



# deafscotland Bulletin August 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.

---

## Monthly Newsletter for deafscotland Members

---

### Our Bulletin – do you like the changes?

We've moved the Bulletin back to monthly circulation.

We've added in new sections for 'Funding Opportunities' and 'Volunteering Opportunities'.

We've now got a fixed deadline for next monthly edition, which is the 24th of every month.

We've got more film clips from deafscotland news section.

We've listened to you! Are you happy with the changes? Have we missed anything? Do you have a better suggestion? Then please get in touch with us by email: [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

### deafscotland Membership

The deadline for renewing your membership has passed. If you haven't already been in touch with us regarding your invoice/quote or made your payment then you have until **12.00pm on Tuesday 06 August 2019**.

Those who haven't paid, you will be removed from our mailing lists from Wednesday 07 August 2019. This means you will be charged if you wish to have your articles in the future bulletins and will lose out on your discounts for training and events.

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

## **Self-Management Survey is now live!**

Our self-management survey is now live. To take part, please go to:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/73B9R56>

This survey will take no longer than 10 minutes and will give us information on who knows what about self-management and what gaps are out there. There is a BSL translation available alongside the English version.

If several people are filling in the survey from the same computer, you might have to clear the browsing history so that everyone can take part.

**DEADLINE: Monday 19 August 2019 at 12.00pm.**

## **deafscotland Training Programme**

Have you checked out our new 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/>.

### **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).

## **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 training / events sections by emailing us the details in the template at the end of this Bulletin to: [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## **Two major events!**

### **First National BSL Summit – British Sign Language**

On Monday 23 September 2019 in Glasgow

We're delighted to have Donald Richards and Joseph Sheridan co-chairing our First National BSL Summit.

The summit will be held at the Marriott Glasgow Hotel. For further information and tickets, please check our website – [www.deafscotland.org](http://www.deafscotland.org).

### **'Connect Us Too' Summit – Mental Health and deafness**

On Thursday 10 October 2019 in Edinburgh

We're pleased to have Nigel Henderson chairing our 'Connect Us Too' Summit.

The summit will be held at the Scottish Sensory Centre. For further information and tickets, please check our website – [www.deafscotland.org](http://www.deafscotland.org).

## **Opportunities:**

Please get in touch with us at deafscotland if you're interested in the following below:

- 1.) Sponsorship opportunities** – we do have limited sponsorship opportunities for both events if you are interested in sponsoring.
- 2.) Workshop opportunities** – we have a couple of workshops available for anyone wishing to deliver a workshop.
- 3.) Volunteering opportunities** – if you are interested in volunteering with us at both / either conferences.

For more information or if you have any questions, please get in touch with us by email: [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## **Cross Party Group on Deafness**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 04 September 2019 at the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh at 1.00pm-2.30pm. We have Minister Clare Haughey MSP joining us for the meeting. Please note this meeting will include the AGM.

If you would like to join the CPGD, please email the convenor, Mark Griffin MSP, copying in [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## **Growing the Virtual Museum for the deaf sector**

Our Virtual Museum has a lot of objects ready for the website. At the moment, we are looking for newspaper articles. If any of our members have some, please let us know. Why? We would like your history and achievements to be included.

For more information, please email us: [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## **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/>

## **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:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7TPJkTbihG9TYZXo89-peZecsv7alevF>

Best wishes, Janis & deafscotland Team

---

### **From The Scottish Parliament Local Government and Communities Committee Call for Written Evidence on the Long-Term Financial Sustainability of Local Government**

The Local Government and Communities Committee has today, Tuesday 2 July 2019, launched a call for written evidence on its pre-budget scrutiny into the long-term financial sustainability of local government. Views are welcome from the local government sector itself and from any experts or individuals with an interest in local government and local services and with views about how best to ensure that the sector has a sustainable future.

The call for written evidence can be found on our website at the following link:

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/112320.aspx>.

The call for views will close on **Friday 23 August 2019** and written submissions to the Committee should be completed and sent in electronic format no later than that date to:

[LocalGovernmentandCommunities@parliament.scot](mailto:LocalGovernmentandCommunities@parliament.scot). Submissions should ideally be no more than 4 A4 pages in length and we would also be grateful if you could read the [Parliament's privacy notice](#) before sending your views to the Committee.

Please contact a member of the Committee's clerking team if you have any queries about the inquiry or the Committee's call for views.

---

## **From Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists**

### **Dreaming of an Inclusive Communication Nation**

Wow – I was delighted to win the Inclusive Communication Champion of the Year 2019 award this year at deafscotland / DES conference.

Establishing communication equality by securing an inclusive communication nation is a personal ambition and a big priority for the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) where I work.

By way of thanks for my award – and with the view of working alongside deafscotland members – I thought I should let you know about some of the things RCSLT are up to on the inclusive communication front.

1. Supporting Social Security Scotland to embed inclusive communication best practice in every communication it does, every day, everywhere and in every way – in leaflets and posters, in letters, on line, on the phone, inside and outside buildings.
2. Advising Scottish Southern Electric Network about how they can help people who communicate differently register for a priority service recovery when electricity goes down anywhere in Scotland.
3. Setting up an Inclusive Communication Collaborative with others such as deafscotland to campaign to make Scotland an Inclusive Communication Nation. I hope this will include the roll out of the Communication Access Symbol and relevant standards across Scotland. See <https://www.rcslt.org/policy/uk-wide#section-3> for more information on this.

I'll keep deafscotland members posted on developments but please get in touch if you want to know more now.

#### **Contact Details:**

[Kim.hartleykean@rcslt.org](mailto:Kim.hartleykean@rcslt.org)

0131 226 5250

@rcsltscot

## **From contactSCOTLAND-BSL VRS For All and 24/7**

contactSCOTLAND-BSL is the Scottish Government's fully funded online BSL/English interpreting video relay service (VRS) delivered by Sign Language Interactions (SLi).

From Saturday 1 June 2019, contactSCOTLAND-BSL will be:  
**VRS For All and 24/7** – 365 days a year.

For the past 3 years Deaf and Deafblind BSL users were able to contact any public body in Scotland as well as any of the 1,000s of third sector/voluntary organisations between the hours of 8am and 12 midnight.

Although ground-breaking when launched in 2016, and a first for any country in the UK (and further afield), it was felt that access could be further improved by incorporating the ability to contact anyone without restrictions. Either by number or by time.

Quote from Clare Haughey MSP

“...Now the service is being enhanced so that, for the first time, users will be able to contact anyone they wish and at any time, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

I'm delighted to be able to support this innovation to help the users of the service to live as independently as possible.”

After all, it is all about equity and opportunity. Direct and independent communication to book a party for your child can be as important as calling the local council or health centre. We are extremely proud to be delivering and developing contactSCOTLAND-BSL and look forward to taking this service to the next level.

Our slogan is 'Go on, who do you want to call' Now this is so fitting and so true.

Calling government to garages, from health centres to hairdressers or from charities to Chinese takeaways the opportunities are endless.

---

## **From West Scotland Deaf Children's Society Endeavour Award**

Celebrating the success of deaf children and recognising their achievements has always been a core part of our work and will continue to be into the future. Following last year's launch of the West Scotland Deaf Children's Society Endeavour Award, the time has come again to ask you for this year's nominations.

