



# deafscotland Bulletin September 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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### 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 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 by **Friday 13 September 2019** 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/>

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

Our self-management survey is now live.

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: Tuesday 10 September 2019**

To take part, please go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/73B9R56>

## **deafscotland Cycling Survey**

deafscotland is producing information on staying safe while cycling for people affected by hearing loss. Our survey will be vital in giving us the information we need to support deaf people who want to cycle in Scotland and will help make the roads safer for everyone.

If you have a hearing loss, please fill out the survey and share it with others you know with a hearing loss / are deaf. The more information we have the better!

**DEADLINE: Monday 30 September 2019**

To take part, please go to:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeel\\_mNgZWvf0ziZ19Cox6206Fch0dZAYJ6Mk43FKQlhumb8g/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeel_mNgZWvf0ziZ19Cox6206Fch0dZAYJ6Mk43FKQlhumb8g/viewform)

## **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).

## **deafscotland Strategic Review**

deafscotland is going through a strategic review to look at the areas of work next three years and the work our members want us to do on their behalf.

As deafscotland members, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to complete the survey.

**DEADLINE: Thursday 12 September 2019**

To take part, please go to:

### **Members**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftA2PhkWyuj7caBlmEdZ7F9-cQnQuncDJTpv8GLjGRf6ZqRA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftA2PhkWyuj7caBlmEdZ7F9-cQnQuncDJTpv8GLjGRf6ZqRA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

### **Stakeholders**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeF8LMJIWx-wQ3ycrCeECY8Tau1fQNHcOB5BUyZhZnXu\\_79gw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeF8LMJIWx-wQ3ycrCeECY8Tau1fQNHcOB5BUyZhZnXu_79gw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## **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. We will be organising our Winter / Spring programme soon – watch this space:

<http://deafscotland.org/what-we-do/training/>

### **Bespoke training**

We also offer bespoke / tailored training. 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 are) email us at [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## Your training

As a member organisation, do you offer training and want to publicise it? Then tell us and we will include them in the Bulletin and on our website calendar by emailing us the details in the template at the end of this Bulletin.

If you provide **BSL classes** and/or **Lip Reading classes**, please email the details to deafscotland, so that we can put the information onto the website calendar as many of our inquiries are from people looking for these classes: <https://deafscotland.org/what-we-do/events/calendar/>

## 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 from Penumbra 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).

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

Our Heritage Lottery Fund Virtual Museum launch is on Friday 04 October 2019 at St. Mungo's Museum in Glasgow.

For more information on how to register your interest, please email us: [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## **BSL and Lipreading Classes around Scotland**

As you know, we are in the process of developing our website. We have imported the Calendar again so we can advertise members' events on the website.

We get a lot of inquiries by phone and email from members of the public and professionals looking for BSL classes and deaf people looking Lipreading classes. We would like to include members' BSL/Lipreading class information on the website calendar so that people know what is available across Scotland.

If you would like your classes included in the calendar on our website, please email us the information and we'll add it in. Our website: <https://deafscotland.org/what-we-do/events/calendar/>

## **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/>

## **Scottish Government Consultation**

We are consulting on the new draft National Transport Strategy to help determine whether the Strategy's Vision, Priorities and Outcomes are the right ones for our transport network for the next twenty years. We want to know if the policies contained in the Strategy are the right ones to help deliver it, and how the Strategy can continue to support what works well and address what does not work so well in our transport system. Your views will be key in helping to shape the kind of transport we want for the next two decades.

**Closing date: Wednesday 23 October 2019**

<https://consult.gov.scot/transport-scotland/national-transport-strategy/>

## **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/watch?v=la5mAwJOdQY&list=PL7TPJkTbihG\\_Jb-qv5tCzThJC9thzPiiC](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=la5mAwJOdQY&list=PL7TPJkTbihG_Jb-qv5tCzThJC9thzPiiC)

Best wishes, Janis & deafscotland Team

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## NEWS / INFORMATION

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### **From Royal National Institute of Blind people (RNIB) Healthy Eyes Pack – RNIB Resource**

Please find a link to an excellent new resource from RNIB – the Healthy Eyes Pack.

