

**Press release**

**30 November 2017**

**Comment from GRiD on 'Improving Lives: the Future of Work, Health and Disability' paper**

As the Government publishes *Improving Lives: the Future of Work, Health and Disability* which follows last year's green paper, Katharine Moxham, spokesperson for GRiD, the trade body for the group risk industry comments:

The group risk industry knows first-hand the value of vocational rehabilitation in keeping people in work. Employers that have been able to offer support to staff via Group Income Protection will also know that, as well as easing financial pressures that could otherwise be devastating for families, there is also a tremendous amount of additional support that providers make available to staff, line managers, HR and business owners. This support can be extremely effective in keeping people in the workplace, giving them the help they need to make life changes, supporting them back to work after a period of sickness absence and reducing the cost for employers of long-term sickness absence. Not only that, but support is also available to help with preventing absence and encouraging better health behaviours. Overall, of course, this all reduces the burden on the State.

Group Income Protection offers hugely valuable support to the State, employers, employees and their families, and we call on Government to use the industry's expertise to help drive the 'Improving Lives: the Future of Work, Health and Disability' strategy forward, especially as it considers its response to the 40 recommendations of the Stevenson/Farmer Review of mental health and employers.

We will continue to work with Government to drive the strategy forward.

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## **Notes for editors**

### **About GRiD**

Group Risk Development (GRiD) is the industry body for the group risk protection sector, promoting the value to UK businesses of providing financial protection for their staff, enhancing their wellbeing and improving employee engagement. Our membership includes insurers, reinsurers and intermediaries who have a collective wealth of experience built over years of operating in the group risk protection market. Under the chairmanship of Lee Lovett, CEO of Ellipse, GRiD aims to promote group risk through a collective voice to Government, policymakers, stakeholders and employers.

GRiD works with government departments and regulators involved in legislation and regulation affecting group risk benefits, and with other organisations involved in the benefits and financial protection arenas. GRiD also seeks to enhance the industry's standing by encouraging best practice and by participating in industry-wide initiatives such as the professional qualification in group risk managed jointly with the Chartered Insurance Institute.

GRiD's media activity aims to generate a wider awareness and understanding of group risk products and their benefits for employers and employees.

GRiD's dedicated spokesperson, Katharine Moxham, provides expert media comment on a full range of group risk issues.

[www.grouprisk.org.uk](http://www.grouprisk.org.uk)

Follow Katharine Moxham on Twitter @KMoxham