activities, creating a climate of empowerment and choice through



- "Paul Jones (DW Client Advisor) is a mine of information, if he doesn't know the answer he will find it and come back to me; he's been a great support and kept me going when I've been a bit down"

**Helen Bradley**, *Painted Fancies*  
Furniture restorer

confidence and assertiveness building, before guiding people towards identifying business options.

We worked with individuals to look at both the practicalities of their business idea and what it will mean to them as a disabled person so that they can make an informed choice as to whether self-employment is a viable option.

## Mainstreaming

There is a need for a fully accessible service both physically and attitudinally. All clients need to be fully able to engage with flexible service delivery with adequate funding and expertise in place to meet all clients' needs. Disabled clients must not be put in a position where they are treated less favourably than other clients' or have to explain and justify why they have an access need that requires meeting.

## Summary

### We provided:

- Twenty Disability Equality Training sessions for business providers
- Individual consultancy of 3 days or more
- An access audit for 19 of the 22 mainstream providers

### Our mainstreaming delivery included:

- Consultancy Service
- Policies and Procedures for Recruitment and Retention of Staff



- “....my art is a statement of my determination to overcome the prejudice that surrounds mental health. I am able to manage my time; I design my working hours to meet the needs of my impairment.”

**Desmond Harrison**, *D23 Arts workshop*  
Sculptor & Printer

- Introducing NBSPs to disability support services including (PA's, BSL interpreters, lip speakers, speed-text/palantype operators, transcription services etc)
- Marketing – targeted, help, support and advice
- Staff Development
- Specialised training aimed at Diversity Champions
- Disability Equality Training tailored to the needs of individual providers
- Working with Business Advisors sharing best practise
- Specialised Services
- Access Audits.



#### ● **Gravelle's Mobility & Lifestyle**

Disabled entrepreneur, Dr Robert Gravelle, was frustrated with the way that he and other disabled people are treated by the disability service industry. Supported by Enter DW, he launched an exciting new ethical disability service business based near Cardiff.

The inspiration behind the business was been generated through Robert's PhD in disability studies, his experiences within the NHS, his industrial experience, as well as Roberts's unique understanding from a disabled person's perspective.

With his positive start, ethical approach, energy and commitment, Robert has demonstrated that Mobility & Lifestyle is set to grow and grow.

## Policy and Consultation

Disability Wales continues to review and write internal policies. These policies do not just inform our work programmes but act as blueprints for external organisations. At the last AGM held in October 2006, the membership approved the policy on Enterprise.

All these policies stem from our cornerstone policy concerning the Social Model of Disability. We continue to play a forceful role in influencing external bodies, whether through partnership or consultation.

### Summary

Responses to consultations include:

- WAG Disadvantaged Groups Development Fund
- WAG 10 year Social Service Strategy
- WAG Disability Equality Scheme
- ODI equality for disabled people
- Discrimination Law Review: Single Equality Act.
- WAG Changes to Development Control (Access Statement)
- WAG Wales Transport Strategy
- WAG Planning Technical Advice Note Transport
- WAG TAN Sport
- WAG TAN Tourism
- Wales Audit Office Public Access To Countryside
- Countryside Council for Wales Coastal Access
- WAG Housing Participation Strategy
- WAG Access Statements
- WAG Technical Advice Note 22
- A new deal for welfare – Empowering people to work
- WAG Fairer Charging Guidance



Partnerships DW is actively involved in include:

- DW Accessible Housing Project – Spaces for People
- WAG Accessible Venues project
- WAG Welsh Housing Consultative Forum
- Member of WAG Wales Planning Forum
- DRC Welsh Built Environment Forum
- DRC DED stakeholder group
- Access Association Wales
- Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People,
- WCVA Equality & Human Rights Coalition,
- WAG Critical Friends Network,
- EQUIP Core Stakeholder group
- CAB Better Advice, Better Health
- Wales Mobility & Driving Assessment Centre
- Department of Work & Pensions
- Direct Payment Support Network
- Direct Payments Overview Group for Wales
- Health, Social Care & Well Being Network
- NHS CEHR stakeholders group
- WAG European Year of Equal Opportunities for all 2007
- Wales Disability Reference Group
- Wales Equality Reference Group
- Coalition on Charging Cymru
- Big Lottery Advisory Groups
- EU Disability Partnership
- Capacitate
- Cyfenter
- South East Wales Training and Education Network
- Empower Cymru
- Business Dragons



### **Best Practice Database - working to the Social Model of Disability**

Disability Wales has an online database, which highlights areas of good work. The database holds information on organisations, sections within organisations and innovative projects, which promote equality for disabled people, in line with the social model of disability.

