



Office for Disability Issues

HM Government

Right to Control trailblazer update 2009/1

Issue 1 – October 2009

Our updates to you

Dear all

This is the first in a series of newsletters from the Right to Control team to colleagues who have expressed an interest in becoming a Right to Control trailblazer. We want these newsletters to keep you updated on what's going on with the Right to Control, as well as give you the opportunity to tell us your requirements and expectations so that we can support you to develop your final trailblazer bids.

In this issue we have information on:

- the trailblazer events
- the vision for co-production
- an update on Expressions of Interest

Trailblazer events

As you're hopefully aware, we will be hosting two events at the start of November to provide further information on becoming a trailblazer site. The first will be held on the **3 November at the [Jolly Hotel St Ermin's](#) on Caxton St, Westminster** (nearest tube: St James Park). The day will run from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

The second event will be held on the **5 November at the [Macdonald Hotel, London Rd](#)**, Manchester (nearest station Manchester Piccadilly), also running from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Click the links for maps.

These events will be a real opportunity to meet members of the Right to Control team, network with others and really understand what the Right to Control means, the opportunities it presents, our expectations of you and your expectations of us.

Thank you to those who have already told us you are coming, these events are really shaping up to be exciting and informative. If you have yet to respond or would like an invite, please get in touch. We would also encourage you – whether you have replied to the invite yet or not – to bring along your delivery partners to the events. We want these events to be as useful as possible and they can give invaluable input. We do ask that you keep to three people per authority but if this is a problem please contact us.

The vision for co-production

The Right to Control policy was originally developed in response to disabled peoples' wish to have choice and control over the support they need to go about their daily lives and we have worked in partnership with disabled people and their organisations each step of the way. This process of co-production will therefore continue to be integral to our approach to testing out how to implement the Right to Control through the trailblazers.

Trailblazing areas are expected to work with disabled people as they develop bids and implement the Right to Control. Our Prospectus will include examples of how we hope local authorities will work with disabled people and user-led organisations in both the development of their bids and the implementation of trailblazers.

Update on Expressions of Interest

Finally, we would like to give a quick update on the very positive response we have had regarding Right to Control trailblazers. We have had 37 expressions of interest in becoming a trailblazer including several joint bids from local authorities. This will really help to maximise the effectiveness and productivity of the trailblazers.

Thank you for your continued interest in the Right to Control and we look forward to meeting you in November.

If you want to discuss any of the above further please do not hesitate to contact:

Mike Crowhurst

Email: Michael.Crowhurst@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Telephone: 0207 449 5091

Ben Hodgson

Email: Ben.Hodgson@dwp.gsi.gov.uk