



## News Release

For immediate release  
13th March 2006

### LAUNCH OF MPs' GUIDE ON DISABILITY

RADAR, the UK's leading disability rights organisation, will next week launch the MPs' Guide on Disability, a vital tool for helping MPs to engage with their disabled constituents.

Minister for Disabled People Anne McGuire MP will speak at the reception on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2006, to launch the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Guide. The Guide has been fully updated following the passing of the 2005 Disability Discrimination Act, and includes information on legislation, accessibility issues, meeting disabled constituents, language, and communication.

Kate Nash, Chief Executive of RADAR, says about the Guide, "MPs may or may not have a broad experience of working with or for disabled people. This publication is an invaluable introduction and reference resource for every MP."

Anne McGuire MP and Rt Hon Lord Ashley of Stoke CH have endorsed the new Guide, which has been produced with the support of HSBC.

The timing of the launch coincides with the conclusion of RADAR's MP Dialogue Scheme linking disabled constituents with their MPs. Over February and March disabled individuals held meetings with MPs as part of the Scheme, sponsored by Royal Mail, to discuss issues of relevance to disabled people including Incapacity Benefit Reform, Assisted Dying legislation, the draft Mental Health Bill and the Office for Disability Issues.

The reception, supported by the Disability Rights Commission, will be attended by many of the MPs and disabled people who participated in the RADAR MP Dialogue Scheme.

Following the launch of the Guide on the 21<sup>st</sup> March, a copy will be sent to each MP for use in their Westminster and constituency offices.

ENDS

#### Notes for editors:

<sup>1</sup> If you wish to obtain a press pass for this event please contact Bethan Collins at [bethan.collins@radar.org.uk](mailto:bethan.collins@radar.org.uk), or on 0207 566 0126

<sup>2</sup> RADAR is a national non-governmental disability organisation working for the rights of disabled people, from the broadest range of cultural, racial and social backgrounds, irrespective of their impairment. Although RADAR works

with organisations of all types (of and for disabled people) RADAR itself is an organisation of disabled people.

<sup>3</sup> RADAR's vision is about pushing out the boundaries of the expected; a vision of a world where human difference is routinely anticipated, expertly accommodated and positively celebrated.

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For further information please contact:

Bethan Collins

RADAR

12 City Forum

250 City Road

London, EC1V 8AF

Tel: 020 7566 0126

[bethan.collins@radar.org.uk](mailto:bethan.collins@radar.org.uk)