The Award is open to children and young people across our age range: 0 -25 years.

Nominations can be made by families or professionals, recognising achievement in its widest sense – triumph over adversity, sporting and academic achievement, resilience and determination or being an inspiration to others.

The Award will be presented at the West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society AGM on 2nd November 2019.

An independent judging panel will help us determine the child or young person who receives the award. The family will be notified prior to the event.

### **HOW DO I NOMINATE A CHILD/YOUNG PERSON?**

Please email/write to us at:

[wsdcs@btconnect.com](mailto:wsdcs@btconnect.com)

OR

West Scotland Deaf Children's Society, 281a Central Chambers, 93 Hope Street, Glasgow G2 6LD

adding ENDEAVOUR AWARD in the title and answer the following:

Name of the child/young person

D.O.B.

Please tell us why you are nominating the child/young person in no more than 100 words.

Please tell us in less than 100 words how you believe they embody and deserve the award.

Please describe the child/young person in 5 words.

Please note your name and relationship to the child/young person.

**THE CLOSING DATE IS SUNDAY 13th OCTOBER!** We look forward to receiving nominations and celebrating the successes and achievements of all deaf children and young people in the West of Scotland.

## **From Research Institute for Disabled Consumers (RiDC)**

### **Deaf and disabled researchers wanted – join now!**

The Research Institute for Disabled Consumers (RiDC) – [www.ridc.org.uk](http://www.ridc.org.uk) – is a leading UK expert in user-centred research involving disabled and older consumers. An independent charity with over 50 years' experience of specialist research, RiDC has an active consumer research panel.

**The RiDC panel consists of people of all ages throughout the UK who've a wide range of disabilities, experience, knowledge and insight.**

Or if you haven't signed up yet, just do it – now.

[Join the RiDC consumer research panel online now](#)

To sign up over the phone, ring us on 020 7427 2460. We'll ring you back at a convenient time for you.

[Find out more about RiDC's consumer research panel](#)

Check out a new product review website [called Rate it! – product reviews by and for disabled people](#).

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RiDCUK/>

Twitter: [@RiDC UK](#)

Contact Chris Lofthouse: [chrislofthouse@ridc.org.uk](mailto:chrislofthouse@ridc.org.uk)

---

## **From Transport Scotland**

### **Accessible Travel Annual Delivery Plan 2019/20**

Transport Scotland has just published the first Annual Delivery Plan in conjunction with the Accessible Travel Framework and the Plan is now available on the Transport Scotland website.

The report can be accessed using the link below (PDF format):

<http://bit.ly/2xeCJI6>

---

## **From NHS 24**

### **contactSCOTLAND-BSL now available 24/7**

contactSCOTLAND-BSL is a Scottish Government funded service that allows BSL users to make calls through an online BSL / English Interpreter.

Before the service was only available from 8am to midnight, **but it's been extended and is now available 24/7, every day of the year.**

**So if you're not well, and you can't wait until your GP practice reopens**, you can **call NHS 24** via contact SCOTLAND-BSL at any time. This video shows you what will happen: <https://vimeo.com/256780230>

If you're feeling anxious, stressed or low you can call **Breathing Space** via contactSCOTLAND-BSL (lines are open Monday to Thursday, 6pm to 2am; weekends: Friday 6pm to Monday 6am).

You can also use contact SCOTLAND-BSL to call other NHS 24 services:

**NHS inform** (0800 22 44 88) for health information and advice. Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8am to 10pm; weekends 9am to 5pm.

**Care Information Scotland** (0800 011 3200) for information and advice for carers. Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8am to 10pm; weekends 9am to 5pm.

**Quit Your Way Scotland** (0800 84 84 84) if you need help to stop smoking. Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8am to 10pm; weekends 9am to 5pm.

**Musculoskeletal (MSK) Helpline** (0800 917 9390) if you have symptoms of MSK disorders, for example back pain or sports injuries. Lines are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

**For more about contactSCOTLAND-BSL** services visit their website [contactscotland-bsl.org](https://contactscotland-bsl.org) or watch their short video presentation <https://contactscotland-bsl.org/online-presentation/>

**For more about how NHS 24 are working to foster equality** of access to our services through communication methods, please email Maurice Laneres (Maurice.Laneres@nhs24.scot.nhs.uk), Participation and Equalities Team.

## **From UK Government**

**UK Government:** Injustices faced by disabled people in the workplace, at home and in the community will be tackled head-on through a new package of measures ordered by the Prime Minister.

Workplace changes will apply in Scotland. For more information, go

to: [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-drive-to-tackle-barriers-faced-by-disabled-people?utm\\_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.dwp.gov.uk%2fdwplz%2f&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Touchbase+135&utm\\_term=Touchbase+135&utm\\_content=4575](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-drive-to-tackle-barriers-faced-by-disabled-people?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.dwp.gov.uk%2fdwplz%2f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Touchbase+135&utm_term=Touchbase+135&utm_content=4575)

---

## **From Forth Valley Sensory Centre**

### **Two appointments for Forth Valley Sensory Centre**

Forth Valley Sensory Centre has welcomed two new starts this week with Linsey Stocks arriving as Groups and Activities Coordinator and Kirsty Banks taking up the role of Project Manager for Climate Challenge Fund Project; 'Making Sense of Energy Saving'.

Linsey joins from Morrisons where she was the Community Champion for Falkirk, working closely with a wide range of local schools and charities. Kirsty spent over ten years with Stirling based Town Break and has lots of experience of working with vulnerable people, including those with sensory loss.

Centre Manager Jacquie Winning said; "We are delighted to have brought in two high calibre and experienced people who have so much affinity for the needs of our Centre Users. Both these roles require great understanding and communication. We are confident that Linsey and Kirsty will continue to improve the level of support and assistance we provide for people in Forth Valley of all ages who have a sensory impairment."

Groups and Activities form a key part of Forth Valley Sensory Centre's service to blind, partially sighted, deaf and hard of hearing people in Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire. The Centre offers outreach groups as well as a wide variety of classes, including; knitting, art, self-defence, walking, curling and a conversational BSL class.

Commenting on her appointment, Linsey Stocks said; “I’m really looking forward to this challenge. As a person with hearing loss myself, I understand many of the problems that people can face. The Centre is very much about increasing confidence and supporting people to be as independent as possible. Sensory loss can quickly lead people to become isolated in their own homes, the groups and classes on offer help to prevent that, keeping people happy, active and engaged in a relaxed, social environment.”

Making Sense of Energy Saving is a new project, which aims to make information on climate change accessible to people with sensory loss. At present, little information on how to save energy, reduce carbon output and cut energy bills is available in accessible formats. Kirsty will be working across Forth Valley to help people get the support they need.

Kirsty Banks said; “Climate change is a huge topic at the moment and we are all being encouraged to do our bit and help Scotland achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2045. However, many older people also struggle with energy bills and are unaware of the steps they can take to provide more efficient heating for their homes, save energy, cut bills and help the environment at the same time. Our free, impartial advice will be available in a wide range of formats from British Sign Language to braille, helping ‘make sense’ of energy saving.”

