



deafscotland Bulletin July 2020



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:** We realise that many people are working at home and may not have the equipment they normally use. During this crisis, if you want an activity or a piece of news in the bulletin, email it to us – text and web links only – to admin@deafscotland.org

Thank you.

If your contact details have changed, please let us know so we can update our records.

Monthly Newsletter for deafscotland Members



“Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.” Helen Keller

As lockdown restrictions are starting to ease, we hope that all our members have managed to come through to this phase of the pandemic emergency measures safe and well. We hope that those who have been on the front line keeping others safe and well will now be able to take a bit of a break – and just may be enjoy a bit of the summer.

We look forward to catching up with members as the months go on.

National Council Meeting 24 June 2020

We did something new for us! We used technology – Zoom – to hold our National Council meeting last Wednesday. We would like to thank everyone who joined us. The minutes will be available soon as will the second Covid-19 Survey: Road to Recovery.

Recent publications

We have recently published a number of publications on our website.

These can be found on a number of different pages as well as on our publications page:

<https://deafscotland.org/deafscotland-publications/>

These reports are the:

- Data Census Report 2020
- Safety First... Keeping people safe with Communication for All. This report contains the baseline survey reports from four deafscotland projects: Self-Management, Cycling, Safety, and Mental Health.
- First National BSL Summit Report; and
- Connect Us Too Mental Health Summit Report.
- The BSL Project Evaluation Report; and
- Covid-19 Summary Report.

The Covid-19 Survey Report will be available on this page soon.

Ongoing projects

The **Self-Management project** is about to start its second phase. Deaf Links is taking the work forward. As part of this there is a new survey to take part in that will look at what people know now about moderate to severe mental ill-health. **The new survey is available here:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZJYXJDJ> . To find out more, go to <https://deafscotland.org/self-management-information/>

The **Cycling Safely Project** is also moving onto its next phase. The baseline survey will be repeated across deaf and mainstream cycling clubs once they are able to meet again to see if the films have made any difference to how safe deaf people and their families feel when cycling

about Scotland. To view the films, go to <https://deafscotland.org/cycling-safely-for-deaf-people/>

The first **survey on the Covid-19 crisis for people with a hearing loss** is complete and the report is written. The summary and the full report will be available soon on our website. The second survey – the Road to Recovery will be available shortly.

Our **Dementia Project** report will be launched on 17 July 2020. The report and more information will be available on our website then.

Latest News...

Voluntary Health Scotland published a blog from Janis on Covid-19. To read the blog, please click here: <https://vhscotland.org.uk/janiss-blog-covid-19-the-communication-virus/>

This is part of the ongoing work we are doing to make sure the Scottish Government and Scottish Parliamentary Committees are aware of the barriers that deaf people have faced throughout the pandemic and will continue to face as Scotland goes into the recovery phase. For more information, go to <https://deafscotland.org/covid-19-the-communication-virus/> and <https://deafscotland.org/deafscotland-publications/>

Our Virtual Museum

The Virtual Museum is due to go live any time soon. There are a few more displays left to fill. Can you help us?

Since we have been in lockdown, I have been able to look back into my family tree and learn new things. I wish I could put this in!

You may have some items from your family which could help tell a story which will help inspire others to show their items. It could be an old photo of school days or a family photo with a bulky hearing aid box. You may have found an object recently from an old job. The object may have made you remember an experience. How did your deafness affect you then? How did you communicate with colleagues?

As lockdown is starting to ease soon, you may wish to do something different? If you are able to help, we would love to hear from you. You

could tell us what it's been like in lockdown. What have you been doing? Have you had any problems communicating? How are you keeping in touch with family and friends?

The stories about the Coronavirus impact would the Scottish Government and public bodies learn for any future pandemics.

We would like to hear your stories and we know others would too. To help us, you can record your story as an audio file or as a film, either speaking or signing. We are happy to give you any assistance and guidance. This can also be done in an email or word document. If you want to know more about the Virtual Museum project, how to start your story or get assistance with photos or films for sharing, please get in touch with Stewart at admin@deafscotland.org.

Our Campaigns

We are still keen to see where our **Communication For All** car/window stickers have got to and been seen. Now that people can move about a bit more freely, it would be good to have photographs of these stickers on windows, especially if they are unusual windows or in unusual places. Send them in or put them on Facebook and link us to them:

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



<https://deafscotland.org/support-communication-for-all/>

BSL For ALL - <https://deafscotland.org/bsl-for-all/> and **Connect Us Too** - <https://deafscotland.org/resources/connect-us-too/> are also ongoing campaigns.

Disclosure: Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG): Covid-19 Update

We, at **deafscotland**, can still 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. But have to do it in a different way as we cannot put ourselves or anyone else at risk. The

disclosure form needs to be submitted electronically, but as countersignatories we still need to be able to check ID. It might be possible to do this by Skype or Zoom.

To discuss your need for a disclosure and arrangements for countersigning the form, please contact us at admin@deafscotland.org

BSL translation

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

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7TPJkTbihG8PrnCLzRoz8Wwa8HRuuGDb>

Best wishes, Janis & deafscotland Team

NEWS / INFORMATION ON COVID-19

Dear Colleague,

deafscotland is not producing information on Covid-19 or advice on how to stay safe a protect your staff as plenty other organisations are doing this. If you haven't received any information either for your service users/members or as an employer, please email me at chiefofficer@deafscotland.org and I can send you the most appropriate links.

