OUTLINE OF MAIN UPDATES

Section 1: Working with disabled people
The main updates have been the facts and figures, to provide the most recent sources.

Section 2: The Disability Discrimination Act
The DDA has changed substantially since the guide was originally written. New provisions in both education and employment have been brought in and the definition of discrimination in education has changed. In addition, General Qualifications Bodies have been covered for the first time and a Disability Equality Duty for the public sector has been introduced. The Disability Rights Commission has been replaced with the Equality and Human Rights Commission and we have removed the DDA Quiz as it was extremely out of date and no longer relevant.

Section 3: Disclosing a disability
Useful resources section has been updated.

Section 4: Transition to post-16 education
The main updates to this section have been the addition of information for those wishing to take a second or subsequent degree and the amendment of complaints procedures under the DDA (Skill’s new booklet, the 6-step test) and in HE.

Section 5: Further education and work-based learning for disabled people
Work-based learning and apprenticeship routes have changed and there have been changes to the funding mechanisms for disabled students in FE.

Section 6: Higher education for disabled people
There have been substantial changes to the way that HE is funded and the tuition fees that full-time students have to pay and the grants, loans and bursaries that they are entitled to. This all depends on what country the person is studying in and what country they come from. In addition, from September 2008, local authorities in England will no longer process applications, but these will be done by a central agency, Student Finance England.

Section 7: Transition to employment
Main updates on the various programmes offered by Jobcentre Plus.

Section 8: Welfare benefits for disabled people
The welfare benefits system is changing in October 2008 and all the new information has been included here, as well as updates to the tax credit system and the new figures for benefits calculations for the 2008/09 tax year.

Section 9: Contacts
All the contact details for the organisations have been updated.