

## **ODI Annual Event 2009**

03 December 2010

Emirates Stadium, London

### **Introduction**

The 2009 ODI Annual Event took place on 03 December 2009. It was a great success, with delegates responding positively to their experiences on the day.

Dr Gregory Burke, the founder and CEO of DisabledGo, chaired the event throughout the day.

### **Speeches**

The morning saw speeches from Jonathan Shaw (Minister for Disabled People) and Tessa Jowell (Minister for the Olympics), followed by a joint Q&A session. This was followed by Baroness Campbell.

Jonathan Shaw highlighted the successes of 2009 towards equality for disabled people, from the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled People and the Optional Protocol of the Convention, to the introduction of the new Equality Bill, to the establishment of a legislative framework for Right to Control

Jonathan also launched Roadmap 2025, which sets out, through the use of 14 themes, what the Government has done so far, and what it is planning to do, to deliver its 2025 commitments.

In her speech Tessa Jowell took the opportunity to focus on how disabled people will benefit from the significant positive legacy of the 2012 games, which will act as a powerful catalyst for change. She stressed that the legacy of the 2012 games was not just a physical one, but that it offered an opportunity to challenge prejudice and discrimination against disabled people; and to promote the inclusion, and positive perceptions, of disabled people in our society.

The Q&A session covered a wide range of subjects, and there was particular interest in the 2012 games.

### **Independent Living Scrutiny Group**

Baroness Campbell launched the Independent Living Scrutiny Group report. This report was carried out by an independent group chaired by Baroness Campbell herself. It scrutinises the progress made implementing the Independent Living Strategy. The report recognised that it is still early days for the Independent Living

Strategy, and although there is still much to do, it concludes that progress is on track and broadly where it would be expected to be at this time.

## **ODI's vision for the future**

In the afternoon delegates had the opportunity to hear from Tim Cooper, the Director of the ODI, on the ODI's recent achievements and his vision for the future, which focused on involving disabled people in decision making, and the mainstreaming of services for disabled people. This was followed by Karina Stibbards, a Deputy Director at the ODI, who provided detailed information about Roadmap 2025 - a high-level strategic tool designed to stimulate debate on strategy and priorities. She stressed how Roadmap 2025 articulates a vision for disability equality, a vision which is shared by the Government and disabled people themselves. Karina also highlighted the value of Roadmap 2025 in helping Government and disabled people to align their strategies to work together to achieve equality.

## **Discussing Roadmap 2025**

Karina thereby prepared the ground for breakout sessions on those Roadmap 2025 themes which had been voted as most important by delegates prior to the event: Employment, Social Care, Discrimination and Children's Outcomes.

An outline of what was discussed in each group may be seen below.

### **Employment**

Delegates in the Employment group highlighted the importance of procurement, particularly by government, in influencing the private sector, and in supporting user led organizations. They also discussed the importance of ensuring that disabled people are not unfairly treated during economic downturns, and that factors such as time out of work due to a particular disability are not held against disabled people.

### **Social Care**

Delegates in the Social Care group stressed the importance of raising the status of caring as a career, and ensuring that there consistency in support provision assessments in different areas of the country.

### **Discrimination**

Delegates in the discrimination group discussed the need to ensure disabled people have access to the physical environment on a local level, and raising the awareness of local authorities of their duties under the DDA.

## **Children's Outcomes**

Delegates in the Children's Outcomes group identified the need to make assistance available to young disabled children so that they can interact with society and show policy makers and adults that inclusion works. They also highlighted the importance of the ratification of the UN Convention.

## **Roundup**

Dr Burke rounded up what each group covered for the benefit of those in the other groups. After a further round up of the issues covered during the whole of the day the event ended, with delegates invited to submit further questions to the Ministers and the ODI.

## **Further information**

Further information on all the subjects covered at the Annual Event can be found on the ODI website at [www.odi.gov.uk](http://www.odi.gov.uk).

Right to Control: [www.odi.gov.uk/right-to-control](http://www.odi.gov.uk/right-to-control)

Minister's speeches: [www.odi.gov.uk/working/news/speeches.php](http://www.odi.gov.uk/working/news/speeches.php)

Roadmap 2025: [www.odi.gov.uk/roadmap](http://www.odi.gov.uk/roadmap)

Independent Living Scrutiny Report: <http://www.odi.gov.uk/working/independent-living/strategy.php#ilsg>