This is an excellent training resource to support people with LD to access eye care services, it was filmed with the Good life group, who are a drama group who have LD and complex needs.

Link below:

<https://www.rnib.org.uk/professionals-social-care-professionals-complex-needs-social-care/learning-disabilities>

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### **From The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland New website for the Mental Welfare Commission**

The Mental Welfare Commission has updated its website with aims of making it more user friendly, and including a wider range of information. Kate Fearnley, executive director (engagement & participation) at the Commission said:

‘People tell us they value the information on our site, and we wanted to enhance that and make it easier to use. The structure of the site was becoming outdated and in need of replacement, particularly around security.

‘We’ve made a number of improvements in the design which should make it easier to use. We also plan to increase the amount of information we publish on what people with lived experience, and relatives and carers, tell us about their views on care and treatment.’

The main changes in the [new website](#) are:

1. New quick routes into the site for people whose interest is personal, and for people whose interest is professional. While the whole site remains accessible to everyone, analytics told us that these two audiences are more likely to be looking for specific information. For example, professionals regularly seek legal advice or forms, for

example, and people with a personal interest often look for information on particular diagnoses, or about a patient's rights.

2. A new section called [What People Tell Us](#), where we will publish reports that gather the views and experiences of people from around Scotland who have spoken to our engagement and participation team about different aspects of care and treatment.

3. An improved search function.

The new site also uses a slightly modernised branding for the Commission, which reflects our current work and means that documents can be published from the site more efficiently, for people wishing to have hard copies.

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## **From The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland Person centred care plans – new guide for mental health and learning disability services**

The Mental Welfare Commission today published a new guide for nurses and other clinical staff in Scotland on creating care plans for patients with mental ill health, dementia or learning disability.

A care plan describes the care and treatment an individual should receive. It is a written record of needs, actions and responsibilities. Care plans are a crucial part of supporting and helping the process of recovery.

Alison Thomson, executive director (nursing) at the Mental Welfare Commission, said:

'We wrote this new guide because when visiting services we increasingly find that the quality of care plans, and the level of participation by the patient or person using services, vary considerably.

'Everyone using mental health, dementia and learning disability services has the right to a care plan which is personal to them.

'They also have a right to be involved in developing their care plan, to know what is in their care plan, and to be involved in writing their care plan.

‘We hope that this new guide will be shared widely and used by services across Scotland to help improve care plans, and to ensure that the needs and aspirations of people using services have been taken into account.’

The guide was produced after wide consultation. The Commission heard from almost 150 people at a series of meetings across the country, including people with experience of mental illness, relatives/carers, people with dementia or acquired brain injury and advocacy workers.

The Commission also held a specific event where 60 people including nursing staff, relatives/carers, educators and people with experience of mental ill health worked together to agree a view of what a good care plan should look like.

A copy of the guide can be found [here](#).

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## **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

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## **From Glasgow Youth Council GYC Manifesto 2019 – 2020**

If you live, work, study, or volunteer in Glasgow and you're between the ages of 12-25, please fill out this survey and share your thoughts on what you believe Glasgow Youth Council should be campaigning on in our new manifesto!

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/GYCManifesto2019/>

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## **From Transport Scotland Accessible Travel Annual Delivery Plan 2019/20 Easy Read Version**

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):

<https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/scotland-s-accessible-travel-framework-delivery-plan-for-2019-2020/>

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## **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 13 OCTOBER 2019!** We look forward to receiving nominations and celebrating the successes and achievements of all deaf children and young people in the West of Scotland.

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## **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)

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## **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)

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## **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)

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

In August we celebrated the end of Everyone Together, our early years project funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. Over the past three years, 1820 people from 31 local authorities have received support from the project. Building on this success, we will continue to provide early years support, including courses and events, albeit on a reduced scale. We are keen to partner with professionals and public bodies to deliver our programme and develop our offer so please do get in touch. Please email [earlyyearsscotland@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:earlyyearsscotland@ndcs.org.uk) for more information.