Both roles include funding from The Scottish Government’s Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) via Greener Scotland. The CCF is a Scottish Government grant programme, managed and administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful. The CCF provides funding and support for community groups to help tackle climate change by running projects that reduce local carbon emissions.

You can find out more about the work of Forth Valley Sensory Centre, including all the groups and classes as well as energy information on the website at [www.forthvalleysensorycentre.org](http://www.forthvalleysensorycentre.org) or follow @FVSensoryCentre on Twitter and Facebook.

### **About Forth Valley Sensory Centre**

Forth Valley Sensory Centre has been supporting people in Forth Valley with sensory impairment and their families for over 12 years. The Centre acts as a Community Hub, offering support, advice, practical help and social opportunities.

The overall objective of Forth Valley Sensory Centre, is to help people who have a sensory impairment live as independently as possible. The Centre is owned and run by Forth Valley Sensory Centre Trust which is a partnership of RNIB Scotland, Action on Hearing Loss, NHS Forth Valley, Falkirk Council and Stirling Council. The Forth Valley Sensory Centre Trust is a registered charity (SC034267) and a company limited by guarantee.

### **About The Climate Challenge Fund**

The Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) is a Scottish Government grant programme, managed and administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful. The CCF provides funding and support for community groups to help tackle climate change by running projects that reduce local carbon emissions. The CCF has awarded over 1,100 grants since its introduction in 2008, for projects involving energy efficiency, sustainable travel, local food and resource efficiency. Total CCF funding since 2008 has exceeded £104 million.

Further details from [www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/ccf](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/ccf)

**Media enquiries:** Martin Allen, Forth Valley Sensory Centre Tel: 01324 590 888 Email: [martinallen@forthvalleysensorycentre.org](mailto:martinallen@forthvalleysensorycentre.org)

---

## **From National Deaf Children's Society Scotland Everyone Together Project**

In 2019 we are celebrating the third year of our Everyone Together project in Scotland, you can read more about their work [here](#). This project is due to come to an end in September, we will continue to support families and professionals in the early years and are currently planning what comes next. We would love to hear from you about what you have valued over the past three years, please let us know at: [earlyyearsscotland@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:earlyyearsscotland@ndcs.org.uk)

Facebook - @NDCSScotland

<https://www.facebook.com/NDCSScotland/>

Twitter - @NDCS\_Scotland [https://twitter.com/ndcs\\_scotland](https://twitter.com/ndcs_scotland)

YouTube -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi6DvQHbWiFqcQuNabqMO6w>

---

## **From Alzheimer Scotland Fair Dementia Care**

**On Tuesday 4 June, marking Dementia Awareness Week, the Scottish Parliament debated Fair Dementia Care.** We are delighted that MSPs from all parties spoke out to support our campaign. If you want to read all the speeches, you can do so by [clicking here](#), or if you want to watch what happened, you can do so by [clicking here](#).

In the end, a massive **53 MSPs supported the Fair Dementia Care motion**. This would not have happened without the efforts of our campaign supporters asking their MSPs to back the campaign. We will now ask those MSPs to follow up on their support for the campaign in Parliament by committing to ensuring that their party supports Fair Dementia Care in their next manifesto. We can help them to take this forward by showing them the support that exists across the country for Fair Dementia Care.

---

## **From National Records Scotland Census (Amendment)(Scotland) Bill passed**

**New questions can be asked – but answering will be voluntary.**

New voluntary questions can be asked in Scotland's 2021 Census on transgender status and history, and sexual orientation, following the passing of the Census (Amendment)(Scotland) Bill last Wednesday. The Bill will make changes to the 1920 Census Act to enable National Records of Scotland to ask these questions on a voluntary basis. The final proposed questions will be laid before the Scottish Parliament for agreement before the census takes place.

Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop, said:

“Our country has relied on the census for over 200 years and it remains the best way to gather the information government, councils, NHS and other users need.

“This is an important Bill that will enable questions on transgender status and history, and sexual orientation to be asked on a voluntary basis for the very first time, with no penalty for not answering them.

“It is widely accepted that there are currently data gaps on sexual orientation and trans status. Including questions on these demographics in the census will provide valuable data for public service planning purposes and will help public bodies meet duties under the Equality Act 2010.”

Paul Lowe, Registrar General for Scotland, said:

“National Records of Scotland are consulting extensively with groups all over Scotland to develop and test proposed questions to ensure they are supported by the public.

“By asking questions which reflect a modern, inclusive Scotland, we will ensure the census will continue to be a vital source of information for decades to come.”

The power to ask new questions on a compulsory basis already exists in the Census Act 1920 but refusing to answer a census question or neglecting to do so is an offence under the section 8 of the Census Act 1920. This Bill allows questions on sexual orientation and trans status and history to be asked on a voluntary basis. These questions are aimed at improving data used for public service planning purposes and will be entirely voluntary.

## **Background**

You can read the details of the bill, including the Official Report of last Wednesday’s debate, on the [Scottish Parliament’s website](#).

Scotland’s next census will take place on Sunday 21 March 2021, subject to the approval of the Scottish Parliament.

[Plans for Scotland's Census 2021](#) include details on question development, privacy and confidentiality, collecting and publishing information and the legislative process.

A census is organised in Scotland every 10 years and collects information on households and individuals to inform public services, policy and research.

Scotland's Registrars General have taken responsibility for the country's census since 1861.

## **National Statistics Accreditation**

Today we have published our report "[How the National Records of Scotland is ensuring Census 2021 is trustworthy, high quality and of value to users](#)". This is our first step towards measuring our progress against the Code and will form part of the Office for Statistics Regulation assessment.

**You can now follow us on Facebook and Twitter @scotcensus2021 to keep up to date with what's happening with Scotland's Census 2021.**

---

## **From the Scottish Government Social Security Directorate**

The Scottish Government is planning to be responsible for the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) benefit from 2021.

We want to find out about the experiences people have when being assessed for PIP. This is so we can improve the assessment process and make it easier to understand.

We are hoping to start research as soon as possible. It should last until midway through next year sometime.

We will never give the participants name to anyone else.

We use what people tell us for research only. Nothing someone tells us will affect any the benefits they get.

We do everything we can to protect the participants identity and personal details. We will also ensure that the research session itself does not create any undue stress or anxiety. We will book BSL/English interpreters when required, who are registered with an appropriate registration body, and/or is somebody who the individual specifically requests.

Would you be able to help me find people that we can talk to?

Please contact Clare Young for more information by email:  
[Claire.Young@gov.scot](mailto:Claire.Young@gov.scot).

---

## **From Social Security Scotland Best Start Grant School Age Payment Now Open for Applications**

Social Security Scotland's new Best Start Grant School Age Payment is now open for applications on-line and by phone. Our stakeholder toolkit is also now available.

To make sure that people are aware of the payment and we get this additional money into the pockets of the families who need it we would once again appreciate if you could help raise awareness of the payment through your organisation and networks.