Available at DW website: <http://www.disabilitywales.org/index.html>

If you have any information that should be highlighted as good practice, please inform Disability Wales.

## **Information and communication**

### **Information**

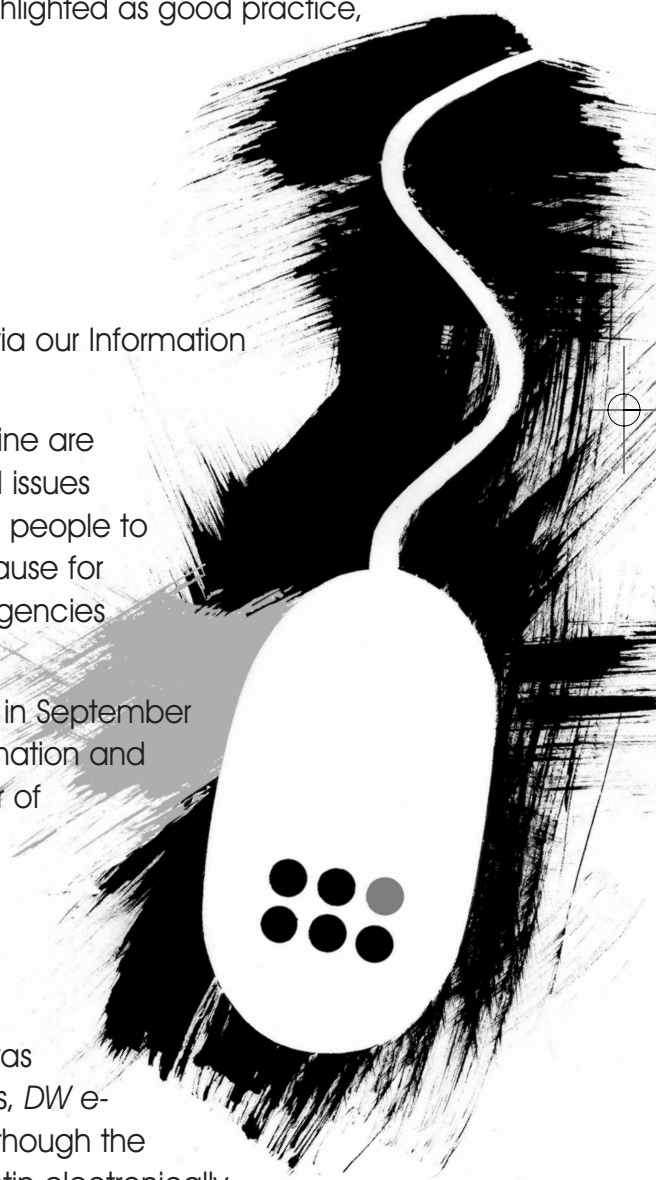
Three of DW's principal channels of communication are via our Information Line, through DW News and via the website.

Members of the public who contact via the Information Line are primarily seeking help and information regarding financial issues including benefits. We would prefer to 'sign post' disabled people to local disability groups, but the lack of these groups is a cause for concern. In their absence, we 'sign post' to a variety of agencies including CABs.

We wait to see the impact of the closure of DRC Helpline in September 2007 and its transfer to the CEHR. Julie Thomas, the Information and Resources Officer, has noticed an increase in the number of enquiries about DDA issues.

### **Communication**

Disability Wales News had been published since 1997. However, after a survey of the readership during 2006 it was decided to produce a monthly 'update' or digest of news, *DW e-News*. The first issue was published in March/April 2007. Although the majority of our members and supporters receive the bulletin electronically, we recognised that a number of members do not have access to a computer or email we therefore also provide hard copies on request. Braille and tape versions are also available.



It was also agreed that we would be publishing a new twice-yearly journal, *More than Words*. The journal is an opportunity to explore ideas and stimulate debate within the disability movement and amongst our allies and supporters. The first issue will be focusing on disability and human rights.

