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Jackie Snape, Disability Action Yorkshire

Business Link's 'nuggets of advice' boost disability charity

An organisation that provides care and training for disabled people has made improvements to its business after seeking advice from Business Link Yorkshire.

Disability Action Yorkshire is a well-established social enterprise that has been helping disabled people successfully for a number of years. The Harrogate-based charity works hard to ensure disabled people have the same choices and opportunities as anyone else.

It runs a residential care centre that provides training to help young disabled adults develop the skills needed for independent living. It also operates a home care service and runs Spot On, a social firm providing employment and training for employment for disabled people. The charity provides an umbrella body for the administration of CRB Disclosure checks.

CEO Jackie Snape said she first turned to Business Link Yorkshire for advice when she was looking to float off part of the charity to create a CIC.

“Business Link provided us with the information we needed to

make a decision and in the end we decided not to float off part of the charity.

“I've consulted Business Link for help with other aspects of running the business and they've helped me with marketing, boosting income and increasing efficiency. I'm not saying the advice has caused massive change but I have picked up nuggets of advice that have been taken on board and have had a positive impact on the running of the enterprise.”

Jackie said she would encourage other social enterprises to seek support from Business Link.

“Not only would I advise other social enterprises to contact Business Link for advice - I wouldn't advise them to start up without it.

“It's a tough world out there and Business Link's advisers have a great deal of expertise. They don't always have all the answers but they can definitely help you find them.”

NB: A social enterprise is a business with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are reinvested for that purpose rather than being driven by the need to deliver profit to shareholders or owners (DTI, Social Enterprise Strategy 2002)

Could you benefit from Business Link's free, independent and impartial advice? Contact us now to find to what we can do for your business.

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