The payment itself will provide families in Scotland, who are on a low income, with £250 to help with the costs of a child starting school. People can apply around the time a child normally starts Primary 1 and if they get certain benefits or tax credits. For this year that means if their child is born on or between 1 March 2014 to 28 Feb 2015. Applications can be made from 3 June 2019 until 29 February 2020 either online at [www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant](http://www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant) or by contacting our Freephone helpline on 0800 182 2222. The helpline is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm.

The Best Start Grant School Age Payment is the third in our Best Start Grant package of payments that is providing extra money to families in Scotland who are on a low income to help support their child during their early years. For that reason we are keen that people are aware of their entitlement and know how to apply. The assistance that you have already provided in helping promote the Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby and Early Learning Payments has been of enormous benefit. For instance within the first two days of the Early Learning Payment being launched in April we received over 6,000 applications. We want to build on this and with the valuable support that you provide to people and communities meaning that the payment could benefit the families you support any help you and your teams can provide in raising awareness and uptake will be indispensable.

To support you in this we have created a specific Best Start Grant School Age Payment toolkit containing materials for your use. This includes fact sheets on eligibility and how and when to apply, posters, articles that can be used in local newsletters and staff updates and social media posts. These can all be accessed on our website at <https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/what-we-do/stakeholder->

[resources](#) along with our previous toolkits. It would be extremely helpful if you could share this with your wider teams and networks. Also if you are able to share any posts from our social media channels @SocSecScot on Twitter and Social Security Scotland on Facebook that would be really helpful.

Please also let us know if you have a specific need in regards to communications products and we will do our best to accommodate this.

Social Security Scotland's Local Delivery Team are also 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.

---

## **Social Security Scotland Snapshot**

### **New school age payment launched**

A brand new benefit for low income families is now open for applications. The £250 School Age Payment is for families with a child old enough to start primary school this August.

The payment is part of the Best Start Grant, a package of three payments for families in receipt of eligible benefits - including Universal Credit, Income Support, Housing Benefit and tax credits - to help at key stages in a child's life.

Social Security Scotland received 9000 applications for the payment in its first week, an exceptional response that shows what a difference we can make.

There is a [toolkit](#) available with lots of useful resources.

To read further click the link below:

<https://mailchi.mp/38069e199adf/social-security-scotland-october-newsletter-350259?e=c44cbb34cb>

---

## **From the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (The ALLIANCE)**

### **Humans of Scotland Campaign**

The ALLIANCE is currently running a project that gives a voice to those living with long term conditions, disabilities, as unpaid carers and those working to provide support and services, through storytelling.

The project is social media based with stories being shared on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and also on The ALLIANCE's website to reach as many people as possible. The stories take the form of a short body of text of 300 words and an accompanying photograph.

Here is a link to a call for stories on our website for more information: <https://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/blog/news/human-of-scotland-series-call-for-stories/>

---

## **From SignVideo Launches The UK's First Free BSL Business Directory**

SignVideo launches the UK's first Deaf British Sign Language (BSL) Business Directory on their app, with a key difference. SignVideo is investing in Deaf BSL entrepreneurs offering them, free of charge, the opportunity to attract more Deaf BSL customers to their services through a simple click.

The new BSL Business Directory aims to promote and build a new mindset that focuses on the development of a BSL "Ecosystem" concept within the Deaf BSL community.

Deaf tradespeople and/or business owners wishing to register their business on the SignVideo app BSL Business Directory are welcome to add themselves by [registering here](#) or visiting [www.signvideo.co.uk/business-directory](http://www.signvideo.co.uk/business-directory). Download our app by searching "SignVideo" on the Apple or Play app store or from [here](#).

---

## **From The Butterfly Project**

The Butterfly Project delivers a specialist service to the Deaf community for the improvement of their overall health and wellbeing. It provides the individual with support to understand their condition/behaviour and offers tools to transcend it. It is a one-stop-shop and works fast making it economical and beneficial to both the individual and the service provider.

Created by MawdsLeigh and delivered by The Butterfly Project we are excited to offer an amazing new program called The Masks. We suffer because of the many Masks we wear and think in our mind we are ok because we are pleasing everyone else but, in the process, we ignore and neglect our natural "Self" and why we suffer mentally physically and emotionally. We gain weight, get depressed and stressed suffer from anxiety and harm ourselves in many ways!

By dropping the Masks you wear you can be what you truly are.

This program is the beginning of a beautiful journey and an insight into "Who am I? and in this experience you will find your freedom to design and live your life exactly the way you want to experience it!

If you are interested in booking a program and transforming your life or you are a company that supports Deaf clients contact me.

Dates for workshops or 1:1 sessions can be arranged as required.

### **Contact Details:**

Paula Marshall

Phone/text: 07886283505

Email: [paula@thebutterflyprojectltd.co.uk](mailto:paula@thebutterflyprojectltd.co.uk)

---

## **From Glasgow Life Opportunity to be a Glasgow Life Mystery Visitor**

Get the most out of Glasgow Life.

Would you like to become a Mystery Visitor for Glasgow Life? Can you be objective? Do you have good observation skills? If so then Glasgow Life wants to hear from YOU!

No experience necessary – full training given.

For further details and to sign up email:

[mysteryvisitors@glasgowlife.org.uk](mailto:mysteryvisitors@glasgowlife.org.uk) or call 0141 276 9720 and ask for Gerry McVay.

---

## **From Scottish Government Delivery of Disability Assistance to start in 2020**

Responsibility for all devolved benefits, including their funding, will sit with the Scottish Government from 1 April next year (2020), with delivery for disability benefits rolled out shortly after.

The system will have a redesigned application process and significantly fewer face to face assessments, which will be carried out through the agency by qualified assessors and audio-recorded as standard. There will be rolling awards with no set end points and those with fluctuating health conditions will not face additional reviews due to regular changes in needs related to their condition. We will also move the burden of collecting information from the client to Social Security Scotland.

For the full report click the following link:

<https://news.gov.scot/news/delivery-of-disability-assistance-to-start-in-2020>

---

## **From NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde eHEALTH INNOVATIONS**

There are a number of innovative eHealth projects going live across GGC and last week we highlighted two which are helping patients get their care more locally. The first is a joint project with NHS Western Isles. One of our orthopaedic surgeons, Grzegorz Sianos, who specialises in hand surgery, is offering video conference clinics in collaboration with physiotherapists in NHS Western Isles that allows patients in the isles to receive their initial assessments via video, in order to prevent unnecessary travel to mainland Scotland.

The second eHealth innovation is the introduction of remote video consultations on physiotherapy for patients with respiratory conditions which has now gone live in the north sector of NHSGGC. Thanks to a new streamlined approach to physiotherapy advice patients can seek information virtually rather than physically attending a traditional clinic setting. Accessing the service through an app from a phone, PC or tablet, allows the patient to remain at home or work and get the physiotherapy advice and support they need for their condition.

**You can find out about all these stories and more by visiting the website below:**

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/about-us/media-centre/>

---

## **From Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)**

### **New Resources for Advisors**

We are pleased to share with you a selection of new resources. We hope these will help you when you're assisting someone who might have been discriminated against.

[Employment Toolkit](#) and Housing Toolkit – useful step-by-step guides for dealing with potential cases of discrimination.