## Summary

- The Information Line is available Monday and Thursday mornings from 10am-1pm.
- It was contacted by over 1,000 people between April 05 - Sept 06.
- The majority of calls concern finance and personal support, ranging from benefits, Community Care, Direct Payments to funding and grants. Other popular issues include enquiries regarding: education, transport, holidays, and enquiries about training providers.
- Media coverage around disability issues has had an impact on the number enquiries.
- 6 issues of Disability Wales News.
- 1 issue of DW e-News.
- Website maintained and receiving 139,013 hits.
- After the 'Homepage' and 'About Us' the most popular page is 'Social Model'.

## Disability Wales Annual Conference & AGM

October 2006 **"all together now!"**

**- equality, human rights & multiple discrimination**

Over 200 people attended the DW Annual Conference and AGM in Cardiff Bay's St David's Hotel. The event was opened by Rodney Berman, Leader of Cardiff City Council and the guest chair was the BBC Disability Correspondent, Peter White. Other guest speakers included Sir Bert Massie, Chair of the Disability Rights Commission and Evelyn Collins, Chief Executive of the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

For the first time the Conference and AGM was available on-line as a live webcast. One of Wales's leading producers of digital communication, Sequence, developed new and exciting software to add subtitles to the webcast.

### **[www.accessgroupresources.co.uk](http://www.accessgroupresources.co.uk)**

Throughout 2006 and into 2007, work started and continued apace on a major contract awarded by the DRC to DW. The aim of the project is to develop a new website resource for Access Groups in England and Wales.

The website will include news, events, and information and training resources for access groups - or anyone interested in accessibility and inclusive design. It will also provide opportunities for access groups to network with each other and share ideas, issues and initiatives.

The website went live in August 2007.

## **Governance**

### **51% Clause**

At the 2003 EGM a resolution was passed endorsing moves towards DW becoming an umbrella organisation of disabled people's organisations.

It was also agreed that from the 2007 AGM onwards full membership including voting rights will only be open to those organisations or groups where disabled people have a constitutional majority in their voting membership and where applicable on their Executive Committee or other governing body.

During 2006, it was decided that a number of actions were needed to help our members make any necessary changes to their constitutions. These included:

- 3 Regional training/support events in May 2007
- One to one sessions with groups on request
- A set 3 of fact sheets to take you through the process with checklists
- Contacts to call on in the local area
- Time (12 months) to be able to make the changes needed
- An alternative membership route for members who don't wish to make the changes.

