



# deafscotland Bulletin November 2019

We want the Bulletin to be accessible therefore we **CANNOT** use the information in the form of posters, PDF, JPEG, GIF or publisher in the bulletin.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: at the end of this Bulletin is a template. If you want the information included in future Bulletins, please copy and use this template. If the information is not sent to us in the template, we will not include it. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS ON THE 24TH OF EVERY MONTH.\*\***

Thank you.

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## Monthly Newsletter for deafscotland Members

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### Save the Date: Tuesday 17 March 2020

Our **annual conference** will be taking place on Tuesday 17 March 2020 in the DoubleTree by Hilton, Cambridge Street, Glasgow.

The conference theme will be **Connect and Capitalise** and will focus on community assets, capacity building, volunteering and socio-economic development.

More information and Early Bird tickets will be available soon. Check out our website and watch this space!

### deafscotland Membership

The deadline for renewing membership has passed. If you have received this from a source that is not deafscotland, it will be because you have not paid your membership. If you wish to be re-instated as a member, you will have to contact us as soon as possible to make arrangements to pay your dues.

For further information on the benefits of deafscotland membership, go to our website: <http://deafscotland.org/who-we-are/our-membership/>

### deafscotland Training Programme

We offer a wide range of training: face-to-face and online – in areas such as **deaf awareness; human rights; working with integrated boards;** and **communication for all.**

Remember our members get a discount. For further information, please go to our website: <http://deafscotland.org/what-we-do/training/>. If you are interested in one of our courses, please email us and we will put your name on our waiting list. Once we have enough people interested in a course, we will send out dates.

### **Bespoke training**

Remember we also offer bespoke / tailored training – this is very popular with our members.

If you have more than 10 members of staff you would like to receive training, then why not contact us to arrange a course delivered using examples specific to the work that you do. You might not have 10 members of staff, but you could share the cost with a partner organisation, so that both organisations benefit.

To request a meeting to discuss (which can be done through Skype/Facetime if you are not in the Glasgow / Edinburgh area) by emailing us: [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org). If you are a BSL user, please do use [contactSCOTLAND-BSL](#) to contact us.

### **Your training / events**

As a member organisation, do you offer training and want to publicise it? Also hosting any events? Then tell us and we will include them in the Bulletin, on our website calendar and on our social media.

### **Training events around Scotland**

We are in the process of developing our website. We have imported the Calendar again so we can advertise members' events on the website - <https://deafscotland.org/what-we-do/events/calendar/>

We get a lot of inquiries by phone and email from members of the public and professionals looking for training. We would like to include members' training courses on the website calendar so that people know what is available across Scotland. Contact us and we will include your courses and details.

## **Cross Party Group on Deafness**

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 4 December 2019** at the **Scottish Parliament**, Edinburgh at **1.00pm-2.30pm**. There is more information available on the Scottish Parliament website:

<https://www.parliament.scot/msps/deafness.aspx>

If you would like to join the CPGD, please email the convenor, Mark Griffin MSP and copy us in.

## **Disclosure: Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG)**

Do you or a member of your staff require a PVG? We can help.

We can countersign disclosure applications on behalf of other organisations which may be too small to become signatories themselves or for individuals who are self-employed and need to have a disclosure to work in their chosen field.

You might need to join the PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) Scheme as you will be doing “regulated” work – working directly with children and/or protected adults, often in an educational or caring role.

For more information about PVGs and to book an appointment go to: <http://deafscotland.org/disclosure-for-working-with-protected-groups/>

## **Congratulations Hazel...Way to go!**

Dr Hazel McFarlane, disability researcher and activist, Policy and Implementation Officer and See Hear Lead for South Ayrshire Council, and co-facilitator for our Inclusive Communication and Accessible Information workshop/training, has been named in the Disability Power List 2019 of the Most Influential Disabled People in the UK. For more information, go to

<https://deafscotland.org/equality/way-to-go-hazel/>

## **Our Surveys**

### **BSL Self-Management Questionnaire: Part 2**

We have been working with Deaf Links to produce information and support for Deaf people with long term health conditions. We would like to know if the information we have produced makes sense to people. To watch the videos, go to

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82qDt7YZ78U&list=PL7TPJkTbihG8YyAP8rrPfjiPK9-MK3KNs>

