**Annex 4 DRILL Definition of Coproduction**

DRILL aims to deliver robust research and findings from pilot projects. This will identify innovative solutions that enable the diverse range of disabled people to achieve independent living. All DRILL research must be robust. What we mean by robust is that the right research methods are used to reach sound research evidence and findings that can be trusted. Therefore, the research produced by DRILL funding will be more likely to be recognised and acted on by decision makers.

In order for this to happen, research and pilot projects will be led by disabled people and their priorities, usually in partnership with researchers (disabled and/ or non-disabled) and others. DRILL projects are not undertaken ‘on’ or ‘for’ disabled people; they are undertaken ‘with’ and ‘by’ disabled people.

Coproduction in DRILL research will arise from relationships in which the skills, knowledge and experience of all participants are equally valued and combined in the process of planning and delivering research processes together. Links to some recommended resources on coproduction are provided below.

Whilst acknowledging the constraints of producing research both within and outside of academic institutions, coproduction in DRILL research requires the following principles to be embedded into practice:

**Accessibility:** Research is coproduced in ways that are accessible and understandable to all involved. Research findings are made available in a wide range of accessible formats.

**Experts by lived experience:** Research respects the value of academic, professional and experiential knowledge and requires the active use of all these forms of knowledge.

**Collaboration and shared goals:** Each step of the research process is undertaken in equal partnership. A mutual understanding of what the research question is, why the research is being done, and what the aims, objectives and desired outcomes of the research are, provide a sound basis for partnership working.

**Equalising power relations:** Disabled people’s priorities steer the research process; power and responsibility are shared equally and constantly reviewed, and all partners can influence decisions throughout the process, with opportunities for reflection and learning from experience.

**Impact:** research outcomes have real impacts which improve independent living for disabled people beyond the life of the DRILL Programme.

**Independent Living**

DRILL defines Independent living as:

All disabled people having the same choice, control, dignity and freedom as any other citizen to achieve their goals at home, in education, at work, and as members of the community. This does not necessarily mean disabled people doing things for themselves but it does mean having the right to practical assistance based on their choices and aspirations

This definition was originally developed by the Disability Rights Commission. It was also used in the Westminster Government report called ‘Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People’ (2005).

The right to independent living is established in Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled People: <http://bit.ly/UNCRDP19>

**Coproduction Resources**

Durham University *Co-Inquiry Toolkit*

PDF: <http://bit.ly/DURHAMcoinquiry>

Word (37Mb): <http://bit.ly/DURHAMcoinquiryW>

Inclusion North Self-reflection tool: *Coproduction – How are you doing?*

PDF: <http://bit.ly/INcoprotool>

Word (27Mb): <http://bit.ly/INcoprotoolW>

Independent Living in Scotland *Coproduction Toolkit*

Online: <http://bit.ly/ILIScopro1>

Easy Read PDF: <http://bit.ly/ILIScopro2> Easy Read Word (39Mb): <http://bit.ly/ILIScopro2W>

DIY Guide PDF: <http://bit.ly/ILIScopro3> DIY Guide Word (1Mb): <http://bit.ly/ILIScopro3W>