# Board / Bwrdd

## **Chair / Cadeirydd**

Keith Roberts

## **Vice-Chairs / Is-gadeiryddion**

Wendy Ashton

Henry Langen

## **Treasurer / Trysorydd**

John Fitzpatrick

## **Directors / Cyfarwyddwyr**

### **Nationally Elected / Etholwyd yn genedlaethol**

Andrew Hubbard

Tracy Yankowska

Jacqui Christy James

## **North East Wales / Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru**

Marion Harrison

Vacancy / Gwag

## **North West Wales / Gogledd Orllewin Cymru**

Judith Pennington

Vacancy / Gwag

## **Central Wales / Y Canolbarth**

Vacancy / Gwag

## **South East Wales / De Ddwyrain Cymru**

Steve Sweetman

Vacancy / Gwag

## **South West Wales / De Orllewin Cymru**

Julia Marshall

Vacancy / Gwag

## **Disabled People's Organisations / Mudiadau Pobl Anabl**

Dawn Gullis

Vacancies 2 / Lle gwag 2

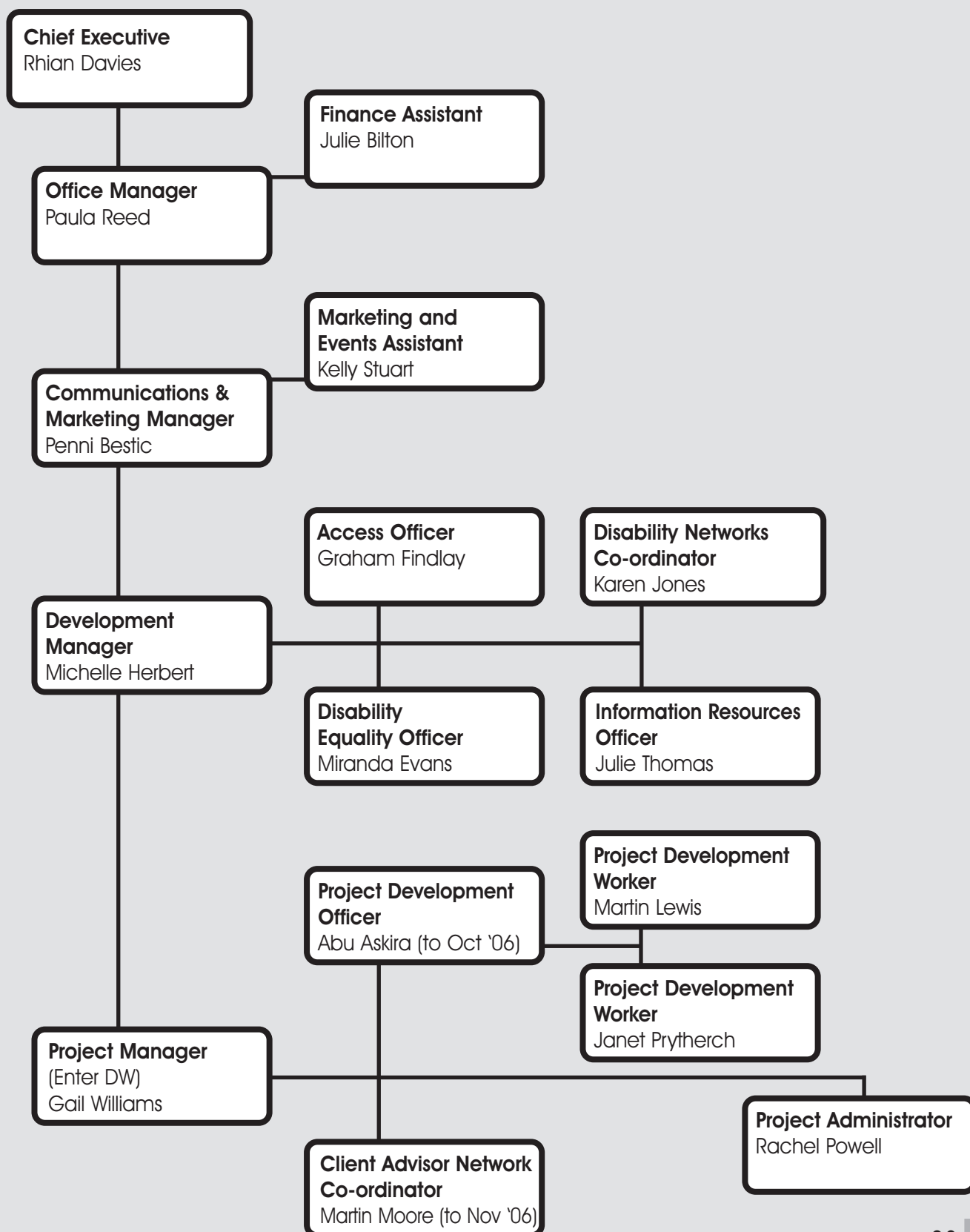
## **Appointed Directors / Cyfarwyddwyr Penodedig**

Nich Pearson

Nerissa Williams



# Staff *and* structure



disability wales

# Membership / Aelodaeth

*Affiliated members including  
Aelodau llawn yn cynnwys*

A.B.C.D.	Disability Powys
A.S.B.A.H. Llanelli & District	Disablement Welfare Rights Trust
Age Concern Cymru	Downs Syndrome Association
Age Concern Llanelli	Drive
Arfon Access Group	
Arthritis Care	Equipment And Adaptations Group (Eqag)
Arthritis Care In Wales	
Asbah In Wales/Asbah Yng Nghymru	Flintshire Access Group
	Flintshire Disability Forum
Blaenau Gwent Access Group	Friends Of The Young Disabled Wales
Blaenau Gwent Council For The Disabled	
Brecknock Access Group	Getting To Grips With MS
Brecon and District Disabled Club	Grwp Mynediad Meirionnydd Access
British Limbless Ex-Service Mens Association	Group
Brittle Bone Society	Guide Dogs for the Blind Association
	Gwent Disabled Motorists Club
C.L.I.P (Coping and Living In Pain)	
Cardiff & District Multiple Sclerosis Society	Headway Cardiff
Cardiff & The Vale Crossroads Scheme	Headway Swansea
Cardiff and the Vale Coalition Of Disabled	
People	Isle of Anglesey Access Committee
Cardiff People First	
Carmarthen & District Access Group	M S Society Wales (formerly MS Cymru)
Centre For Independent Living De Gwynedd	Mencap Cymru
Ceredigion Access	Merthyr Tydfil Institute For The Blind
Ceredigion Mobile Shopmobility	Monmouth Access Group (C.A.I.R)
Connect Dra	MS Society Llandrindod Wells & District
Conway County Voluntary Access Group	Branch
	Multiple Sclerosis Society Cardiff & District
D.I.A.L. SNPTSwanesa Office	
Denbighshire Access Group	NAS Cymru
Denbighshire Disability Forum	National Autistic Society Cymru
Dewis Centre for Independent Living (RCT)	Newport Access Group
Diabetes UK Cymru	
Dial A Ride (North Denbighshire) Ltd	Oswestry and District M S Society
Disability Advice Project	
Disability Arts Cymru	P.A.U.S.E
Disability Newport	P.I.P.P.A