Please encourage as many deaf people as possible to take part in this survey. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/73B9R56>

The survey will close on **Monday 11 November 2019**

### **Mental Health Survey: Part 2**

Our mental health survey is still running. We would like to know what deaf people understand about some of the terms used, what the illnesses are and what they know about the support organisations that work in Scotland. To take part, go to

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/99G3BF9>. The survey will close on

**Monday 11 November 2019**

### **Cycling Survey**

We launched our cycling survey in August and while we have had a number of people who have taken part, we think there might be many more people out there who have a hearing loss and who go cycling. We would be most appreciative if you share this with your own members, customers, service users, friends and family who have a hearing loss and who ride a bike! Thanks.

The closing date has been extended until **Monday 11 November 2019**.

### **BSL translation**

We have translated our news / information into BSL (British Sign Language). Please use this link below to our YouTube page to find the information:

Best wishes, Janis & deafscotland Team

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## **NEWS / INFORMATION**

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### **Social Security Scotland Young Carer Grant**

In recognition of the invaluable contribution that young carers make to society the Cabinet Secretary for Social Security, Ms Somerville MSP, has announced that Social Security Scotland will start to deliver the new Young Carer Grant from 8 am on Monday 21 October 2019.

The Young Carer Grant is a new yearly cash payment of £300 for 16-18 year olds which carers can spend as they choose. Young carers can

claim if they are at school, in further education, employed or unemployed and may be eligible if they meet all of the following criteria:

- they live in Scotland
- they are 16, 17 or 18 years of age when applying
- caring for an average of 16 hours per week, over a 13 week period
- care for someone normally paid a qualifying disability benefit
- they have not applied for or receive Carer's Allowance
- they are not paid or volunteer to care

People will be able to apply from 21 October online at <https://www.mygov.scot/benefits/> or through our Freephone helpline at 0800 182 2222. Our helpline is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. A paper application will also be available and can be requested via our helpline or downloaded direct from our website.

Social Security Scotland's Local Delivery Team will also be on hand to attend events, meetings or staff training opportunities. Please contact us by email at [localdelivery@socialsecurity.gov.scot](mailto:localdelivery@socialsecurity.gov.scot) in the first instance and we'll be in touch.

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## **Hearing Link volunteer named Self-Management Champion of the Year**

Hearing Link volunteer Margaret Canning has been named the Self-Management Champion of the Year by the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland.

Margaret from Penicuik was presented with the award at the Self-Management Awards ceremony hosted by Alex Neil MSP at the Scottish Parliament on 8<sup>th</sup> October.

Hearing Link supported Margaret after her hearing deteriorated and resulted in her giving up working. She found about the work of Hearing Link and attended both the charity's Intensive Rehabilitation and Self-Management Programmes as a participant to help manage the changes in her hearing.

Inspired by the support she received, Margaret who is now a cochlear implant user, started her own volunteering journey with Hearing Link eight years ago. She started off as a key contributor at the charity's self-management programmes, sharing her own personal experiences to support others going through similar changes.

Today she also mentors new volunteers, supports individuals one-to-one, raises awareness of Hearing Link at events and talks, and is a key member of the Hearing Aid Liaison Outreach (HALO) project team

which delivers drop-in support sessions for patients at Edinburgh's Adult Audiology department twice a month.

Margaret said: "It was a wonderful evening at the Alliance's Self-Management Awards. I was so excited and honoured to win the Self-Management Champion of the Year 2019 award. To be acknowledged and nominated was amazing, but to win the award makes volunteering with Hearing Link so worthwhile. I have met so many wonderful people during the past eight years that I have been a volunteer. It is so worthwhile helping others to find ways of coping with their hearing loss by sharing my own experiences and seeing the difference it can make to them, so they know that they are not alone and help is out there. I am delighted to have won this award and want to thank the Alliance, Alison Coyle at Hearing Link and my fellow volunteer Ann Thallon for making this possible."

To find out more about Hearing Link's work or how to volunteer, visit [www.hearinglink.org](http://www.hearinglink.org).

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## **Hearing Link: HALO team recognised for their outstanding volunteering**

Our wonderful [Hearing Aid Liaison Outreach \(HALO\)](#) team in Scotland has been recognised for its outstanding volunteering.