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>

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## **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.**

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## **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).

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## **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](#).

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## **From Scottish Government Census Rehearsal for 2021 to take place in October 2019**

As part of our preparations for Scotland's Census 2021, NRS plan to undertake a public rehearsal in parts of Scotland later this year.

We are aiming to make the 2021 Census more digital and accessible, available for completion online, as well as on paper. The rehearsal will help us test our systems and process as we get ready for the Census.

We are currently planning for the rehearsal to take place on 13 October 2019. We will be asking people living in parts of Glasgow City and in Dumfries and Galloway, and Na h-Eileanan Siar to help us by taking part.

If you live in a rehearsal area, you will receive a letter in early October with more information about the rehearsal and how to participate.

Unlike the Census itself, participation in the rehearsal is not a legal requirement. We are asking householders in these areas to help us on a purely voluntary basis so that we can ensure things go smoothly for the Census.

Scotland's next Census, subject to the approval of the Scottish Parliament, will be held on Sunday 21 March 2021. This will be the 22nd census to take place since 1801 and the 17th to be managed independently here in Scotland. Please find a link to a FAQ for more information.

If you would like to be kept up to date with what is happening for the rehearsal and Scotland's Census 2021 please check our website and follow us on Facebook and Twitter @Scotcensus2021.

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## **Publication of Equally Safe: A consultation on legislation to improve forensic medical services for victims of rape and sexual assault analysis report**

I am pleased to inform you that the consultation analysis report for "[Equally Safe: A consultation on legislation to improve forensic medical services for victims of rape and sexual assault](http://www.gov.scot/ISBN/9781839600647)" has now been published and I invite you to view this online at <http://www.gov.scot/ISBN/9781839600647>

We received a number of high quality responses that have been very helpful in shaping our policy on Forensic Medical Services for victims of rape and sexual assault. Where we have permission we have published individual responses here: [https://consult.gov.scot/equally-safe/equally-safe-improve-forensic-medical-services/consultation/published\\_select\\_respondent](https://consult.gov.scot/equally-safe/equally-safe-improve-forensic-medical-services/consultation/published_select_respondent)

If you have any queries regarding the consultation analysis, or about the Bill more generally, please do not hesitate to contact the Bill team via [EquallySafeFMS@gov.scot](mailto:EquallySafeFMS@gov.scot). We would also invite you to follow and share the twitter [@EquallySafeScot](https://twitter.com/EquallySafeScot) and the hashtag [#EquallySafeFMS](https://twitter.com/EquallySafeFMS) for further updates.

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## **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.

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## **From ScotRail Kilwinning Station Lift Access Update**

I am pleased to advise you that as from Friday 23 August, 3 new passenger lifts will be brought into service at Kilwinning Station. These lifts will provide step-free access across all 4 of the platforms at the station, a huge improvement on the existing ramps down to the station platform from the adjacent road. Please share this across your networks to ensure as many of our patrons are made aware and able to benefit from these improved accessibility enhancements from 23 August 2019.

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## **From ScotRail Queen Street Station Redevelopment Works**

Temporary closure of Platforms 4 and 5  
16th September – 13th October 2019  
(Normal services will resume on Monday morning of 14th October 2019)

Network Rail's £120m redevelopment work at Glasgow Queen Street station is part of a Scottish Government investment in the railway infrastructure across central Scotland. Following the recent successful completion of work to extend platforms 2 and 3, the next phase of activity involves extending platforms 4 and 5.

While the majority of train services into the 'High Level' station will be unaffected by this activity, **the month-long closure of platforms 4 and 5** means alterations to a few services, as some will start / end their journeys before Queen Street

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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### **Scottish Communities to Hold Climate Change**

Funding for Scottish Communities to Hold Climate Change Workshops  
Small grants to help support community groups who otherwise would not be able to cover the expense of hosting a workshop to discuss climate change.

