

If you would like a large print version of this newsletter please contact Karen on 07781 467316 or [info@disabilityalliance.org.gg](mailto:info@disabilityalliance.org.gg)

## GDA Update for December

November into December was probably our busiest period in the last few years and fortunately finished on a high as we celebrated UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPwD) with 12 nominees who demonstrated 'Think Differently about Disability' to #MakeAChange. Thank you to them all and everyone who nominated the companies, community groups and individuals, and our sponsors RBC. Find out more on page 3 and at [www.matter.gg](http://www.matter.gg)

From a Disability & Inclusion Strategy point of view it has felt like a bit of roller-coaster with our AGM, then the statement noting further delays to the legislation but we are pleased to report we are finishing the year with progress on the Equality Rights Organisation business plan and

approval for more resources for the Disability Legislation project (please see below for more details).

We do go into 2018 with uncertainty about our funding, we had 18 months with no Communications (WAME) officer and the Executive Director funding runs out April 2018, but we hope the great brand awareness around the recent campaign and further fundraising conversations will provide some stability for the GDA as it enters its 10th year!

Thank you to you all, as members, partners, supporters, sponsors or interested parties for everything you have done to support us in 2017.

Find out more about what we have achieved in that time on our [blog](#).

Happy Christmas and all the very best for the New Year, Karen Blanchford

## Disability Champion Update

Deputy Sarah Hansmann-Rouxel has written at length on the current issues surrounding disability. Please follow the hyperlink [here](#) to read about Sarah's report. Sarah can be contacted on 07911 765863 or email [sarah.hansmannrouxel@deputies.gov.gg](mailto:sarah.hansmannrouxel@deputies.gov.gg)

## Equality Rights Organisation (ERO)

The ERO working group had its first meeting on 16th November, with a number of meetings following in succession to ensure the project is progressed as a rapidly as possible.

Rob Platts gave an introductory workshop on ERO 10th December, slides are on our blog for anyone interested [here](#). The next step is a workshop to discuss the options around an ERO on 12th December.

## Looking for new resources for Disability Legislation Project

The States of Guernsey issued a Press Release and more details on the new resources to progress the legislation project. Read more on our new blog [here](#). "The Employment Social Security Committee (ESSC) is seeking a subject matter expert with an understanding of how Disability Equality Legislation works in several countries and knowledge of the application of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities who is available to work with the Committee early in the New Year".

## Four Year Strategy

It's four years since the Disability and Inclusion strategy was passed. Through the statements from ESSC ([link here](#)). ITV produced an update and blog, find out more [here](#).

This month's GDA meeting, newsletter and printing is kindly sponsored by Donate, Keeping It Local. Thank you.  
/Donate-Keeping-it-Local-880912118662974/

## Carers' Strategy

The GDA is looking for a carer representative to sit on the carers strategy. A key recommendation within the Supported Living and Ageing Well Strategy that was agreed by the States in February 2016 was to the States of Guernsey should develop a strategy for carers. The States is currently developing a Carers Action Plan which will set out the services and support that will be provided to informal (unpaid) carers in the future. The intention is to develop and publish the action plan in the second half of 2018.

A Project Board has been established to oversee the project and the Guernsey Disability Alliance has been asked to nominate a GDA Carers representative to sit on the project board to provide input into the project. The board will meet for 2 hours roughly every 2 months during office hours. It would be helpful if the nominated person has knowledge or experience of having caring responsibilities.

Anyone interested should contact Niki Cleal on 717271 and [Niki.Cleal@gov.gg](mailto:Niki.Cleal@gov.gg)

## HSC CareWatch

The GDA membership is represented on the new Health & Social Care (HSC) CareWatch team. to find out more please read their recent article in the GEP. They hope to set up new contact details and a website soon. The first draft of the feedback from the GDA CareWatch focus group with members on health and social care priorities for disabled islanders and carers, is [here](#). Please do email me your comments or amendments to [karen@disabilityalliance.org.gg](mailto:karen@disabilityalliance.org.gg) so we can finalise the document. Thank you

You can read more on the Guernsey Press website [here](#) and our blog [here](#).



## Pargiter Trust Applications

Please visit the [blog here](#) to find out the information for applying for funds from the Pargiter Trust and download the forms.

## Disability Officer Update

New Accessibility Cards are making bus travel around Guernsey even easier. The cards are available from the CT Plus office and through different charities. This initiative was nominated by the GDA as part of the 'Making a Change Campaign'.

Launched on 1st Dec the lanyard will help staff discreetly identify travellers who may require additional support.

Airport staff are ready to assist all travellers however wearing the lanyard will prompt staff to ask 'how can I assist'. Get them free

of charge from the Airport Information Desk. Watch it on ITV [here](#) or read on our blog [here](#).

Four States of Guernsey employees, along with local businesses and charity members attended a two day training course (organised by Access For All) in November. If you would like further information on any of the above or feedback for [www.signpost.com](http://www.signpost.com) then please contact Caroline who is happy to attend any of your meetings.

Visit [here](#). Tel: 01481 732557 or 07839700425.



## Children and Young People's Plan REFRESH 2016- 2022

The findings from the Refresh have been captured and posted onto the gov.gg website, and can be accessed here – <https://gov.gg/cypp>.

Whilst the publication of the Refresh has taken longer than expected, due to the other priority issues for the States, the work to implement the Plan has nevertheless gone on uninterrupted. My sincere thanks to everyone who continues to deliver against the Plan to improve the lives of children. I would be grateful if you would pass this message to your colleagues.