The group, who provide fortnightly support sessions for patients at Edinburgh's Adult Audiology unit, were presented with a certificate from [Volunteer Edinburgh](#).

Each year, Volunteer Edinburgh hosts an Inspiring Volunteer Team Awards, and the HALO volunteers were recognised for the emotional and practical support they provide to patients newly diagnosed with hearing loss and their families and friends.

The sessions are funded by See Hear Fund in Scotland and the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership.

The team was presented with their certificate at their latest get-together at Hearing Link's Scotland Offices. There was even a chance to enjoy a piece of cake and a natter!

They were joined at the event by Susan Shippey, Strategic Planning and Commissioning Officer and See Hear Lead for the Edinburgh Health and

Social Care Partnership, and Denise Rennex, Audiologist, from NHS Lothian.

## **Volunteers needed to support Hearing Link's work in Scotland**

Hearing Link is looking for volunteers to help shape and deliver its work across Scotland.

We greatly value the skills, energy, and commitment of those who give up some of their time on our behalf to support people living with hearing loss and their families across the country.

We would particularly like to hear from anyone who is interested in joining our Hearing Aid Liaison Outreach (HALO) team.

### **Hearing Aid Liaison Outreach**

The drop-in sessions run from 1.30pm-4pm on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at the Adult Audiology department, Level 1, Lauriston Buildings, Edinburgh. For further information, email [scotland@hearinglink.org](mailto:scotland@hearinglink.org)

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## **May's hearing loss story features in Humans of Scotland book**

**Hearing Link** volunteer May Wood features in a new e-book called Humans of Scotland produced by The Alliance in Scotland.

The book was launched on 25th September at the Edinburgh Storytelling Centre. May attended the launch evening with her son Jamie (pictured right) and Hearing Link's Volunteer Co-ordinator Alison Coyle.

The Humans of Scotland book features 30 inspirational stories from people across Scotland, including former national team rugby Doddie Weir, with a foreword by Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

May, who is a Helpdesk Responder and part of Hearing Link's award-winning HALO team, talks about her hearing loss journey and the support she has received by attending lipreading classes, contacting hearing loss charities and attending self-management courses.

She said: "I am honoured to be part of this amazing, heartening project. The humility, hope and the impact of kindness and understanding in the amazing stories told here is so inspiring. Like so many whose stories are told in the book, I too found there was a lot of

support out there from people struggling as I was, who would listen, could empathise and were willing to share their experiences. Like them I'm so pleased to now have the confidence to help and offer peer support to others."

To read May's story visit: <https://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/humansofscotland/sensory-impairment/mays-story/>  
The book will be available free of charge across all libraries in Scotland.

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## **Hear 2 Listen: Accessible Counselling for people who are deaf or hard of hearing**

Are you feeling anxious, worried or stressed? Do you have things on your mind, such as a relationship problem or work situation? Or have you experienced a loss or bereavement and feel lonely and isolated? Perhaps that loss is your hearing...

Talking to an empathic listener can really help. I will provide a safe space for you to unburden yourself, in confidence, to someone who understands deafness and the issues surrounding hearing loss. Don't worry about not being able to hear; I will provide communication support (in English) for you.

So don't let your deafness/hearing loss prevent you from getting the support you need.

As a **person-centred counsellor**, I will listen in a non-judgmental way, allowing you to explore your thoughts and feelings so you can begin to see things in a new light. I'm not an expert on you, and I won't be telling you what to do. But I will really listen to you.

For the past 17 years, I have been working with people across Scotland who have different levels of hearing loss, providing communication support as an Electronic Notetaker, enabling them to take part in different daily situations, such as personal and public meetings, university lectures and events. In 2016 I graduated from the University of Strathclyde with a **Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy**. I am registered (BACP), insured and a PVG Scheme member. I have been working as a bereavement counsellor with CRUSE since 2015, and also in private practice, helping **people with a wide variety of experiences and issues**.

Contact **Linda Wilson**

by email: [hear2listen@yahoo.com](mailto:hear2listen@yahoo.com)

or text: **07949 570466**

Consulting Rooms in Glasgow and East Kilbride. Fees based on your financial situation.