Parkinsons Disease Society  
Pembrokeshire Access Group  
Pembrokeshire Coalition  
People First Self Advocacy  
Physical Disability Action Forum

Radnor Access Group  
Rhondda Cynon Taff People First  
Rhondda Epilepsy Group  
Rhondda Housing Association (Rhadag)  
Rhondda Polar Bears Disabled Swimming  
Club

Scope - Cwmpas Cymru  
Sense Cymru  
Shaw Trust  
Shopmobility Cardiff  
Shopmobility Newport  
South East Wales Branch - Back Care  
Swansea Multiple Sclerosis Society

Taff Ely Access Group  
TARAN Disability Forum  
The Vision Foundation  
The Viva! Project  
Torfaen Access Group

Vale of Glamorgan Access Team

Wales Council For Deaf People  
Wales Council For The Blind  
Wales Mob & Drivers Assesment Services  
Wrexham Access Group  
Wrexham Disability Forum

Ynys Mon (Isle of Anglesey) Access Group  
Young Disabled Persons Network  
Ysgol Erw'r Delyn

## Associated members including *Aelodau cysylltiedig yn cynnwys*

Antur Teifi  
Artificial Limb and Appliance Centre  
BBC Children in Need  
Breakthrough UK Limited  
British Red Cross Society Wales  
Caerphilly Access Group  
Cardiff & the Vale Parents Federation  
Cardiff Community Housing  
Cardiff University Cardiff  
Cardiff University Library  
Cardiff University Union  
Cardiff YMCA Housing Association  
Care & Repair in Powys  
Care And Repair Cymru  
Carers Contact  
Carers Wales  
Cartref Dyffryn Ceiriog  
Children In Wales  
Clwyd Alyn Housing Association  
Contact a Family  
Coomb Cheshire Home  
Crossroads Wales - Carers For Carers  
Cwmbran Community Council  
Disability Advisory & Resource Team  
Disability Rights Commission  
Disability West Midlands  
Disabled Living Centre  
Fieldsman Trails - Access Consultancy  
First Choice Housing Association Ltd  
Guide Dogs for the Blind Association  
Gwendraeth Valley Community Enterprise  
Ltd T/A Job Force Wales  
Gwent Association of Voluntary  
Organisation  
Gwent Hospitals Contributory Fund  
Help the Aged

JMU Access Partnership  
Learning Disability Wales  
Leonard Cheshire  
Llanelli Citizens Advice Bureau  
Llanharan Community Development Project  
Mantell Gwynedd  
Mewn Cymru  
National Bureau for Students with Disabilities  
National Commission Persons with Disability  
Neath Port Talbot CVS  
Occupational Therapy Department  
Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary  
R.N.I.B Cymru  
R.N.I.D. Cymru  
Rowan Organisation (Wales)  
Royal College of Nursing Welsh Board  
Sequence Digital Agency  
Social Interface Ltd  
South East Wales Racial Equality Council  
Swansea Care And Repair  
Swansea Disability Initiative  
The Arts Council of Wales  
The Keith Morris Appeal Fund  
The Megan & Trevor Griffiths Trust  
Transport & General Workers Union  
Traumatic Brain Injury Service  
U S Network  
UNISON Cymru/Wales  
University of Glamorgan  
Vision Support  
Wales Council for Voluntary Action  
Wales Womens National Coalition  
War Pensioners' Welfare Service  
Welsh Artificial Limb & Alliance Centre  
Woods Hills & Tracks