The Commission recently funded Citizens Advice and Citizens Advice Scotland to produce these two online toolkits for those who are advising victims of discrimination – one focussed on employment and the other on housing.

Speaking about the toolkits, Citizens Advice Scotland's CEO Derek Mitchell said: "These toolkits are a great example of what joint working across organisations can achieve. They will enable people to identify instances of discrimination and take appropriate action, helping make our society fairer."

[New Scotland guide on discrimination and the benefits system](#) – a comprehensive resource for anyone working on discrimination issues in the context of benefits.

---

## **From ScotRail Queen Street Station Update**

As you will know there are ongoing works at Glasgow Queen Street station, which will deliver a new fully accessible station by 2020. When the project work started, we issued some communications to advise customers of the disruption and also the measures we have put in place for customers who require assistance. As it is actually now over a year since these were issued, I think it is worthwhile reminding you of the assistance measures so that you can pass this message on to anyone who uses the station.

As part of our commitment to passengers requiring assisted travel during the works at Glasgow Queen Street Station, an interim Passenger Assist process was put in place in January 2018 at Queen Street Station.

The Passenger Assist stand is positioned by the North Hanover Street entrance of the station, and is staffed Monday to Saturday 07.00-21.00, and Sunday 10.00-18.00. If the desk is unstaffed then passengers will be advised to approach any member of station staff who will provide assistance.

Any customers who book assistance have the option to be dropped off at the 'drop-off/pick-up point' in front of the Millennium Hotel on George Square (either taxi rank or loading bay). A member of our staff can be requested to meet the customer at the drop off point so they can provide assistance into the station, where a member of station staff will ensure they are supported for onward travel.

Similarly, if a passenger arrives in Queen Street, they can request assistance to be escorted to the pick-up point by one of the passenger assist team.

During the works, we strongly recommend customers book assistance if they will require help from the taxi drop off point into the station.

ScotRail's social media team will be proactively reminding customers of the above arrangements.

---

---

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

---

### **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.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainability-climate-change/climate-challenge-fund/applying-for-ccf-funding/development-grants/>

---

### **Les Mills Fund For Children**

Grants of up to £1,000 for registered charities and non-profit organisations who work to improve the education and physical and emotional wellbeing of children. Applicants applying for funding may focus on one or more of these areas: Living in Poverty; Physical & Mental Health Problems; Health & Wellbeing; Living With Disability.

<https://lesmillsfundforchildren.org.uk/apply/>

## **Finnis Scott Foundation**

Charities and charitable organisations - including school Parent Teacher Associations – are eligible to apply for grants of between £500 and £10,000 to support horticulture, plant sciences, fine art and art history projects. Grants awarded may cover capital or revenue expenditure. Preference is given to smaller organisations where the grant will have a significant impact. Apply by the 20th September 2019 for the next trustees meeting of the Finnis Scott Foundation.

<https://www.finnis-scott-foundation.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/>

---

## **Inter Faith Youth Trust Small Grants Programme for young people**

Maximum value: £800

The Inter Faith Youth Trust offers grants to organisations throughout the UK for projects taking place during the annual Inter Faith week.

The scheme aims to fund projects providing informal inter faith educational projects for young people, in order to improve collaboration and understanding between religious groups.

[http://www.ifyouthtrust.org.uk/?page\\_id=8](http://www.ifyouthtrust.org.uk/?page_id=8)

---

## **Hilden Charitable Fund**

Grants of an average of £5,000 are available to charities working at community level in the UK and developing countries on causes which are less likely to be able to raise funds from public subscriptions.

In the UK: Hilden's grant making priorities are: Homelessness, Penal Affairs, Asylum Seekers and Refugees, and Community Based initiatives for Disadvantaged Young People Aged 16 to 25.

The next closing date is Thursday 12th September 2019

<http://www.hildencharitablefund.org.uk/>

---

## EVENTS

---

### **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

---

### **The Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh**

Join Deaf presenter John Hay for a BSL tour through the historic Mary Queen of Scots' apartments at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

After John's tour use our new BSL multimedia guide to explore the rest of the Palace.

Tickets must be booked in advance and 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/whatson/event/928082/Mary-Queen-of-Scots:-BSL-tour>

Saturday 12 October, 09:30-11:30

To book:

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

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

0303 123 7324

---

## **The Queen's Gallery, Edinburgh**

Join Deaf presenter Trudi Collier for a BSL tour through the **Russia, Royalty & The Romanovs** exhibition at The Queen's Gallery.

Trudi will explore the exhibition highlights which tell the story of the familial, political, and artistic relationship between Britain and Russia.

Tickets must be booked in advance and cost £3.80. Tickets can be converted into a 1-Year Pass for free re-entry to the Gallery for a year.

<https://www.rct.uk/whatson/event/928205/Russia:-BSL-tour>

Tuesday 8 October, 18:30-20:30

To book:

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

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

0303 123 7324

---

## **From National Galleries Scotland**

### **BSL tours at National Galleries of Scotland**

Welcome to our exciting new programme of upcoming BSL tours, March to September 2019. All of our tours for adults are led by a Deaf guide in BSL. There will be a Deaf volunteer to greet you, and all participants are invited to enjoy light refreshments in our education rooms afterwards.

For more information on various BSL tours:

<https://mailchi.mp/nationalgalleries/bsl-march2019?e=2732580272>

---

## **From Historic Environment Scotland**

### **Stirling Castle BSL Tours**

Join us to explore the Castle with Deaf tour guide John Hay, whose BSL tour will be translated into English by interpreter Linda Duncan. The tour will run at 10:30am and is included in the admission price.

On the same day at 3pm, we're running a free BSL tour of the Engine Shed - Scotland's national conservation centre. You can buy your tickets on the day or book your place in advance.

Tour will take place on Saturday 5 October 2019.

For further information about the BSL tours, please contact:  
Historic Environment Scotland Interpretation **Sally Gall**,  
[sally.gall@hes.scot](mailto:sally.gall@hes.scot)

The link to the event online:

<https://www.stirlingcastle.scot/whatson/events/british-sign-language-tours/>

The link directly to the video detailing the events:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5L7rbyTrc>

---

## **Edinburgh Castle BSL Tours**

Explore Edinburgh Castle and Edinburgh's Deaf history with Deaf tour guide John Hay, whose BSL tour will be translated into English by interpreter Linda Duncan. Tours will run at 10am, 12noon and 2:30pm and are included in the admission price. You can buy your tickets on the day or book your place in advance.

Tour will take place on Saturday 21 September 2019.

<https://www.edinburghcastle.scot/whatson/events/british-sign-language-tours>

Here is the link directly to the video detailing the events-

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPP6\\_fRkLJw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPP6_fRkLJw)

---

## **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.

---

## **From Disability Equality Scotland Accessible Travel Event**

Disability Equality Scotland would like to invite you to their Accessible Travel Event, please feel free to circulate this around relevant stakeholders.

It would be extremely beneficial to get local service providers round the table for this event. As you may be aware we have recently launched our first annual delivery plan <http://bit.ly/2xeCJl6> and a key part of the implementation is to work with local stakeholders to improve accessible travel.