## **Counselling changes lives**

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### **Access to services for Deaf people and the importance of Language Preference – Research Project by Jacqueline Barber**

Dear Participant,

Thank you for taking the time to contribute to the study. Please find below the links and instructions to complete each stage. Attached are the introductions and consent forms which contain detail about the study and the research process. Please sign and date the consent forms and return to the researcher prior to participation. Please note there are four stages to participation and all participants must be over 18 years old:

1: Complete [Language Preference Questionnaire \(LPQ\) A](#) based on a service of your choice

2: Complete the [Language Preference Scale \(LPS\)](#) and take a printed copy of the summary to the service of your choice. A summary page is available on the last page of the attached information if required.

3: Return to the service within six months and note any change in access.

4: Complete the [Language Preference Questionnaire \(LPQ\) B](#) based on the experience returning to the service.

This research aims to identify language preference of the participant with details regarding access to service experience. Due to the detail of the videos in the British Sign Language (BSL) version, it may be slower to load.

For further information on study results or any other information please contact me.

Best Regards,

Jacqueline Batchelor

[Jacqueline.Batchelor@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:Jacqueline.Batchelor@northampton.ac.uk)

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## **The Scottish Register for Language Professionals with the Deaf Community (SRLPDC)**

The **SRLPDC** used to be known as **SASLI** (the **Scottish Association of Sign Language Interpreters**). The organisation is in transition at the moment from SASLI to SRLPDC. We have a new Board and have set up a new Scottish Register.

We are aware that people need to know what is happening and we hope to have a statement online shortly. Work is being done on our public face – a new website and social media; and the Board is working on accessibility, inclusion and new practices.

More information will be made public shortly...**Watch this space!**

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## **Paths For All**

### **Scotland's first British Sign Language Health Walk launched**

Members of the Deaf community are taking part in regular walks thanks to an innovative new project. Paths for All recently funded a project in Lanarkshire which trained Deaf people to lead Health Walks using British Sign Language.

The grant, from the walking charity's Walking for Health fund, supported a joint venture by Get Walking Lanarkshire and Deaf Services Lanarkshire to offer walks led by trained Deaf Walk Leaders. It means that, for the first time, Deaf walkers and Walk Leaders can communicate with each other, making the walks safer, fully accessible and more social.

The first walk was held in Strathclyde Park last month and weekly walks started on 8<sup>th</sup> October.

Ian Findlay CBE, Chief Officer at Paths for All said: "Many congratulations to Get Walking Lanarkshire on securing this funding and

delivering this project which I hope will see many more members of the Deaf community walking in Lanarkshire.

“This project is just one of many to receive a grant from our Walking for Health fund. Throughout Scotland, organisations working at the community level have come up with a range of initiatives and ideas that are making it easier for more people to join Health Walks and reduce health inequalities. This is an important step towards increasing the number of people walking in our communities which will, in turn, have a positive impact on health and wellbeing across Scotland.”

The first British Sign Language Health Walk was launched by Get Walking Lanarkshire who run a programme of free Health Walks across the region.

Paula Hubens, Health Walks Coordinator at Get Walking Lanarkshire said: “Health Walks are short walks aimed at people who would benefit from becoming more active, but people join the walks for many reasons, such as a way to meet new people.

“This social aspect was why we decided to set up British Sign Language Health Walks because it’s really difficult for a hearing person and a Deaf person to have a conversation if there is no interpreter. We partnered with Deaf Services Lanarkshire who recruited Deaf people to become Walk Leaders. We were both very keen to empower Deaf people to lead the walks, and it also meant that the walks would not be dependent on a member of staff or an interpreter being there. With a grant from Paths for All and support from Deaf Services Lanarkshire, we were able to adapt the Health Walk Leader training day and make it accessible to Deaf Walk Leaders.”

John Church, one of the newly-trained volunteer Deaf Walk Leaders said: “I wanted to be a walk leader so I can support Deaf people through walks because I don’t want to see Deaf people staying at home, isolated, with nothing to do. I want to encourage Deaf people to get out and participate in a walk for the benefit of their health and do it as part of a Deaf walk group.”

To find out more about the first British Sign Language Health Walk, watch <https://vimeo.com/362047882>.

To find out more about Health Walks or the Walking for Health Fund, supported by the Scottish Government, visit [www.pathsforall.org.uk](http://www.pathsforall.org.uk) .

