

Independent Living Helpline



History of Organisation & Line



- **Formed in 2012 via unification of three charities**
- **Line created by NCIL and originally funded by Department of Health**

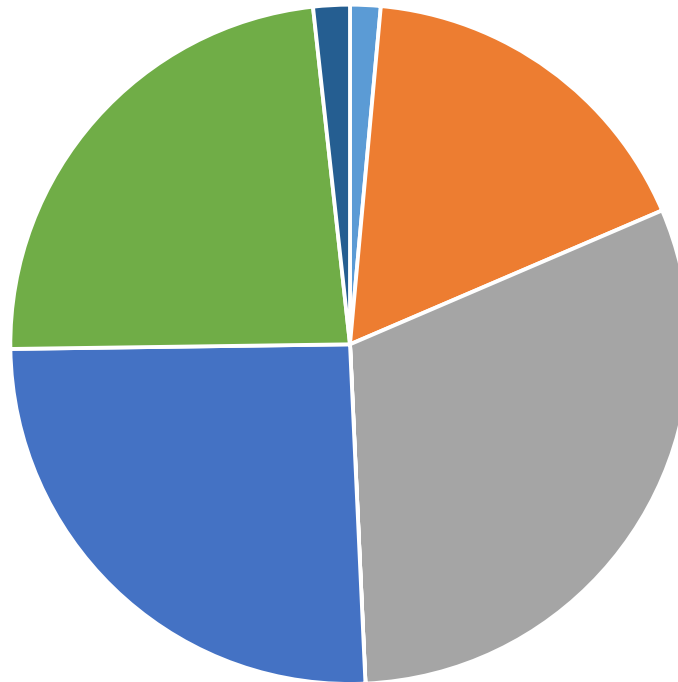
Why the line is delivered

- **Empowerment**
- **Meet identified needs**
- **Move away from institutions**
- **Address concerns over cuts**
- **Reach disabled people in rural areas**

What we advise on

- **Becoming commissioner of own life**
- **Getting a person centred assessment**
- **Recruiting a Personal Assistant**
- **Tailoring and managing care support**
- **Finding advocacy services**
- **How to make a complaint**

Why people contact us



- ILF
- Independent Living
- Direct Payments
- Support from 3rd party
- Social Services Complaints
- Complaints Processes
- Self Funders

For whom is line delivered



Line gives free advice to:

- All disabled people
- Self funders, families/PAs/carers of disabled people/children
- DR UK individual & organisational members
- Advisors, advocates, brokers, care workers and co-ordinators from local councils

How support is delivered



- **Disability Rights UK website holds 30 factsheets on Independent Living**
- **UPDATES newsletter**
- **Disability Rights Handbook**
- **Telephone / Email service**

How support is delivered

DISABILITY RIGHTS HANDBOOK

Edition 40
April 2015 - April 2016

A guide to benefits and services for all disabled people, their families, carers and advisers



UPDATES DEC '14



KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE WITH DISABILITY AND WELFARE RIGHTS

UPDATES

This is a bi-monthly newsletter exclusive to Disability Rights UK members. It aims to keep you informed throughout the year with the latest social security and disability rights news.

DISABILITY RIGHTS UK
Disability Rights UK was formed on 1 January 2012, through a merger of Disability Alliance, Radar and the National Centre for Independent Living.

OUR VISION
A society where everyone with lived experience of disability or health conditions can participate equally as full citizens.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- To mobilise disabled people's leadership and control – in our own lives, our organisations and society.
- To achieve independent living in practice.
- To break the link between disability and poverty.
- To put disability equality and human rights into practice across society.

NEW ADDRESS
From 15 April 2014
Ground Floor
CAN Mezzanine
49-51 East Road, London
N1 6AH

See back page for full details

BENEFITS, POLICY AND CAMPAIGN UPDATES

■ PIP first independent review published	2
■ Wheelchair user bus access judgment to be appealed	2
■ Legal action over Access to Work scheme	3
■ 300,000 disabled people stuck on housing waiting lists	4
■ Autumn Budget Statement: Employing PAs concession	4
■ Care Act 2014: DR UK welcomes new Appeals System	5
■ Council agrees to scrap home care charges	6
■ Claim carers allowance online	7
■ High Court upholds decision to close ILF	8
■ Disability Confident Britain? DWP one year progress report	9
■ ESA and WCA Assessments: Government response	10
■ Fifth independent WCA review published	11
■ Volunteer Charter aims to increase the number of disabled people volunteering	12
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Disability Rights UK launch Leadership Academy

One of our four strategic objectives has been to mobilise disabled people's leadership and control, seeing disability as 'a unique advantage'.

Our Leadership Academy was launched on 29 October 2014. The aim of the Programme is to empower capable, confident disabled leaders in all sectors of employment, address the need for greater equality in the workplace and improve the employment position of employees living with a health condition or disability, whilst providing employers with access to a wider pool of talent.

Disability Rights UK has now been approved as an ILM (Institute of Leadership & Management) recognised provider. All candidates on the Leadership Academy Programme receive this certification.

While the Leadership Academy 2014 places are now filled, we are taking details of those interested in receiving information for next year's Leadership Programme.

Further information about our new programme is available @ disabilityrightsuk.org/how-we-can-help/leadership

Employees or employers interested in receiving details of the 2015 Programme – please e-mail Katrina.morris@disabilityrightsuk.org



Statistics & Feedback



- 146,053 factsheet downloads this year to date
- DRH sells >15,000 copies per annum
- 800 enquiries by telephone and email per annum
- “I am thankful that DR UK exist, thank you for the kind support and good advice”
- “when faced with this scenario it is extremely reassuring to receive such professional advice”
- “you have given me confidence in pursuing social care support”

Case Study

- **John & Mark, young friends**
- **Similar shared interests**
- **Parents wanted to explore meeting shared needs & value for money**
- **We recommended pooled budgets peer support arrangement**
- **Now empowered to make own choices**

How engage with other DR UK teams



- **Policy – examples to support; trends to direct**
- **Fundraising – support bids with statistics, examples etc**
- **Training – help tailor training to different audiences**

**ANY
QUESTIONS?**