The Scottish Government is currently holding The Big Climate Conversation, engaging with individuals, the private and public sectors about the role that everyone needs to play in ending Scotland's contribution to climate change.

Small grants of between £100 and £300 can support community groups who want to hold their own workshops and contribute to the conversation.

The fund will support workshops held before the 31 October 2019 which support the aims of The Big Climate Conversation to engage all sectors of society on Scotland's response to the global climate emergency.

Eligible costs should relate directly to workshops, which should be delivered for eight or more people. Costs can cover venue hire, catering, childcare, travel and inclusive communications (including interpreters).

Workshops must be organised according to the Scottish Government's 'How to Guide', which provides step by step guidance for specific activities and topics that workshops should cover, such as:

The problem (eg, what is a global climate emergency and how serious is it?)

A 'net-zero' Scotland (eg, what changes are necessary to reach net-zero and what are the challenges to achieving it?)

Action (eg, what action should the Scottish Government be prioritising?)

<https://www.impactfundingpartners.com/our-funds/big-climate-conversation-community-fund>

**The deadline for applications is 21 October 2019.**

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## **New #ShiftthePower Scotland Comic Relief Programme Open to Applications**

Funding to support smaller grassroots charities and not-for-profit organisations in Scotland that are working to make a meaningful difference in their local communities.

Delivered by the Corra Foundation working as an intermediary partner with Comic Relief in Scotland, the new #ShiftthePower programme offers grants of between £1,000 and £8,000 for up to 18 months to cover running or project costs of work that falls within one of the following four strategic areas:

Children survive and thrive – early years development for children facing disadvantage.

Gender justice – contributing to gender equality by reducing violence and discrimination based on gender and sexuality.

A safe place to be – supporting people who have experienced homelessness or have been forced from their homes in order to live safely.

Mental health matters – improving mental health provision and tackling stigma around mental health.

Applications are accepted from registered charities and constituted voluntary or community organisations in Scotland with an annual income of £250,000 or less. The funders are particularly interested in organisations where projects and services are initiated and led by people with lived experience.

The funding must be fully spent by June 2021.

<https://www.corra.scot/comic-relief/>

**The deadline for applications is 30 September 2019 (2pm).**

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## **£10m Funding Round Opens to Support Vulnerable Energy Consumers**

Charitable organisations that support energy customers in Great Britain are invited to apply for grants to support individual energy consumers in vulnerable situations.

The Energy Saving Trust has been appointed by Ofgem to distribute payments to charities from energy companies who have breached rules. The Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme will be administered until 2021.

The priority of the scheme is to support individual energy consumers in vulnerable situations, with a small percentage of the fund available to support innovative products and services that will help existing or future energy consumers.

The funds can pay for anything from making a home more energy efficient, to providing advice that helps consumers keep on top of their bills.

A total of £10 million is being provided for Round Five. There are three separate funding strands to ensure that projects of a similar nature and scale are assessed against each other:

The Main Fund contains £7.5 million and is aimed at projects seeking grants between £50,000 and £2 million

The Small Grants Fund contains £1 million and is aimed at projects seeking grants of between £20,000 and £49,999

The Innovation Fund contains £1.5 million and is aimed at projects seeking grants between £50,000 to £750,000.

The scheme can provide capital or revenue funding and can provide up to 100% of the project cost. It can only fund projects lasting up to two years.

Examples of the kind of activity that could be funded through Energy Redress include:

Engaging vulnerable customers with energy issues and referring them for support

Energy advice that does not duplicate existing advice services

Installation of energy saving or renewable energy measures that cannot be funded elsewhere and/or are innovative or are being used in innovative ways

In-home safety advice and measures related to energy systems

Training and education on energy that is targeted at supporting vulnerable customers.

Charitable organisations that support energy customers in England, Scotland and Wales are eligible to apply.

<https://energyredress.org.uk/>

**The deadline for applications is 18 October 2019.**

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## **Bank of Scotland Foundation Launches New Funding Programme**

New funding opportunities for charities registered in Scotland who are working to address social exclusion and disadvantage in communities across Scotland.