For more information, contact Deborah Fox, communications and marketing officer at Paths for All at [Deborah.fox@pathsforall.org.uk](mailto:Deborah.fox@pathsforall.org.uk) or on 07590 350391.

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **Keep Scotland Beautiful: Development Grants**

To help Scottish community-led organisations to scope out a potential climate action project.

CCF Development Grants up to £500 (per organisation) are intended to:

Enable community-led organisations to develop ideas for a climate change action project which would support low-carbon behaviour changes, increase climate literacy and reduce carbon emissions.

Assist in progressing to a full CCF Grant application or similar activities for another funder.

Organise a community consultation event and survey work.

Engaging a consultant or advisor to support project development.

Cover expenses associated with visit(s) to other projects/organisations within Scotland (flights excluded).

Develop a low-carbon project idea.

Host an event using the Scottish Government's Climate Conversation toolkit.

<https://www.keeptscotlandbeautiful.org/sustainability-climate-change/climate-challenge-fund/applying-for-ccf-funding/development-grants/>

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## **EVENTS**

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**Glasgow Charities Annual Christmas Fayre arranged by GCVS, with support from Glasgow City Council  
Thursday 14th November, from 10am – 3.30pm**

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## **Glasgow City Chambers**

### **FREE Entry**

Featuring performances by Glasgow City Council primary school choirs.

The Glasgow Charities Christmas Fayre returns again on the 14th of November, 2019!

This annual event has been organised and run by GCVS in partnership with other charities since 1977. With FREE entry and festive entertainment, what better way to kick off the season of goodwill than by supporting some fantastic local causes? There will be a wide range of cards and gifts available to buy, as well as some tasty home baking to keep you going!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/glasgow-charities-annual-christmas-fayre-2019-tickets-77120837501>

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## **From the Royal Collections Trust The Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh**

New for 2019, our BSL multimedia guide explores the rich history of the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Whether you are in the grand State Apartments, the historic chambers of Mary Queen of Scots, the romantic ruins of Holyrood Abbey or the beautiful gardens, you can discover the stories in BSL whenever you visit.

Palace tickets cost £8.70. Tickets can be converted into a 1-Year Pass for free re-entry to the Palace for a year.

<https://www.rct.uk/visit/palace-of-holyroodhouse>

To book:

[specialistsales@rct.uk](mailto:specialistsales@rct.uk)

[www.rct.uk](http://www.rct.uk)

0303 123 7324

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## **Generations Working Together**

### **Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire Intergenerational Meeting**

We have now confirmed the next meeting date and venue and you can register online now. The next meeting will take place on **Friday 14/02/2020** at 2.00- 4 pm in the community room of Ron Davey Enterprise Centre, 10 Vulcan Street, Glasgow G21 4BP in Springburn.

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/glasgow-and-east-dunbartonshire-intergenerational-network-meeting-14-02-2020>

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## **From TPAS Scotland Annual Conference & AGM 2019**

The Tenant Participation Advisory Service Scotland are holding their annual conference and AGM 2019 at the Fairmont Hotel, St Andrews. From **Friday 6 December** until **Sunday 8 December 2019**.

More information will be made available soon.

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## **Scottish Union of Supported Employment**

### **Sport & Employability Practitioner Event**

Our colleagues at the Scottish Football Association and Scottish Disability Sport will be telling us about their work and we'll be talking about how we can get more of the people we support involved in sport - and how this can contribute towards their employment goals.

The Scottish FA will be telling us about the wide range of options for people of all ages and abilities to play football in Scotland. In particular you'll learn more about the thriving Scottish Para-football community, the Scottish FA's Equality Framework and how you can get people involved in their local area.

Scottish Disability Sport promote and facilitate the take up of sport at grass roots level across the country. They'll be telling us about the sporting opportunities available across Scotland at a local, regional and national level along with the work they are doing on mentoring, education and training. We'll also get the opportunity to hear from one of the athletes SDS have supported into employment.

**Date:** **Thursday 28th November 2019**

**Time:** 11am – 1pm

**Location:** Hampden Park  
Glasgow  
G42 9AY

**To book a place contact:**

E: [michelle@susescotland.scot](mailto:michelle@susescotland.scot)

T: 07592 502638

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**BATOD (British Association of Teachers of the Deaf)  
Save the Date!**

The BATOD 1/2 day conference will be at the Sensory Resource Centre in Falkirk on Saturday 16 November 2019.