Disability Equality Scotland are working closely with Transport Scotland to host a series of events to discuss accessible travel in different areas of Scotland. Their next event will be taking place in Irvine, North Ayrshire and we wanted to ensure a good representation from local transport providers.

I thought it would be helpful to provide you with some background. Disability Equality Scotland is working with Transport Scotland to deliver on the Accessible Travel Framework; the ten-year plan to improve public transport for disabled people. To do this, they have held events in different locations which bring together local disabled people and other equalities groups with local transport providers, to discuss local issues. This gives disabled people and service providers the opportunity to share their experience of some of the challenges they face when using and providing public transport and developing solutions to meet local needs.

### ***Details of the next event:***

12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 from 1.00pm – 4.00pm  
Fullarton ConneXions,  
Church Street,  
Irvine KA12 8PE

The event will consist of presentations and group discussions, and there will be an opportunity for organisations to host a stall from 12noon.

There are limited spaces, and we would encourage you to send one or two representatives from your organisation to attend. To book, there is an Eventbrite page following this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/accessible-travel-event-ayrshire-tickets-64799500049> or contact Disability Equality Scotland directly to book a place on 01259 270264.

We look forward to welcoming you on 12 September  
Best wishes

Emma Scott  
Operations Manager  
T: 01259 272063

---

## From Holyrood (Magazine)

Our forthcoming [Social Media and Children's Mental Health](#) event (9 October, Edinburgh) is shaping up and you are still on time to get your early bird discount!

We have a great outline of speakers ready to discuss the impact of social media usage on our children's mental wellbeing. We're pleased to announce that among them will be Lesley Franklin, Principal of George Heriot's School, who will discuss how to best promote a healthy social media life in the classroom.

For more information visit the following link:

<https://www.holyrood.com/event/social-media-and-children%E2%80%99s-mental-health>

---

## From V&A Dundee

### V&A Dundee Access Tours

V&A Dundee runs accessible tours for visitors with sensory loss. We offer monthly British Sign Language interpreted tours for D/deaf visitors and live described tours for those with a visual impairment.

These guided tours run on the first Monday and second Sunday of every month and have a capacity of 15 people. Tickets are free, can be booked online and be used by groups or individuals.

All tours run in the afternoon but the timings of each will vary slightly depending on the type of tour it is. We recommend people arrive 5- 10 minutes before the tour is due to start.

The three tours available are:

**Creating V&A Dundee** – the incredible story of the building’s design and construction\*

**The Scottish Design Galleries** – our permanent collection showcasing over 500 years of Scottish creativity and innovation

**Our major exhibitions** – please check our website for more information

If you would like more information on any of these tours or what other facilities V&A Dundee has for visitors with sensory loss, please contact the museum on 01382 411611 or email [access@vandadundee.org](mailto:access@vandadundee.org)

In addition to our BSL interpreted tours, V&A Dundee has a limited number of portable assisted hearing devices and can use these to run any guided tour as an amplified tour, for individuals who are hard-of-hearing. If you would like to use our portable hearing loops, simply mention this at time of booking.

---

## **From South Ayrshire Council Free Personal Safety Courses**

Every Thursday at the **Forth Valley Sensory Centre** in Falkirk from 11.30am – 12.30pm beginning **11th July**;

Every Wednesday at the **Disability Resource Centre** in Paisley from 11am – 12noon beginning **17th July**;

And every Wednesday at **Deafblind Scotland’s Rehabilitation Centre** in Kirkintilloch from 2pm - 3pm beginning **17th July**.

---

## **From National Deaf Children Society Scotland**

Join the National Deaf Children's Society Scotland on Sunday 24 August 2019 for a chance to try out surfing and bodyboarding!

A free event for ages 8+ to come and experience a fun and different sport in a safe, fun and supportive environment with help from fully qualified deaf-aware instructors.

Where? Suds Surf School, Sandend, Banff. AB45 2UB

When? Sunday 24 August at 2pm - 4pm Communication support will be provided and siblings are welcome.

To find out more or to book now email [swimming@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:swimming@ndcs.org.uk) or call 0141 354 7860

---

## **Get Your Child Ready for School Information Days on 14 and 15 September 2019**

Preparing your child for school can be a challenging task for any family. This event is an opportunity for parents and carers with deaf children who are pre-school age (2-4) to learn about supporting your child at school and to share experiences with other families.

To book your place today email [events@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:events@ndcs.org.uk) or call 0141 354 7841

Contact Information:

Claire Ballantyne – Communications Assistant

[Claire.ballantyne@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:Claire.ballantyne@ndcs.org.uk)

0141 354 7861

---

## **From British Deaf Association Scotland Deaf Photography Day in Edinburgh**

BDA Scotland would like to let you know that Deaf Roots & Pride Scotland will have an event for Deaf young people. Come along to our Deaf Photography Day around the beautiful streets of Edinburgh. Two Deaf photographers will take you on a walking tour of the city of Edinburgh and teach you how to take photos. Please bring your own cameras for this event (no mobile phones).

**Who for: Deaf young people aged 8-20 years old**  
**Where: Meet at Deaf Action, 39 Albany Street, Edinburgh.**  
**When: Saturday 17 August 2019 10a.m. to 4p.m**

BSL/English Interpreters provided. Deadline for booking is **Friday 9th August.**

Contact James Barnes-Miller at [mentorscot.drp@bda.org.uk](mailto:mentorscot.drp@bda.org.uk) or SMS/Facetime 07814 675589

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=322102192027095>

---

BDA Scotland Deaf Roots and Pride Project is hosting a joint **Taste Your Future (S1 – S6) and Dream Big (P4 – P7)** careers event at **Forth Valley Sensory Centre, Redbrae Road, Camelon, Falkirk, FK1 4DD** on **Friday 30 August 2019** from **10am – 2pm** for Deaf young people across central Scotland.

The Deaf young people who attend will have the opportunity to meet Deaf adults who work in a range of different fields throughout the day and take part in practical workshops. We hope to have a mix of professions and organisations represented. This event will give Deaf young people the opportunity to find out more about what is involved in a few career options, inspire them to think about their own future career and hopefully to have some fun too! Teachers and parents are welcome. BSL/English interpreters and electronic note taker will be provided.

Numbers will be limited due to number of workshops and venue size so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Please contact British Deaf Association as below for more details. Poster and Facebook link to follow.

**Deadline for booking forms – Tuesday 20 August 2019**  
**Taste Your Future/Dream Big – Friday 30 August 2019 10a.m. to 2p.m.**

Lesley Winning  
DRP Administrator  
[Adminscot.drp@bda.org.uk](mailto:Adminscot.drp@bda.org.uk)  
0141 248 5565 or 07814 675210

## **From Hearing Link Scotland LinkUp Groups – dates announced for 2019**

Hearing Link will host two LinkUp groups in Scotland later this year for people living with hearing loss and their partners or family members.

The programme will take place on the following dates:

### **Edinburgh – 27 - 29 September 2019**

If you are struggling to manage your hearing and would find it helpful to share your experiences with like-minded people, then please get in touch.