The Bank of Scotland Foundation have announced four new funding programmes for 2019 and 2020 to replace their previous Small, Medium and Large grant programmes. The new programmes come as part of their five year 'Supporting Positive Change Across Scotland' plan, through which they aim to focus on charities who are addressing social exclusion or disadvantage in Scotland.

The new funding programmes are:

**Reach** – funding is intended to make positive and lasting change in communities across Scotland. Charities with an income of £1 million or less can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £20,000 over one year to support people through varying stages of their lives.

**Change** – funding is intended to have a large-scale, long-term, positive impact on charities and communities. Charities with an income of £500,000 or more can apply for capital costs or project costs of £50,000 to £100,000 per annum over one to two years to ensure they can provide continued, reliable support for people across Scotland.

**Advise** – funding is intended to improve Financial Advice and Financial Literacy for people across Scotland. Charities with an income of £1 million or less can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £20,000 over one year to enable people to develop their financial skills and access the support they need to take greater control of their lives.

**Invest** – funding is intended to put charities in a more stable position. Charities with an income of £1 million or less can apply for core costs of between £20,000 and £40,000 per annum over two to five years to

relieve the pressures they face of financial uncertainty and increased demand.

Charities registered in Scotland and operational for more than a year are eligible to apply.

The Advise and Invest programmes will launch in early 2020.

The Change application will open on 2 September 2019 and close on 25 September 2019 (12 noon).

<http://bankofscotlandfoundation.org/funding-programmes>

**Applications are currently being accepted for the Reach programme with a deadline of 3 October 2019 (12 noon).**

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

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## **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/>

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## **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/>

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## **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/>

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## EVENTS

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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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### **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

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## **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

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## **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>

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## **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>

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## **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)

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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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## **From Paths For All First Deaf Health Walk**

The first British Sign Language Health Walk will be taking place on Saturday 7 September 2019. The Walking for Health team at Paths for All have been working with Get Walking Lanarkshire to help develop Health Walks for the deaf community.

A Health Walk:

1. is led by a trained volunteer on a risk assessed route
2. is less than an hour long
3. has a short warm up at the start, followed by a brisk walk and then a short cool down at the end
4. welcomes new walkers who would benefit from being more active
5. is a friendly group walk offered regularly
6. is an opportunity to meet new people in your area and explore places you might not have been before

There are over 550 of these walks across Scotland every week. This will be the first one that that is delivered for the deaf community by the deaf by the trained volunteer using BSL. We are keen to let you know about this development and would welcome you to join us for the health walk at Strathclyde Country Park. Please see the attached poster for all the details.

For more information:

[getwalkinglanarkshire@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:getwalkinglanarkshire@northlan.gov.uk)

[admin@deafserviceslanarkshire.co.uk](mailto:admin@deafserviceslanarkshire.co.uk)

text 07806 497562

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## **Scottish Public Information Forum**

Thursday 26 September 2019, 12.30 pm – 4.30pm

Albany Learning Centre, 44 Ashley Street, Glasgow G3 6DS

### **About the Scottish Public Information Forum (SPIF)**

SPIF is an opportunity for rights holders and duty bearers to meet and discuss 'access to information' in Scotland and consider how laws which force disclosure of information are operating. Learning from each other helps improve understanding and practice. The meeting will be part of global celebrations to mark 'International Right to Know Day' and will

hear from the Jersey Information Commissioner's Office on 'Access to Information and Democratic Accountability'.

SPIF's remit is to 'enable the long-term effectiveness of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FoISA) and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004' (EIR(S)s). Its role is incorporated in the Scottish Government's Six FoI principles published in 2007: "Maintains effective relationships with the Scottish Information Commissioner and other key stakeholders - We ensure the effective operation of the Act by fostering and maintaining good working relationships on Freedom of Information with stakeholders such as other public authorities and the Scottish Public Information Forum."

