



News from BILD

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Helping people with learning difficulties build their money skills

Barclays and BILD, the British Institute of Learning Disabilities, have launched a set of resources aimed at helping people with learning disabilities manage their finances.

The Barclays Money Skills 'Banking made clear' resources includes a comprehensive guide, a 'Quick Guide', a teaching resource pack, and a DVD offering information about opening and using a bank account, budgeting, spending and saving, and where to go for help and advice.

'Banking made clear' was launched at a reception at the House of Commons in January, hosted by Mark Garnier MP, a member of the UK's Treasury Select Committee. Also in attendance were representatives from the Department of Health and charities supporting those who have learning disabilities, such as Mencap.

Mark McLane, Barclays Head of Global Diversity and Inclusion, addressed delegates at the launch event: "Our commitment to supporting people who have disabilities is a key element of our Diversity Charter, which aims to make a positive impact for our customers, employees, shareholders, and communities. These new Barclays Money Skills resources will help people with learning difficulties to build the understanding, skills and confidence they need to better manage their money."

Keith Smith, BILD Chief Executive said "The resources provide a range of accessible information that will enable people with learning disabilities to manage their money better. They also provide banks and financial institutions with practical tips on how to provide excellent services and support to people with learning disabilities and their family carers."

Mark Garnier MP, said: "Although walking into a bank and opening an account might seem straight forward for most people, if you have difficulties communicating or reading it can be incredibly daunting. This resource pack gives people with learning disabilities the ability to manage their own money confidently and securely."

'Banking made clear' was developed based on the needs and experiences of people with learning disabilities and was funded by Barclays Money Skills. It also received support from non-profit organisations such as Somerset Advocacy, Time4People and Our Way in Kidderminster.

The resources can be downloaded online from ~~the~~ www.barclaysmoneyskills.com and copies can be requested by emailing ukcommunity@barclays.com.

For more information please contact BILD's Communications Manager, Peter Salisbury on 01562 723010 or email p.salisbury@bild.org.uk

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Notes for Editor

About Barclays Money Skills

Barclays Money Skills is part of Barclays wider community investment programme, which forms an integral part of the firm's Citizenship strategy. With a focus on financial, enterprise and life skills, Barclays supports disadvantaged people to build the confidence and skills to achieve financial independence and security.

Barclays Money Skills is a national money management programme, developed by Barclays, that helps young people and other vulnerable groups to develop and improve their financial skills, knowledge and confidence. The programme provides independent information on a range of money management topics such as budgeting, saving and spending, opening a bank account, as well as providing practical guidance on what to do if something goes wrong.

BILD, The British Institute of Learning Disabilities, is based in Kidderminster where it was founded in 1971. BILD's vision is a society where people with learning disabilities are equal citizens and have access to the support and services they need. We work to make this happen in partnership with people with a learning disability and family carers. They are the real 'experts', knowing what support is needed, and what needs to change to improve the quality of their lives.

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