LinkUps are led by experienced volunteers who have a sensitive understanding of what it means to live with hearing loss, many of whom also have personal experience. These courses aim to give you, a partner, family member or friend the information to help you each better manage the changes hearing loss can bring.

Communication support will be made available including hearing loops and Speech-To-Text-Reporting (STTR) where you can follow what is being said on a screen.

Accommodation and meals are provided. All you need to cover is your own travel costs.

To find out more about LinkUps and to register your interest in attending, visit [www.hearinglink.org/services/linkups](http://www.hearinglink.org/services/linkups).

Alternatively email [helpdesk@hearinglink.org](mailto:helpdesk@hearinglink.org).

---

## **From 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.

---

## **From Action on Elder Abuse Action on Elder Abuse Scotland 2019 national conference**

**'Ageing in Scotland: Justice, Injustice & Protection'**

***How can we continue to make Scotland a just & safe place for older people?***

**4<sup>th</sup> September, Hilton Hotel (William Street) Glasgow**

This year's conference will consider society's perception of older people in modern Scotland, and the ways in which support structure reflect the unique dynamics of older age in relation to harm, abuse and exploitation. We'll be considering criminal justice, adult support and protection, and other support structures, looking at how we can work towards a more just and safe Scotland for older people.

**Contributors include:**

**Humza Yousaf (Cabinet Secretary for Justice)**

**Steven Fitzpatrick (a personal perspective of elder abuse)**

**Sandra McDonald (former Public Guardian)**

**Paul Greenwood (retired Deputy District Attorney, San Diego)**

**Kathryn McKay & Dr. Fiona Sherwood-Johnson (Stirling University)**

Find out more and book your place: <http://bit.ly/AEAconf>

The best way for people to keep up to date with this and other news about our organisation is to sign up to our newsletter... <https://www.elderabuse.org.uk/forms/sign-up-for-our-newsletter>

---

## **From Generations Working Together**

The next Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire intergenerational network meeting is taking place on Friday 4th of October between 2:30pm - 4:30pm at Bishopbriggs Library, 170 Kirkintilloch Rd, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow G64 2LX.

The event is open to all from Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire and is free to attend. The aim of the meeting is to network with others, share your projects and learn about what we have been up to. Please register by following the link below. The minutes of the previous meetings can also be seen on the network page.

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/networks/glasgow>

---

## **From West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society**

### **WSDCS AGM / Fun Day – Save The Date**

Another year has passed by in a flash which means it's almost time for our AGM and Family Fun Day!

The event will take place on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at St Mirin's Cathedral Hall in Paisley from 12-4pm**. There will be food, music, a raffle, face-painting, awards and entertainment.

Last year it was suggested we try an alternative venue but due to availability and suitability, we have chosen to use St Mirin's again. I'm sure you'll agree it is a great venue for what will be a great day!

Further details and reminder will be sent out nearer the time but if you wish to attend, please let us know by contacting **0141 243 2958** or [wsdcs@btconnect.com](mailto:wsdcs@btconnect.com)

---

## CONSULTATIONS

---

### **From various Consultation Groups at the Scottish Government Languages Strategic Implementation Group Education**

The Scottish Government has published the minutes of the meeting that took place in January 2019: the 18th meeting of the language learning Strategic Implementation Group (SIG). To read the minutes, go to:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/languages-strategic-implementation-group-minutes-january-2019/>

---

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

Scottish Government has published the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) summary for the revision of the Charter of Patient Rights and Responsibilities (2019). For more information, go to:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/revision-charter-patient-rights-responsibilities-eqia-summary/>

---

### **Barrier to employment in early learning and childcare**

Scottish Government has published a paper on “Barriers to employment in early learning and childcare: EQIA”.

This equality impact assessment (EQIA) was undertaken to consider barriers faced by those with protected characteristics to taking up employment in the early learning and childcare (ELC) sector and how we can use the opportunity of the expansion to increase the diversity of the ELC workforce. To read the paper, go to:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/equalities-impact-assessment-considering-barriers-employment-early-learning-childcare-sector/>

---

## **Patient rights and responsibilities**

Scottish Government has published the “Patient rights and responsibilities: charter” again.

The **Charter of Patient Rights and Responsibilities** (the ‘charter’) summarises what you are entitled to when you use NHS services and receive NHS care in Scotland, and what you can do if you feel that your rights have not been respected. For more information, go to:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/charter-patient-rights-responsibilities-2/>

---

## **Legal Aid Reform**

Scottish Government is consulting on Legal Aid reform. The Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986 created the Scottish Legal Aid Board, established the legislative basis for SLAB's powers and duties, and provided the structure of the current legal aid system in Scotland. The Act, now in its fourth decade, pre-dates devolution, human rights legislation, and other major reforms to the justice system. Since its introduction the Act, and the secondary legislation supporting it, have been subject to frequent changes in response to emerging domestic and European law that added to the complexity of the system. Over this time, many publicly funded services have undergone significant reform to move towards user-focused systems that plan and deliver services with the user at the forefront of design decisions.

To take part in the consultation, go to:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/legal-aid-reform-scotland-consultation/pages/1/>

Closing date for the consultation is **19 September 2019**.

---

## **Improving children's rights.**

### **Scottish Government Consultation on incorporating the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.**

The Scottish Government is seeking views on how best to incorporate the UN's 'gold standard' for children's rights into Scots Law and improve the lives of children and young people.

Full details can be [found here](#). The consultation runs until **Wednesday 14 August 2019**.

---

## **Recruitment to the Scottish Government's Social Security Experience Panels is now open**

Some of the benefits delivered by DWP are coming over to Scotland. The Scottish Government are looking to hear from people with experience of these benefits to help build a social security system in Scotland that works for everyone.

Find out more here: <http://bit.ly/experiencepanels>

---

## **Children's Rights: Consultation on Incorporating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into our domestic law in Scotland**

I am pleased to let you know that we have today published a consultation on how best to incorporate the UNCRC into domestic law in Scotland. I invite your views on how Scotland's policy, law and decision making can take account of children's rights by incorporating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Full details of this consultation are available on our [website](#).

The Scottish Government believes that delivering the rights of children and young people, as enshrined in the UNCRC, is fundamental to making children's rights real and Scotland becoming the best place in the world to grow up. The value of incorporation to children, young people and families in Scotland is that children's rights will be built into policy, law and practice so all children can benefit from and exercise these rights in their daily lives. Incorporating the UNCRC in Scotland will also enable people to defend their rights in the Scottish courts.

It is important that we hear your views as this will help us to legislate in this parliamentary session to incorporate the UNCRC into Scots law. Please note that the consultation will close on **Wednesday 14 August 2019**. Any response received after this date is unlikely to be included in the consultation analysis.

Please feel free to forward copies of these consultation documents to anyone else that you think might have an interest in them. I would also welcome your support in promoting the consultation. The enclosed information sheet provides further background and explains how you can help.

If you have queries or can help us highlight the consultation at one of your organisation's events please contact Louise McCue  
[UNCRCIncorporation@gov.scot](mailto:UNCRCIncorporation@gov.scot).

---

---

## VACANCIES / PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

---

### **University of Edinburgh**

#### **British Sign Language (BSL) Development Officer**

We are seeking a committed project officer with good knowledge of BSL to help implement our first ever BSL Plan which will ensure the University becomes more accessible and welcoming to BSL users who are students, members of staff or visitors.

