

News June 2010



Welcome to the June edition of the *@inspired* Newsletter.

Every few months we share with you our news, comment and top tips to make your information more accessible.



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"We do more than just EasyRead"



News

Inspired Services sponsors LDforum.net



Inspired is very pleased to be a sponsor of the **Advocacy and National Forums Zone** on the new **LDforum.net**.



They say it is "The friendly online forum for people with learning disabilities, their friends, families, advocates and supporters".



We believe that this forum offers everyone involved in learning disability a place to get and share information and opinion in real time.

This enables people who are registered to post information and reply to others immediately, encouraging debate and perhaps some controversy, but importantly making sure it is up to date.



We liked the way you could choose to have posts or replies emailed to you or not. Thus keeping your inbox clear of unwanted items. Its interesting to see who else is on line and send private messages to those you know, or want to know better.



We wish them every success.

EasyRead guide to Coalition Government



It was great to see more people with learning disabilities take an active part in the election this time.

We hope all the work on supporting people to take part and vote had the desired effect.



We were particularly proud at Inspired to do a lot of work for Northern Ireland's **Electoral Office** providing EasyRead information about the whole process and we even did a party **manifesto for the Green Party**, so I wonder if the learning disability vote came out strongly in Brighton?

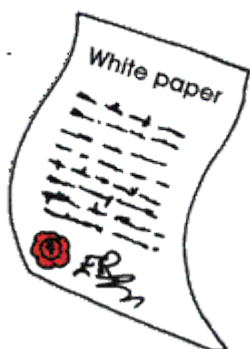
What we didn't cover so well was the talk of a hung parliament, and we had lots of people asking us to explain it.



Of course, now we have a new government, and it's a coalition.

So we really did need to explain that and wrote the **EasyRead guide** to what was happening.

National Care Service



The new minister with responsibility for social care, Paul Burstow seems to be generally well thought of, although he did say he thought he knew something about the subject until his first day in office!

To help him get a grip on what has been happening we should make sure he gets a copy of our **EasyRead White Paper** on the National Care Service.

EasyRead Standards



Our directors have long supported the idea of having EasyRead standards.

Richard West is credited with having been a part of the inspiration for EasyRead, pioneering the use of 'easy words and pictures', whilst Eve Rank hosted meetings when she was a DRC commissioner to try to get things going.



Yet, despite our best intentions, nothing much happened.

Meanwhile the Department of Health and the Office for Disability Issues were equally keen to get a standard out there, not least to enable other government bodies and departments to know what they are commissioning and what is good enough.



So we have been working with them on their own standard and who can blame them?

Yet we can't help feeling, and indeed hear people with learning disabilities saying, that a standard should be driven and monitored by the people who use it.



So we are supporting the quest for such a standard, that would incorporate not only good practice in production and presentation but also have a complaints procedure and a recognisable 'kite' mark to say a piece of work meets the standards.

There will be more about this on the **LDforum** and various learning disability journals soon.

Comment

What people say about our services



About the EasyRead Coalition Government document:

"It feels wonderful to have an EasyRead document at the beginning therefore I feel equal. Documents should always come out at the same time to get a fair view."

About our EasyRead Legal Aid Dictionary:

"I really like the **dictionary and leaflet** - very straightforward and helpful. I will be sure to reference them in any relevant work or products."



Andrew's Latest Blog



In his latest blog, Andrew discusses different issues affecting people with disabilities during the voting process:

"With changes brought about by the Electoral Administration Act 2006 it won't be the responsibility of presiding officers to test the capacity of potential voters any more, thankfully it got rid of several bits of old legislation."

To read more, please **click here**.

The Designer's Eye

We do more than just EasyRead...

As one of the UK's largest suppliers of EasyRead information, Inspired is not just a 'one trick pony', we also produce other accessible information including: **Braille, Large Print, Audio, other languages and video.**



Any accessible format you require – we can do it!

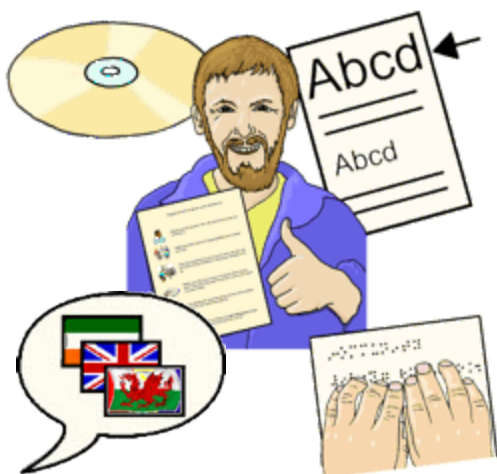


Your News : Our audio version (used with the kind permission of Papworth Trust)

A dedicated team will look after your requirements from start to finish, giving you a product that you will be proud of, and most of all – accessible!

So whether you have a short leaflet or a more complicated lengthy report that you need to get translated into another format - then look no further than Inspired Services.

"The one-stop-shop for your accessible information needs."



For more information about our services or if you would like a quote, please contact Darren on: **0800 0430 980** or email: **Darren@inspiredservices.org.uk**

Want to know more about Inspired Services?

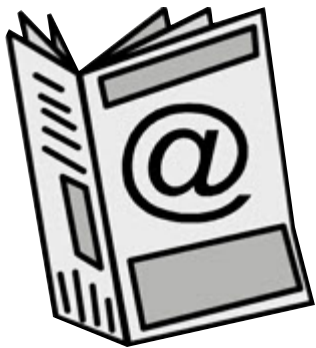


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