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## **VACANCIES / PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS**

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### **Care Inspectorate Board**

Dundee City

£174.50 per day

Would you like to make a difference and contribute to the work of the Care Inspectorate?

Closing date: **15 November 2019 at midday**

[https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job\\_search\\_view.aspx?jobId=1710&JobIndex=1&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=7](https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job_search_view.aspx?jobId=1710&JobIndex=1&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=7)

### **Transport Focus**

Scotland, London and travel across Great Britain

£12,425 per annum

Could you be Transport Focus' next Board Member? The Scottish Government is seeking to appoint a new member to the Transport Focus Board to ensure the interests of Scottish transport users are fully taken into account in our policy making and advocacy.

Closing date: **8 November 2019 at midday**

[https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job\\_search\\_view.aspx?jobId=1702&JobIndex=7&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=7](https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job_search_view.aspx?jobId=1702&JobIndex=7&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=7)

## **NHS Lanarkshire**

£8,416 per annum

NHS Lanarkshire is looking for one new member to join its Board. As a non-executive member of the Board, you will be expected to play a central role in guiding the strategies which address the health and social care priorities and care needs of the resident population and monitor the performance of the Board in delivering these. You will be offered the training you need to make a strong contribution.

Closing date: **15 November 2019 at midnight**

<http://bit.ly/2N9lOqt>

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## **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **Childline / NSPCC Deaf volunteer recruitment**

Childline Glasgow is really keen to have more Deaf volunteers trained and supporting children. The minimum age to apply is 16, you do not have to have any specific qualifications although you must be able to communicate in written English as currently we support children online through email and 1-2-1 chat (like instant messenger). The training is 10 weeks and will be fully interpreted in BSL.

We are also looking for communication shift supports – these would be hearing people who are either qualified BSL interpreter, have level 6 BSL or CODAs. Please see a video with two of our volunteers explaining their experience of this role. [https://youtu.be/Fw\\_yqd1LozQ](https://youtu.be/Fw_yqd1LozQ)

If anyone you know is interested in attending please encourage them to contact: [ahood@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:ahood@nspcc.org.uk)

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### **Social Security Experience Panels**

#### **Open to new panel members now**

**The recruitment to the Scottish Government's Social Security Experience Panels is now open.** We would be grateful if you could share information about this with your members or networks if they include people with experience of the benefits coming to Scotland.

The Scottish Government Experience Panels are 2,400 volunteers who are helping us to build a new social security system for Scotland. Panel

members have real experience of the benefits coming to Scotland. Their insight and assistance is helping us to make sure that our new service works for the people who will use it.

If you have experience of the benefits coming to Scotland and you want to contribute to the way we deliver in Scotland, we are recruiting for more Experience Panel members now. We are looking for people with personal experience of:

- Personal Independence Payment
- Disability Living Allowance
- Attendance Allowance
- Carer's Allowance
- Funeral Expenses Payment
- Cold Weather Payment
- Winter Fuel Payment
- Industrial Injuries Disability Benefit

You can find out more about the Experience Panels and register to join at: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/social-security-experience-panels-faqs/> or by calling our Freephone number 0800 029 4974. People can register online, over the phone or by post.

Being a panel member is voluntary, and panel members will receive regular invitations to take part in focus groups, interviews and surveys. There is no obligation to complete any amount of work and panel members can participate as little or as often as they wish. We work hard to make participating as accessible as possible. Our work with panel members informs key decisions in the design of social security in Scotland.

Please feel free to forward this information on. If you would like us to send you some leaflets and paper copies of the registration form (with freepost envelopes), please get in touch and tell us how many you would like. If you would like us to come along to any events or provide content for things like newsletters, please email us.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,  
Eilidh

**Experience Panels Team**  
[socialsecurityexperience@gov.scot](mailto:socialsecurityexperience@gov.scot)

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## TRAINING

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# AWARENESSbites



### **AWARENESSbites online Deaf Awareness course**

<http://www.scod.org.uk/scod-training/awarenessbites/>

deafscotland has teamed up with **AWARENESSbites** to provide quality online learning and development to front-line and public facing staff who may not be able to attend face-to-face training courses.