The Scottish Government website has more information  
<http://www.gov.scot/About/Information/FoI/6principles>

In May 2017 SPIF was reconvened by CFoIS to:

1. Act as a sounding-board on the practical operation of FoISA and the EIR(S)s.
2. Share experiences of FOI and the EIR (S)s
3. Share good practice on FoI and EIR(S)s.
4. Hear updates from the Scottish Information Commissioner and the UK ICO

### **Who should attend?**

If you work for the public sector, civil society or the private sector this meeting will be useful in your work, and members of the public are also invited to attend.

### **How to Register**

Registration is free and at

Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/campaign-for-freedom-of-information-in-scotland-cfois-13498161317>

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## **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:**

Thursday 12 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

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## **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>

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## **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.

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## 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

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## **From Community Development Alliance Scotland ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019**

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: TACKLING INEQUALITIES**

TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2019, 10.30AM-3.30PM

EDINBURGH TRAINING AND CONFERENCE VENUE

The theme of our conference is Community Development and Tackling Inequalities. The Conference will explore both the challenges and opportunities in tackling inequalities and promoting social justice through empowering communities. There will be exploration of community development responses including community action, community-led project delivery, and collaborative action across sectors which addresses the root causes of inequality and barriers to community participation.

For more information please visit the CDAS website:

<https://www.communitydevelopmentalliancescotland.org/>

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## **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).

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## **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.

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## **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>

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## **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 November 2019 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)

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## **CONSULTATIONS**

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### **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/>

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### **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/>

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## **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/>

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## **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/>

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## **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**.

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## **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>

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## **VACANCIES / PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS**

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### **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 our 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.

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## **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **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).

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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 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)

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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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### **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/>

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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:**

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.

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**From Scottish Sensory Centre  
Meeting the social care needs of deaf children and  
young people  
Wednesday 2 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>

**Intensive Interaction:**

## **From Scottish Sensory Centre**

**"Not being able to speak is not the same as not having anything to say"**

**Monday 28 October 2019**

This course will be of interest teachers of children with complex ASN, teachers of visual impairment, teachers of the deaf, educational psychologists, social workers, and parents/carers.

This one-day course explores Intensive Interaction and how to make connections with children and young people who are hard to reach. "Intensive interaction works on early interaction abilities – how to enjoy being with other people, to relate, interact, know, understand and practice communication routines" (Dave Hewett – co-founder of intensive interaction).

During this course participants will learn about the theories behind this approach and the strategies to help us enter another person's world. There will be opportunities to see lots of positive examples of how this approach is being used and how it is incorporated into everyday interactions.

The course will highlight how to use this approach within your education settings; to increase children and young people's motivation and engagement in learning, and promote their wellbeing. There will also be a focus on how to track and monitor each pupil's progress and levels of engagement.

**Presenters:** Ruth Kerr & Una O'Mahony, Speech & Language Therapists, NHS Forth Valley; and Susi Wakely, Educational Psychologist, Falkirk Children's Services

**Course fee:** £110

**Venue:** Scottish Sensory Centre, Edinburgh

**Closing date:** 7th October 2019

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

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/general/goct19.html>

**From Scottish Sensory Centre  
The Accidental Counsellor: Supporting Others in  
Additional Support Needs Work:  
Thursday 14 November 2019: Perth**

This course will be of interest to all those who work with and support the parents and school staff of children with additional support needs including visual impairment and deafness.

Staff often find themselves cast in the role of the 'accidental counsellor' to colleagues and parents. This can leave staff feeling unsure how best to respond. Course participants will have opportunities to explore and better understand:

issues underlying parent and staff anxieties and challenges.

options for helpful responding: theory and practice.

how to address the expectations of others.

The course will have a practical focus, including opportunities both to explore typical situations and to practice different approaches.

Participants may have had no previous CPD in interpersonal or counselling skills, whilst those who have such experience will have opportunities to share and deepen their skill set.

**Participants are expected to undertake some brief pre-course reading which will be available in advance of the course.**

**Presenter:** Richard Hendry, ASN Consultant Trainer - see below for

brief biography.