Ruby Parry, Social Care Advisor and Transformation Lead, Strategy and Policy, States of Guernsey.



## Think Differently about Disability Celebrations nominations

Pop on to the We All Matter Eh? website [here](#) to see the photographs from the day in the Inner Market Building on 1st December. Thank you to Chris George for the photographs.

The 12 Nominees were:-

Paul Wheatley;  
Guernsey Airport; Channel ITV; CT Plus; Guernsey



Employment Trust; Dementia Friendly Guernsey; Create Architects; Saffrey Rotary Walk; Alf Laine; Co-Op; 3rd Guernsey Cub Scouts and ESS Housing Team Housing Association and Adrian Vidamour.

A special thank you to our sponsors RBC for enabling us to do this, plus thank you to Joys Production Services, Café Délices, Bonboneira, Sueco, Sonia Taylor, Guernsey Arts Commission, Guernsey Post and the amazing We All Matter Eh? team of volunteers!

## CT Plus Accessibility Cards

Their new accessibility card scheme is an example of #MakeAChange allowing disabled islanders to identify the extra assistance they may need to ensure travelling locally is accessible as possible. If your charity would like some Accessibility Cards or a visit to learn more about how they can be used, call Jon or Shelly on 700456. Visit our blog [here](#).

## Change Cards

We developed 15 Change Cards over the 6 month campaign which can be continued to be viewed [here](#). For example how to become dementia aware, do the disability awareness training online, making your workplace more disability smart accessible print, accessible parking and much more.



## Envelope Art Competition

What an amazing response we had to our competition. With over 50 entries, [see here](#), we found it hard to decide the winners. Congratulations to artists and thank you Butterfield Bank.



## We All Matter Eh? Volunteers



We want to give our big thanks to the We All Matter Eh? team of volunteers:- Olly Tracey, Rachael Cumberland-Dodd, Karen Blanchford, Paul Chambers, Sophie Tostevin, Caterina Allaway and missing from photo Sarah, Ben Jones and Gez Overstall.

## Friends of the GDA

We are looking for a few dedicated volunteers to join Gez Overstall on our friends of the GDA fundraising team. To find out more please email [friendsof@gda.org.gg](mailto:friendsof@gda.org.gg).

## Occupational Therapy Wheelchair Service Review

Please follow [this link](#) to our blog to read the official policy which has now been signed off, plus recruitment of OT Wheelchair Specialist. Read further from Fiona Hegarty, Occupational Health Lead, States of Guernsey on our blog.

## Christmas Party at Les Cotils

Our member charities and supporters enjoyed an evening of Christmas refreshments, with Christmas songs, sung by Aindre Reece-Sheerin, thank you to Aindre for entertaining us, and Robert from Les Cotils for helping us to put on a treat for our member charities. Thank you to Investec for sponsoring the party.



## CAE Access Training

New dates for CAE Access training are 21st & 22nd March with a practical day 23rd March. Email [places@access.gg](mailto:places@access.gg) to reserve a place. Find out more at [www.access.gg](http://www.access.gg)

## Equality Working Group Chair

EWG is looking for a new chair to lead the group through this critical time as discussion takes place with ESS Employment Social Security regarding a business plan for ERO Equality Rights organisation. Find out more [here](#).

Email your event dates to [info@disabilityalliance.org.gg](mailto:info@disabilityalliance.org.gg)

## Forthcoming Events

12th Dec ERO options workshop ESS  
16th Dec Wigwam Little Injuns Christmas Party  
16th Dec Wigwam Mighty Mohicans Christmas Party  
17th Dec Young Adults Christmas Party  
20 Dec - 3rd Jan Karen on holidays  
**2018 GDA 10th Anniversary**  
5th Jan Deadline for application for Equality Working Group chair - visit [here](#)

## New from Alderney

Since Karen from GDA coordinated a visit from Access for All, States of Guernsey and Wigwam, lots of moves have been made to make the island more accessible.



Aaron Bray, our brilliant Head of Public Works has been on a hugely helpful course in Guernsey. Paul Bunn, our Airport Duty manager is talking with Guernsey about the lanyard scheme, checking out dementia friendly signage, putting in a new ramp and together with AEL has installed lighting in the airport car park. Rev Elizabeth Bellamy has made many changes to the Methodist Church with future accessibility upgrades. Read more [here](#).

## Volunteers

There are nearly 160 registered volunteers looking to help voluntary organisations. If you have a need for volunteer, please post it on your charity page on the AGC website ([www.charity.org.gg](http://www.charity.org.gg)). Please email Peter Rose on [volunteer@charity.org.gg](mailto:volunteer@charity.org.gg) If you want to sign up please visit [here](#), where you can find something that you can help with.



11th Jan [Guernsey Sports Achievement awards](#) 6.30pm Beau Sejour guest speaker sponsored by [Cystic Fibrosis Guernsey](#)  
14th Jan [Lungevity at the Guernsey Health Show](#)  
31st Jan [Closing date for AGC Lottery Funding applications](#)

## GDA Contacts

### Karen, Exec Director

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07781 467 316

### Facebook

Search: GuernseyDisabilityAlliance

### Robin, Chair

[chair@gda.org.gg](mailto:chair@gda.org.gg)

### Twitter

Search: GDA\_Disability

### Fundraising

[friendsof@gda.org.gg](mailto:friendsof@gda.org.gg)

### Website

[www.gda.org.gg](http://www.gda.org.gg)