

DispATches - October 2017

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October 2017: Amazon Braille support, Smartwatch helps people with visual impairments and conference on personal wheelchair budgets

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Public policy, legislation and campaigns

Motability criticised for tyre replacement policy

The government subsidised vehicle purchase scheme for people with disabilities Motability has been criticised for [refusing to fund replacement tyres](#) until they are only just above the legal minimum tread depth. Concern was raised by disabled campaigner Ian Jones after his request for new tyres following his BMW's annual service was turned down, despite evidence that Motability's policy could be putting customers at risk.

Wheelchair industry to hold conference on personal wheelchair budgets

NHS England and the Department of Health are [inviting wheelchair manufacturers and suppliers](#) to an event about the introduction of personal wheelchair budgets. The event will explore how the wheelchair industry can provide a more tailored service to customers focused on their individual needs and aspirations.

European Union develops website accessibility guidelines for mobile applications

The European Commission is developing [a set of new website accessibility guidelines](#) for mobile applications to help member states adopt the Web and Mobile Accessibility Directive 2016. The guidelines will set out web design principles that will assist governments to make their online information and services more accessible for disabled people.

United Nations celebrates International Day for Universal Access to Information

On 28th of September the United Nations marked its [second annual International Day for Universal Access to Information](#) which promotes freedom of information, diversity online and the integration of people with disabilities. The global event aims to advance the right to seek and receive public information through technological progress.



Training & events

[Digital Healthcare Forum Congress 2017](#)



Kensington, London

**Wednesday 29th
November – Thursday
30th November**

The leading technology healthcare conference covering ehealth, telehealth, telemedicine and more

[Hoist and sling assessment and problem solving](#)

**Disabled Living
Foundation, London**

Friday 13th November

Training session for professionals involved in moving and handling of clients and patients in their

