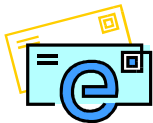


SID -Social Information on Disability

Rentwood, School Lane, Fetcham
Surrey KT22 9JX



Enquiries 0800 04 39 39 5
Admin 01372 372 888



info@asksid.org.uk



www.asksid.org.uk



9.30am to 12.30pm

*Please do contact us if you have any questions
about SID or disability information.*

With thanks to The Sobell Foundation, Surrey
County Council & the Big Lottery Fund
for their support



**Annual Review
May 2010**

Aims & Objectives

Aims: To promote choice and equality of opportunity for disabled people

Activities: Supporting and developing information networks, resources and services. SID has a particular focus on Surrey and the South East region.

SID's approach is based on the social model of disability. This views disability in terms of the physical or social barriers which remove or limit an individual's opportunity to take part in the normal life of the community on an equal level with others.

From Hazel Plastow, Chief Executive: 'The last year has been one of great growth for SID, both in terms of our activities and resources. An award from the Big Lottery means that, in addition to our Surrey based work, we are now working across the South East of England, setting up a new regional network to support and develop disability organisations.

In 2010 we are looking forward to working with Surrey County Council to develop a new web-based resource-Surrey Information Point. This will give us a new way of sharing the information we have gathered both in our heads and on paper with others".



Information Resources

SID continues to develop disability related information resources as one of its key areas of work.

We have now collected information on over 3,000 Surrey based organisations for the **AskSID database**. This unique local resource is key for our own information service, and in 2010 we will be looking at ways of making this available to everyone via the web.

SID's '**Information for You...**' leaflet, listing 30 key disability organisations in Surrey, remains very popular, with over 70,000 copies of the leaflet distributed to date.

A similar leaflet called '**Make It Happen**', but for parents and young people, is distributed to schools and children's organisations.

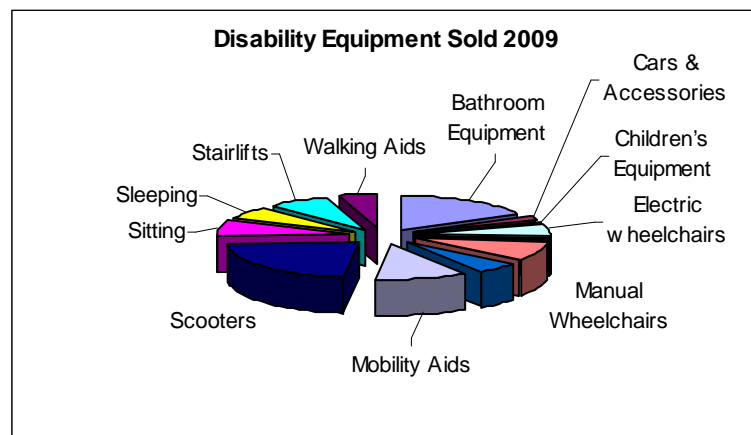
In 2009, as part of a project supported by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission, SID produced a booklet '**Disability: Black & Minority Ethnic Groups**' *A Quick Guide to Providing Information*. This covers communication, culture and social values and the impact of these on arranging meetings, designing promotional materials and developing good practice.

All of these publications can be ordered by contacting SID, or viewed on the Resources section of SID's website: www.asksid.org.

Disability Equipment

The recycling and re-use of disability equipment project seeks to bring together disabled people with others living in Surrey, who want to buy or sell second-hand equipment. In 2009, 346 items were sold, including four cars, generating £140,000 for people selling equipment.

A bi-monthly newsletter listing to 300 Surrey groups and our freephone helpline supplements the website.



Our local approach to removing the frustrations associated with long waiting times and expensive items, has proved very popular, and has been adopted by East Sussex, West Sussex, and the London Borough of Sutton. Together, the number of advertisements carried by the site is more than double those of similar national websites.

The Organisation

A Registered Charity

SID is an independent not-for-profit organisation, which became a registered charity in 2005. The work is directed by a Board of Trustees.

Opportunities for Disabled Employees

SID provides paid and voluntary employment opportunities for disabled individuals seeking work. We are pleased to have been awarded the two tick disability symbol by the Employment Service, and to see one of our volunteers move into paid employment.



Funding & Financial Sustainability

SID's main contract is with Surrey's Adult Social Care Team, to provide a free information service and support the development of disability networks. In 2010 SID is taking on a new contract with the Information & Communication Team, to develop a public information website with topics ranging from benefits to gardening services.

In 2009, SID secured funding for a three year regional initiative - INDI South East - to provide a networking and information service for voluntary and community sector organisations involved in the disability field.

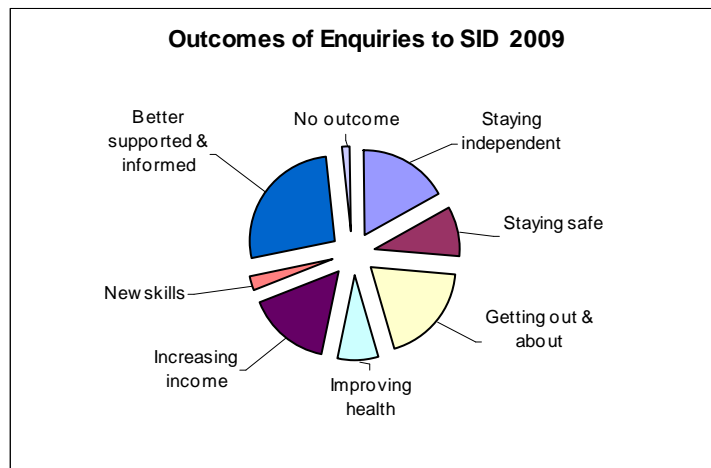
SID also generates income as a Social Enterprise, designing accessible websites for other disability organisations on a commissioned basis.

Information Service

The SID Information Service is for all disabled people, carers, friends, relatives and professionals, living or working in Surrey and who need information on living with a disability.

We work at a countywide level, alongside the borough and district services across Surrey, providing an easy way to access specialist local information, with friendly and experienced advisers to explain how people can get the services they need.

The service is free, independent and confidential, and aims to provide a comprehensive response, so that the enquirer themselves can choose the best option for them. Open each weekday from 9.30am - 12.30pm, SID is answers over 1300 enquiries a year.



Networking

SID works with a wide range of information and specialist disability services across Surrey and the South East region. We provide resources, networking opportunities and lead on collaborative ventures to ensure that the varied information needs of disabled people are met in the most effective and relevant ways.

Surrey Networks

In Surrey, the Information Exchange Network bring groups working in the disability field together, with quarterly themed meetings, hosted by SID.

SID is also working with the Delivering Empowerment Partnership Boards and Surrey Access Forum on a newly created shared website and online discussion forum www.surreyaccessforum.org.uk

South East England

At a regional level, the new Big Lottery Funded project - INDI South East will share disability related information, skills, resources and knowledge amongst VCS organisations to help improve the opportunities they provide for disabled people.

It will use meetings, surveys, e-bulletins and a discussion forum to strengthen the voice of the disability sector and support its representation in a range of consultations, with the aim of influencing local, regional and national policies.