We are offering two packages: Green and Purple

#### **The Package Contents:**

##### **Green package – £15 per user**

- Aimed at those who require to know the basics and may come across a deaf or deafblind person occasionally. This package can easily be completed in under 2 hours.

##### **Purple package – £28 per user**

- Aimed at those who would require a little more detail and understanding and meet deaf or deafblind people more frequently within their day to day service provision. This package can take between 2.5 – 3.5 hours depending on activities taken.

**Please note** the system cannot take multiple log-ins so please make sure you have enough time to complete the course before starting.

If you would like to purchase packages, please contact us directly at [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

We would consider an organisational discount that offers value for money for large numbers of users.

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# From Generations Working Together Training Courses

## [Intergenerational Training For Trainers and Practitioners \(East Lothian\)](#)

12th Nov 2019 at Dunbar/Musselburgh TBC

[Book Now](#)

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## SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT PQs, MOTIONS AND DEBATES

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### [Motion S5M-19172](#): Clare Adamson, Motherwell and Wishaw, Scottish National Party, Date Lodged: 27/09/2019

Award for Motherwell Walking Champion

That the Parliament congratulates Paula Hubens, from Motherwell, on being recognised as Project Coordinator of the Year by Scotland's walking charity, Paths for All, at its annual Volunteer Awards in the Parliament on 10 September 2019; understands that Paula is Project Coordinator at Get Walking Lanarkshire and is responsible for seeing this innovative programme more than double in size, growing from 25 walks to 61 walks since she started in 2016; notes that Paula has also been working to develop links with new target groups by delivering walk leader training to deaf people in a bid to set up British Sign Language health walks; recognises that the Lanarkshire programme now boasts a remarkable 137 volunteer walk leaders who are committed to helping people improve their physical, mental and social health through a variety of walks, including Dementia Friendly and Buggy walks; commends Paula and all of the volunteers who make the programme such a success, and wishes them well in their future endeavours.

Supported by: Richard Lyle, Monica Lennon, Bill Kidd, Ruth Maguire, Stuart McMillan, Gil Paterson, Fulton MacGregor, Sandra White, Jenny Gilruth, David Torrance, Gillian Martin, Stewart Stevenson, Tom Arthur

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### [Motion S5M-19027](#): Annie Wells, Glasgow, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party, Date Lodged: 24/09/2019

British Deaf Association

That the Parliament congratulates the British Deaf Association, which is based in Glasgow, on its £88,715 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund Scotland, which it will use to deliver a three-year project to support 240 deaf children and young people, Deaf Roots and Pride; notes that this will offer one-to-one support and activity days to help to build confidence and aspirations for key transition points in their lives; understands that it will be led by 20 volunteers, and sends its best wishes to all involved with this.

Supported by: Alexander Stewart, Alison Harris, Miles Briggs, Margaret Mitchell, Stuart McMillan, Finlay Carson, Jamie Greene, Jeremy Balfour, Peter Chapman, Richard Lyle, Maurice Corry, Bill Kidd, Michelle Ballantyne, Clare Adamson, Ruth Maguire

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**Question [S5W-24990](#): Mark Griffin, Central Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 02/09/2019**

To ask the Scottish Government what data it gathers on the number of people who are deaf, deafblind, deafened and hard of hearing, and what methods it uses to gather accurate data.

**Answered by Jeane Freeman (12/09/2019):**

Scotland's Census, last conducted in 2011 and next due to run in 2021, gathers population-wide data on self-reported long term conditions, including hearing loss and sight loss. A variety of reports and data are available to download including from

<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/news/census-2011-release-3f-detailed-characteristics-health-scotland> . Data are available for large areas, such as NHS Boards, as well as for smaller areas. They can be broken down in many different ways, including by age.

Additionally, there are a range of national surveys commissioned by the Scottish Government, including (but not limited to) the Scottish Health Survey and the Health and Care Experience Survey, which include questions on whether respondents have hearing loss or sight loss. These surveys are however based on samples of the population and, as with the census, the questions asked don't differentiate between degrees of sight/hearing loss.

Through the work of local See Hear leads partnerships, sensory screening projects have been introduced in care homes in some local areas, for example in Perth and Kinross, Dumfries and Galloway, Angus, North Lanarkshire, Highlands, Edinburgh and Lothian, Ayrshire and Arran, Orkney and Forth Valley.

