

# RIDI announces new partners and programme for 2017-18

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Talent Training (<http://talenttraininguk.com/>) – an organisation specialising in workplace training and development – has been announced as a Gold Partner of the Recruitment Industry Disability Initiative (<http://www.ridiawards.com/>) (RIDI). Since 2011, RIDI has focused on breaking down the barriers disabled people face in the recruitment industry through its work with recruiters and employers across the UK.

Due to the success of the initiative to date, RIDI has expanded its programme for 2017/18 to include a series of specialist roundtable events and a whole-day conference. The flagship RIDI awards, now in their fourth year, will take place next March.

Talent Training joins other leading companies – including E.ON, Eversheds Sutherland, Lloyd's, the Clear Company and Guidant Group – as Gold Partners this year. In addition, London Market Group has been announced as a Silver Partner, joining DWF, Chemical Code and Recite Me. RIDI has also announced Kelly Services as a Bronze Partner.

Established in 2001, Talent Training delivers high quality, bespoke training and personal development programmes to organisations across the UK. In addition, the company provides training services for the unemployed via its 'Talent Start' programme.

Commenting on why Talent Training has chosen to be 'Gold Partner' this year, Sam Morgan, Group CEO Talent Training said:

"We're delighted to be supporting the Recruitment Industry Disability Initiative this year. Our many years' experience of training both individuals and organisations demonstrates that talent can come in many forms. To be able to support an initiative which recognises that disabled people are a hidden talent pool is fantastic. We are in a situation where the employment rate for disabled people is still below 50%, and so more must be done to encourage employers to reassess their diversity and inclusion strategies. RIDI does just this through its comprehensive programme of events and flagship awards."

"We're looking forward to getting involved with, and hosting, events that help improve the lives and employment outcomes of disabled people. And we hope our work with RIDI will serve as a 'call to action' for organisations across the UK to review policies and open their eyes to the talent they may be missing out on".

Commenting on RIDI's new programme and its new partners, Kate Headley, Chair of RIDI Executive Committee said:

"RIDI has gone from strength to strength since its inception in 2011 and we are delighted to be able to expand our programme this year to include a series of roundtable events and a whole day conference. There is a clear appetite from companies and recruiters alike to become more inclusive and improve the prospects of disabled jobseekers. Our series of events help companies to do just that. We would encourage all employers within the recruitment industry to get involved not only with our events but also the RIDI awards which recognise and celebrate the steps so many companies are making to improve the lives

of people with a disability. I'd like to welcome all our new partners and look forward to working with them on the 2017-2018 RIDI programme.

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