**Course fee:** £110

**Venue:** Fairview School, Perth

**Restrictions:** 26 places only

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/general/gnov19.html>

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

### **[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 \(East Lothian\)](#)**

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## **POLITICAL QUESTIONS**

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**Motion S5M-18501: Jenny Gilruth, Mid Fife and Glenrothes, Scottish National Party, Date Lodged: 13/08/2019**

**Deaf Fife Schoolgirl Joins Lewis Capaldi in Sign Language Version of His Song**

That the Parliament congratulates Niamdh Braid, a 10-year-old girl from Fife with hearing loss, who recently joined the music sensation, Lewis Capaldi, in performing a sign language version of his hit song, Someone You Loved; acknowledges that the opportunity for Niamdh to perform with Lewis came after the schoolgirl recorded a video, which has since gone viral, of her singing the song with the hopes of gaining a chance to perform with and meet the singer; notes Niamdh's assertion that hearing loss is not a barrier to enjoying music, and wishes her and her family the very best in the future.

Supported by: Edward Mountain, Stewart Stevenson, Annabelle Ewing, Stuart McMillan, Sandra White, Joan McAlpine, Richard Lyle, David Torrance, Bill Kidd, Fulton MacGregor, Gillian Martin, Miles Briggs

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-18501&ResultsPerPage=10>

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**Motion S5M-18282: Brian Whittle, South Scotland, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party, Date Lodged: 18/07/2019**

**Scottish Minority Deaf Children's Society**

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.

Supported by: Miles Briggs, Alexander Stewart, Richard Lyle, Margaret Mitchell, Tom Mason, Peter Chapman, Michelle Ballantyne, Alison Harris, Ruth Maguire, Annie Wells, Liz Smith, Rachael Hamilton, Jeremy Balfour

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-18282&ResultsPerPage=10>

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## Education, Communities and Justice

**Maurice Golden (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether environmental rights and justice will be considered as part of the remit of the National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership.  
**(S5W-24293)**

**Shirley-Anne Somerville:** The First Minister's Advisory Group on Human Rights Leadership reported in December 2018. It recommended a new statutory human rights framework for Scotland, including a right to a healthy environment.

The new National Taskforce will now take forward the Group's principal recommendations, and will be co-chaired by myself and Professor Alan Miller. Its formal remit and membership will be announced in due course.

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**Maurice Golden (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether environmental rights and justice experts will be included as part of the leadership of the National Taskforce for Human Rights.  
**(S5W-24294)**

**Shirley-Anne Somerville:** I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-24293 on 1 August 2019. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>

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## **Organisational Development and Operations**

**Mark Griffin (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government which organisations tendered for the service design of the Social Security Scotland (a) desk-based and (b) face-to-face healthcare professional assessment function.

**(S5W-24331)**

**Shirley-Anne Somerville:** The service design of the Social Security Scotland (a) desk-based and (b) face-to-face healthcare professional assessment function was tendered as one contract.

A total of four tenders were received by the tender return date of 11 March 2019 from the following companies:

1. Deloitte LLP
2. Capgemini UK PLC
3. Ent Serv UK Ltd
4. Sopra Steria Limited

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### **Question S5W-24956: Mark Griffin, Central Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 27/08/2019**

To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the discussion between the Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions at the June 2019 meeting of the Joint Ministerial Working Group on Welfare regarding the suspension of the managed migration from DLA to PIP for people in Scotland, what the (a) annual and (b) total cumulative loss of benefit is for people who have already been migrated from DLA to PIP; how many people on PIP have been migrated under the current arrangements in each year since the migration began, and how many people who receive DLA will now have their migration suspended.

**Current Status:** Expected Answer date 25/09/2019

### **Question S5W-24779: Mark Griffin, Central Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 16/08/2019**

To ask the Scottish Government whether the provision of social security advocacy services will extend to (a) parents or carers applying for disability assistance for children and young people in their care and (b) adults applying for disability assistance for looked after children for whom they are responsible.

**Current Status:** Expected Answer date 16/09/2019



## 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 OF**  
**EVERY MONTH.**