This is a full time post – 35 hours per week, offered initially on a fixed term, 24 month contract.

Closing Date: 09-AUG-2019 at 5pm

To apply, please see: <https://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/BTZ923/british-sign-language-bsl-development-officer>

---

### **Highlands and Islands Airports Limited**

Highlands and Islands Airports Limited are looking for up to four Non-Executive Directors to join their board.

To apply, please see: <http://bit.ly/2JIUVQw>

---

### **The Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited**

The Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited board are looking to appoint a Non-Executive Director.

For more information and to apply please see: <http://bit.ly/2Fn8HjA>

---

## **From Skills Development Scotland Modern Apprenticeships (MA) at Skills Development Scotland**

Are you a people person?  
Do you like to help others?  
Are you hardworking?  
Are you committed to learning while you work?

If so, our MA in Career Development allows you to obtain a vocational qualification and gain work experience. Based in one of our public careers centres you will be responding to customer enquiries, signposting services and building your knowledge to enable you to provide information, advice and guidance on career pathways. To be eligible to apply you will be aged 16 to 24 (up to 29 if care experienced or disabled).

We have MA jobs in: Inverness, Stornoway, Aberdeen, Musselburgh, Galashiels, Stirling, Livingston, Stranraer, Airdrie, Kilmarnock and Glasgow.

There's a competitive salary of £17,888 and a two year fixed term contract. Interested? Find out more at: [www.sds.co.uk/MA](http://www.sds.co.uk/MA)

At SDS we are ambitious about diversity and inclusion and want our organisation to reflect the people of Scotland.

We welcome applications from everyone. However, as we do not have as many employees who are disabled, care experienced, male or from minority ethnic communities, we particularly welcome applications from these groups.

---

## **Scottish National Investment Bank**

Scottish Ministers are looking to fill the position of Chair of the Board of the new Scottish National Investment Bank.

For information please see: <http://bit.ly/32njXWZ> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLcmXb9stgY>

## **NHS Scotland**

NHS Scotland are looking to appoint Non-executive whistleblowing Champions Board Members.

The aim of this role is to further promote a culture of openness and transparency in NHS Scotland. Applications are invited from a wide range of people who have an interest in public service and are committed to the NHS in Scotland.

For more information and to apply please see: <http://bit.ly/2JPsY2D>

---

---

## **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

---

### **deafscotland seeking volunteers**

deafscotland are looking for volunteers to support their two major events in September and October 2019:

**BSL Summit on Monday 23 September 2019 in Glasgow**

**Connect Us Too Summit on Thursday 10 October 2019 in Edinburgh**

If you are interested in volunteering with us at both / either events, please get in touch with us.

For more information or if you have any questions, please get in touch with us by email: [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

---

### **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 CODA's. 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.or.uk](mailto:ahood@nspcc.or.uk)

---

## **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)

---

---

## TRAINING

---

### deafscotland Training

deafscotland offers 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.**

We are putting together a new training programme. Members can book places and receive a discount. For more information, please go to our website: <http://deafscotland.org/what-we-do/training/>

---



### 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:**

Learn at your own speed – login and logout when suits and restart where you left off.

#### **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.

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.

---

## **From Scottish Sensory Centre Meeting the social care needs of deaf children and young people Wednesday, 2nd October 2019**

This course will be of interest to teachers of the deaf, speech and language therapists, educational psychologists, social workers, support staff, and anyone who supports deaf children to get the support they need. Deaf children and young people may face a range of challenges and risks that make them particularly vulnerable. Our one-day interactive workshop will help you understand the issues and relevant legislation and give you the tools to improve your support and practice. Through a mix of group work, presentations and case studies you'll learn approaches that address the needs of deaf children and their families.

You'll have opportunity to use the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) assessment framework and know how to ensure effective communication – helping you to promote positive outcomes for the deaf children and young people you work with.

**Presenter:** Christopher Mullen, Social Care Policy Adviser, NDCS

**Course fee:** £110

**Venue:** Scottish Sensory Centre, Edinburgh

**Closing date:** 11th September 2019

Course application forms are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/doct19.html>

## **From Generations Working Together Training Courses**

### **[Intergenerational Training For Trainers and Practitioners \(Fife\)](#)**

4th Sep 2019 at Inverkeithing High School, Hillend Rd, Inverkeithing  
KY11 1PL (£75 Full / £50 Concession))

[Book Now](#)

### **[Intergenerational Training for Trainers and Practitioners \(Dumfries & Galloway\)](#)**

24th Sep 2019 at The Crichton Trust, Grierson House, The Crichton,  
Bankend Road, Dumfries, DG1 4ZE

[Book Now](#)

### **[Intergenerational Training For Trainers and Practitioners \(Scottish Borders\)](#)**

26th Sep 2019 at Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Services  
(BAVS), 55 Newtown Street, Duns, TD11 3AU (£75 Full / £50  
Concession)

[Book Now](#)

### **[Intergenerational Training For Trainers and Practitioners \(Western Isles\)](#)**

5th Nov 2019 at Bridge Community Centre, Embankment Bayhead,  
Stornoway, HS1 2DU.

[Book Now](#)

### **[International Certificate in Intergenerational Learning \(Online Course\)](#)**

5th Nov 2019

[Book Now](#)

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

12th Nov 2019 at Dunbar/Musselburgh TBC

[Book Now](#)

---

---

## **POLITICAL QUESTIONS**

---

### **Question S5W-23538 Health**

Rona Mackay, Strathkelvin and Bearsden, Scottish National Party, Date Lodged: 30/05/2019

**To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on plans for the contactSCOTLAND-BSL service provided to deaf and deafblind British Sign Language (BSL) users.**

Answered by Clare Haughey (31/05/2019): contactSCOTLAND-BSL is a vital service provided to the deaf and deafblind British Sign Language (BSL) community. It allows deaf and deafblind users to make calls through an on-line interpreter. The Scottish Government will be providing additional funding for contactSCOTLAND-BSL so that from 1 June the service will expand to include calls to private numbers, in addition to public and third sector, and the service hours will increase to 24/7 throughout 365 days a year.

---

### **Motion S5M-18282**

Brian Whittle, South Scotland, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party, Date Lodged: 18/07/2019

That the Parliament congratulates the Scottish Minority Deaf Children's Society, which has received £9,636 from the Big Lottery Fund; understands that this will allow the group to provide four outings over the year for deaf children and their families, in partnership with the West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society; commends the group for their efforts, and wishes them continued success.

---



## 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.

If **you are not a member of deafscotland** and would like to advertise an event, training courses or conferences, please contact us at [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org) before you send us the English text as there will be an admin charge.

### **deafscotland Disclaimer**

Where appropriate, information sources for the bulletin are noted in each article. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of deafscotland. We cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of information. No endorsement of services, events or products is intended or implied.

# 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	
Organisation's logo (if you want it included)	

**ALL ARTICLES TO BE EMAILED TO:  
[admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org) BEFORE THE 24TH DAY  
OF EVERY MONTH.**