

**WORLD-LEADING IDEAS AND INNOVATION, FOUNDED
ON ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP, FROM RESEARCH TO APPLICATION**

Disability Resource Centre

Business Background

The Disability Resource Centre has a mission to support disabled people to live independently, and to increase the potential for them to live in 'mainstream' society. They are a people-led organisation i.e. disabled people providing services for other disabled people.

The organisation, which is a Limited Company and registered Charity, provides a host of services including employment preparation, counselling, debt advice, information advice and advocacy.

They have always delivered some trading activity, including training services, to generate income, which is increasing, and is likely to increase more in the future.

They are based in Duchess Place, Birmingham and have 22 employees, 70% of them disabled people, as are all the 30 volunteers, as well as board members.

Introduction to the Transformation for Growth Project

The business worked with a similar support project around three years ago and continues to be very open to support.

The business engaged with the Transformation for Growth Project after receiving details, possibly circulated through social enterprise networks. They were attracted by the offer, as they felt it was a good fit with what they needed to progress.



Find out more

Disability Resource Centre
Floor 11, Edgbaston House, 3 Duchess Place, Five Ways, Birmingham, B16 8NH
www.disability.co.uk

Visit: www.thetransformationproject.co.uk

Contact: Dr Michael Butler

Supported by:



+44 (0) 7919 926362

info@thetransformationproject.co.uk

Discuss co-applying for grants and ideas for impact



Activity within the Project

The support provided to the business consisted of one-to-one sessions – which have been useful for the business.

Although it was quite lengthy to complete, The Receptivity for Change Toolset was both relevant and critical in assessing their needs, in terms of understanding their situation, and where the areas of challenge were to be addressed. It 'didn't necessarily tell me things I didn't know, but it's good to have independent reinforcement. It makes me more confident'.

Impacts

- The main output of the sessions has been the development and initial implementation of a robust growth plan, developed to attract investors to their increased level of commercial business. In effect, it has already led to a 'mini-restructuring', as one new strand of business has already launched, with a more detailed restructuring as more strands launch over the next three years, and they implement some of the lessons they have learned.

- The programme has helped them become more creative, in particular in terms of how they could make changes to their traditional forms of marketing, which will be implemented soon.
- The business has become more ambitious in terms of size, reach, and income generation – particularly for the new services, where there is no public contract 'safety net'. This has been helped by the programme giving managers a greater confidence in trying new things, through understanding the business better (greatly helped by learning tools such as SWOT and risk analysis).

Summing up the impact

'The impact is about moving us from where we are to where we need to be to grow both in terms of culture and systems.'

Find out more

Disability Resource Centre
Floor 11, Edgbaston House, 3 Duchess Place, Five Ways, Birmingham, B16 8NH
www.disability.co.uk

Visit: www.thetransformationproject.co.uk

Contact: Dr Michael Butler

Supported by:



+44 (0) 7919 926362

info@thetransformationproject.co.uk

Discuss co-applying for grants and ideas for impact