



# Release

Guernsey

3 June 2014

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## Guernsey Disability Alliance Reviews Progress on Disability Strategy with Deutsche Bank Support

Disabled islanders, civil servants and politicians will meet to review progress on Guernsey's new Disability and Inclusion Strategy at an event organised by the Guernsey Disability Alliance (GDA) and supported by Deutsche Bank tomorrow. The Strategy was approved unanimously in the States when it was debated in November last year.

The event, entitled 'Reach for the Summit', will take place at Le Murier School in St Sampson's on Wednesday 4th June from 7.15pm. As well as a review of the past twelve months and the GDA's plans for the future from Chair, Shelaine Green, the event will also feature a panel discussion hosted by Channel Television's Rob Moore.

The panel will be made up of disabled islanders and those who care for a disabled adult or children. Responding to questions from the audience, the panellists will use their personal experiences to help guide the development of support and services in the future.

Deutsche Bank staff have been working with the GDA to organise the event, including designing invitations, helping to meet event costs and being on hand on the night to ensure the smooth running of the event. Earlier this year, Shelaine Green and Rob Platts made a presentation to Deutsche Bank staff as part of the organisation's commitment to diversity, which prompted staff to adopt the GDA as a community partner in Guernsey.

Members of the GDA work together on issues that are important to disabled islanders, including people with restricted mobility, sensory impairment, learning difficulties, mental health issues or long-term illness. With membership made up of representatives of over 30 local disability charities, plus individual disabled islanders and their families, the GDA helps build relationships with the States of Guernsey, local businesses and the general public to help drive change that will ensure that disabled people are more fully included in island life.

Shelaine Green, Chair of the Guernsey Disability Alliance, said:

“The GDA is known for finding innovative ways for our members to engage directly with politicians, civil servants and the public. Our events have been sponsored by the business community before but this is the first time a company has come up with all the ideas and taken the lead in making them happen. This project a fantastic example of the power of harnessing business skills to help a charity and it’s highly appropriate that it should be happening in Volunteers Week. It’s been wonderful to be part of such a talented and committed team”.

Brian Conway, Head of Wealth Planning International at Deutsche Bank, who will open the event and provide closing remarks following the debate, added:

“Our staff were inspired when Shelaine and Rob came to talk to them earlier this year, and I am delighted that they have thrown themselves into supporting this event as much as they have. Partnering with the GDA forms a significant part of Deutsche Bank’s local community engagement and staff volunteering programme, and I’m looking forward to the event providing a thought-provoking forum that will help ensure disabled islanders and their families are fully included in island life.”

The event is currently fully subscribed but requests for cancellations can be made by e-mailing [info@disabilityalliance.org.gg](mailto:info@disabilityalliance.org.gg) or phoning 07781 467316.

Ends.

**For further information, please contact Adam Riddell at Crystal Public Relations on tel. +44 (0) 1534 639505 or e-mail [adam@crystalpr.co.uk](mailto:adam@crystalpr.co.uk).**

**The GDA’s formal AGM will take place immediately before the Reach for the Summit event at 18.30. The media are welcome to attend.**