The Scottish Government is currently consulting with See Hear Leads to gather further information on the prevalence of sensory impairment and the reach of services to identify gaps and opportunities for service improvement. See Hear partnerships remain responsible for identifying local priorities, developing work streams, timescales and implementation plans, based on local priorities and need.

We are aware that some people with hearing loss go to private providers for hearing tests and provision of aids, and information on hearing loss for those people who go through the NHS is not routinely collected, so any data held by the NHS on hearing loss would not be comprehensive.

However, Action on Hearing Loss estimates there to be around 945,000 people with hearing loss in Scotland, one in six of the population, and of those, 70% are over 70.

Current Status: Answered by Jeane Freeman on 12/09/2019

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**Question [S5W-24989](#): Mark Griffin, Central Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 02/09/2019**

To ask the Scottish Government what provision it has in place to reduce the barriers faced on a daily basis by people who are deaf, deafened, deafblind or hard of hearing.

**Answered by Jeane Freeman (12/09/2019):**

Since 2014, Scottish Ministers have provided almost £4m to establish and support the See Hear Strategy, which is available to view on the Scottish Government website.

I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-22380 on 17 April 2019. **[Stuart McMillan (Greenock and Inverclyde) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to renew or refresh the 2014 strategy, See Hear: A strategic framework for meeting the needs of people with a sensory impairment in Scotland. ([S5W-22380](#))

**Clare Haughey:** The See Hear strategy was developed as a long term strategic framework in partnership with local authorities, health boards and third sector partners and is jointly endorsed by COSLA. Since 2014, the Scottish Government has provided almost £4m to establish and support a national network of See Hear Leads, supported by a See Hear National Coordinator post based the Health and Social Care Alliance. Local partnerships are in place across every local authority area in Scotland to assist in delivering the strategy. Areas for action and recommendations are implemented through local partnerships between statutory and third sector partners who are responsible for identifying local priorities, developing work streams, timescales and implementation plans based on local priorities and need. This ensures a responsive, flexible approach to deliver person centred outcomes, support and care.

In addition, the Scottish Government has a commitment to promote the use and understanding of British Sign Language (BSL) as a full and proper language across the Scottish public sector, and has a BSL National Plan in place for 2017 to 2023 with 70 actions across ten long-term ambitions.

Scottish Government has provided £1m funding over the period 2016-2020 to deliver the contactSCOTLAND-BSL online interpreting Video Relay Service, which enables Deaf and Deafblind BSL users to contact Scottish public sector bodies, third sector organisations and the private sector. The service is accessible to Deafblind BSL users, by making use of braille displays and speech synthesisers. The service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

We are currently considering how this service can be developed to support people who do not use BSL, including those who are deaf, deafened, deafblind or hard of hearing.

Additionally, I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-21736 on 5 March 2019.

Current Status: Answered by Jeane Freeman on 12/09/2019

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**Question S5W-25652: Mark Griffin, Central Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 04/10/2019**

To ask the Scottish Government how many Fair Start Scotland participants in each local authority area have reported deafness or partial hearing loss.

**Current Status:** Expected Answer date 01/11/2019

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## Copy Deadline for the Next Issue

**The NEW deadline is on the 24th of every month.**

Please forward your contributions for the next bulletin to:  
[admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

We are happy to publish details about your news, information, events, training courses and conferences. Please send us the **English text** you want to be included in the bulletin.

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# INFORMATION FOR INCLUSION (ARTICLES) IN THE DEAFSCOTLAND MONTHLY BULLETIN

We appreciate the time that you take to send us your information, training, events, and news articles for the deafscotland bulletin. Sometimes we are not getting enough information, sometimes the information is not clear, and at other times, we have a great article, but no contact details.

In order that we get the information we need to put in the bulletin and you reach your intended audiences, we have put together a template that we would appreciate it if you use to send us information / articles.

We cannot use posters, but we are willing to “share” your posts on our Facebook and re-tweet your “tweets” on our Twitter account. You might have information on your website or YouTube or Vimeo in BSL (British Sign Language) – please share the links, so that we can.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTHLY EDITION – 24TH DAY OF EVERY MONTH

Organisation's name	
Article / news item	(Maximum 400 words)
Important date(s)	

Contact details for the bulletin	
Link(s) in social media – Facebook, Twitter, YouTube	

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