

# link-up



**No. 2, February 2014 Disabled People's User-Led Organisation Newsletter**

Welcome to the second DPULO Newsletter. Link-up is intended to provide you with a flavour of the programme and the types of projects we are supporting as well as sharing best practice and good news stories. We hope you find this useful and we would really welcome your input and feedback.

## **Programme delivering results**

Transport for All (TfA) has championed accessible travel in the capital for over twenty years. We are passionate about ensuring that disabled and older people are able to travel with freedom and independence. We providing specialist advice and information on accessible transport.

As a disabled persons organisation we know that transport staff who are trained in Disability Equality, visible and present makes all the difference when travelling.

Developing a Disability Equality Training programme for the transport industry was something TfA was always interested in doing. We believe our perspective and experiences around transport access make us prime for delivering training to staff and working to change attitudes.

**Below:** Iman at the tube station



## **The DPULO Programme — The Facts**

Of the 170 projects supported through the Facilitation fund, the highest number were awarded between £10-15k.

A small amount of funding at the right time makes a real difference!

We were successful in gaining funding from the ODI's Strengthening DPULOs Programme, which meant we could work to develop a series of resources that could be made available to the transport providers.

Success with the training pack came earlier than we expected when working with our partner organisation Inclusion London. We won a tender from Transport for London to provide Disability Equality Training to tube station staff at five key London Underground stations.

The DPULO Facilitation Fund grant enabled us to develop our ideas around the creation of transport-specific Disability Equality Training. We now aim to promote the training programme to other sections of the transport industry and develop this as an income stream for TfA.

**Faryal Velmi, Director.**

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## Have your say...

Please share what challenges you face as a DPULO. How have you overcome them? Is there a question you need advice on, or just let us know what you would like to see in the future issues, email [odi.businessperformance@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:odi.businessperformance@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)



Above: Mathew Hall presenting the NTDF Variety Show

### Young DPULO Ambassador

I am Mathew Hall, a Young Ambassador for the Disabled People's User Led Organisation Programme. My role is to link up DPULOs with young disabled people.

I have been taking part in the North Tyneside Disability Forum (NTDF) Young People's Project for many years. It offers young people a chance to socialise, learn new skills, plan and fund raise to deliver their own projects. I had the pleasure for the 4th year running to help arrange NTDF's Annual Variety Show at the Playhouse (Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear) on 31st January. The event draws around 600 people of all ages together to celebrate diversity and raise awareness about who and what the organisation is.

It is a great platform to show Disability doesn't mean inability and showcases the talents of NTDF members'. It was attended by a range of people in North Tyneside, including local

dignitaries and guest speakers including, Steve Neil (Northumbria Police Chief Superintendent), Mrs N Redfearn (Elected Mayor of North Tyneside), Alan Campbell (MP), and George Scott (High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear).

My role as event planner, co writer and host gave me the opportunity to ensure young members were involved supporting each other, sharing and developing skills.

It is great that investment from the ODI's DPULO Programme has enabled NTDF to gain real peoples input, by increasing engagement with disabled people of all ages in local initiatives, consultations and decision-making.

### Programme in Action

On 16 January, ecdp, (DPULO operating in Essex and beyond) and ODI welcomed DPULOs to the Eastern Region DPULO Event. Representatives from across Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Norfolk attended.

The event included an interactive session looking at why DPULOs are best placed to deliver certain services and how they can prove it. Delegates discussed the value of lived experience, expertise, membership, credibility and DPULOs' wide reach.

Delegates discussed a new forum to draw on the experience of disabled people. DPULOs want to create a regional network and committed to a first meeting on how to make it happen.

Details of further DPULO Regional Events is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/strengthening-disabled-peoples-user-led-organisations>

### Useful Links

TLAP - <http://www.thinklocalactpersonal.org.uk/>

Funding opportunity "Our Place" - <http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/our-place/>