

Lincolnshire Association of People with Disabilities  
Lancaster Day Centre  
Boundary Street  
Lincoln  
LN5 8NJ

13 December 2010

Dear Sir or Madam

The Minister for Disabled People, Maria Miller MP, has today made a written statement about the future of the Independent Living Fund.

The Minister said that the Coalition Government will, 'fully protect the programme budget for existing recipients of the ILF within DWP' and 'support the ILF to continue to administer existing awards' throughout this Parliament.

Our Trustees have worked closely with the Coalition Government over the last few months to help it consider options for the future of the ILF. We are pleased that they share our first priority in committing to safeguard the position of existing ILF recipients.

The statement follows a review of the role of the ILF and informal consultation with disability organisations, local government, and the Department of Health, which concluded that there is a 'strong and principled case for reform'. In safeguarding the position of existing ILF recipients the Minister has also confirmed that the ILF is permanently closed to new applicants.

**Independent Living Fund**

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The Independent Living Fund is an Executive Non-Departmental Public Body of the Department for Work and Pensions

A full consultation will take place with disabled people, particularly ILF recipients and their families, local authorities, and other interested parties including the devolved administrations, on the future of the ILF. The consultation will begin following the publication of a report by the Commission on the Funding of Care and Support in England next Summer.

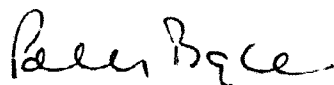
The views of ILF recipients, their families and carers, and their organisations, will be extremely important and we will assist them and the Government to ensure they are fully considered.

Once we have more detail about the consultation we will let you know how you can get involved.

You can see a copy of our press release and the Minister's statement by visiting:

[www.dwp.gov.uk/ilf/news](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/ilf/news)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Boyle'.

Patrick Boyle  
**Chief Executive Officer**