



**Diane Lightfoot**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
Business Disability Forum

**Diane Lightfoot is CEO of Business Disability Forum, a not-for-profit membership organisation that supports businesses of all shapes, sizes and sectors to recruit and retain disabled employees and to serve disabled customers. Business Disability Forum's 300 members now employ around 15% of the UK workforce and range from FTSE 100 companies and central Government departments to transport providers, construction companies, retailers, higher education providers and public services.**

Diane joined Business Disability Forum in February 2017 after moving from her former role as Director of Policy and Communications for United Response, a leading national disability charity. During her 13 years at United Response, Diane led and developed the charity's campaigning, public affairs and lobbying activity, with a particular focus on promoting employment for disabled people. She subsequently took on the strategic leadership of the organisation's employment services as a whole and is passionate about the role that good work has in transforming people's lives.

Diane meets regularly with Business Disability Forum Partners and Members and also works closely with Government to help shape disability employment policy. She is a member of the Department of Work and Pensions' Disability Confident Professional Advisers Group, the Disability Expert Advisory Panel for the Civil Service and the Civil Service Diverse Leadership Taskforce.

Previously Diane has held responsibility for marketing and membership for the National Council of Voluntary Organisations and at the Pre-School Learning Alliance, a national children's educational charity, after starting her career in local government.



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