If you have a hearing loss yourself, please go to our survey at

Kind regards Janis

Information from deafscotland members:

<https://deafscotland.org/covid-19-information-from-members/>

ACAS has information for **employers and employees:**

<https://www.acas.org.uk/coronavirus>

NHS Inform

NHS Inform has produced information for people providing essential care and support to others throughout the crisis as well as a toolkit: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-professionals>

There is information about Covid- 19 in **BSL**:
<https://www.nhsinform.scot/translations/languages/british-sign-language-bsl/illnesses-and-conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

And in **Easy Read**:
<https://www.nhsinform.scot/translations/formats/easy-read/coronavirus-covid-19>

From the Scottish Government

Following the UK Government's announcement to expand its testing capacity to include the testing of key workers, demand across England has been significant. This has resulted in the website being closed from time to time to help manage the demand.

The Scottish Government published guidance on Saturday 25 April regarding the expanded testing programme in Scotland and for testing of key workers – links to this guidance are below:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-access-to-testing/>

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-for-key-workers-in-Scotland/>

For general information about Covid-19, go to <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): clinical and practice guidance for adult care homes

This guidance provides targeted clinical and practice advice about COVID-19 to support those working with adults in care homes.

The guidance considers some of the practical steps that are required to support good infection control within care homes and is based on Health Protection Scotland COVID-19 - Information and guidance for care home settings.

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2020/03/coronavirus-covid-19-clinical-and-practice-guidance-for-adult-care-homes/documents/clinical-guidance-for-nursing-home-and-residential-care-residents/clinical-guidance-for-nursing-home-and-residential-care-residents/govscot%3Adocument/National%2BClinical%2BGuidance%2Bfor%2BCare%2BHomess%2BCOVID-19%2BPandemic-%2BMASTER%2BCOPY%2B-%2BFINAL%2B-%2B15%2BMay%2B2020.pdf>

From Police Scotland

Police Scotland are continuing to monitor community tensions and hate crime as a result of Covid-19. If you have any concerns or become aware of any increasing tensions within your community, please contact Police Scotland at the email address:

Diversityunit@scotland.pnn.police.uk

For information on how Police Scotland is managing the Covid-19 emergency, go to <https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/covid-19-policescotlandresponse/>

Scammers and fraudsters

Please be aware that as more people are working at home and communicating with family and friends, people need to be aware the scammers and fraudsters are also online more trying to catch you out. Please make sure you stay safe online. If you are scammed/caught out, please report it to the police. They can help.

NEWS / INFORMATION

From Ideas for Ears

MSP Briefing: coronavirus & the unequal impact on people with hearing loss

In our written evidence to the Poverty and Inequality Commission and the Equalities and Human Rights Committee, we report on survey research that investigated the impact of measures to combat coronavirus on people with hearing loss.

The survey explored themes relating to communication, including facial coverings, 2-metre distancing and the shift to more phone/video calls – all of which are direct responses to coronavirus.

Quantitative and qualitative data emerging suggests that these changes introduce or exacerbate communication challenges experienced by people with hearing loss, placing a greater burden and strain on them when it comes to staying in touch with family and friends, using important services and support, and navigating workplace communication.

As well as sharing the survey findings, we offer a viewpoint on what needs to change or improve in order to remedy the unequal impact being experienced.

Read our report at: <https://www.ideasforears.org.uk/blog/evidence-of-unequal-impact-on-people-with-hearing-loss/>

For further information, please contact Sally Shaw, Director, at sally.shaw@ideasforears.org.uk or at 07739 581059

From Disability Equality Scotland (DES)

DES are putting together a report on Disability Hate Crime and would like anyone who is deaf and has experience of hate crime due to their deafness to get in touch.

If you have had such an experience, even if you have not reported it to the police, please get in touch with **Morven Brooks** at morven@disabilityequality.scot.

From Ai-Media

4 Reasons to Live Caption Your Zoom Meeting

Zoom's video conferencing platform is growing rapidly as more people than ever work from home. This is the perfect time to add live captions to your meetings – to maximize engagement, accessibility and impact.

Here are the four top reasons to live caption your meetings.

1. A more flexible user experience

Flexibility is both essential and expected in the midst of our busy lives. If members of your meeting are on the move, multitasking, or in a noisy place, captions are an important option to keep them looped in to the conversation. Similarly, if some of your attendees are in a quiet place and can't turn their sound on, live captions will keep them engaged.

2. Better attendee engagement

Live captions make your Zoom meeting more engaging and easier to understand for all attendees. In fact, captions have been found to improve the comprehension of video content for both hearing and deaf attendees, and numerous studies show a positive learning response to captions among students. Captions also catch and hold your attendees' attention for longer, and improve their capacity to retain the information they have learned in the meeting.

3. Improved accessibility

Adding live captions to your Zoom meeting opens up your meeting to a much broader range of people in your community. It makes your meeting accessible to attendees who are deaf or hard-of-hearing, and it improves comprehension for people watching in their non-native language.

4. A more satisfied customer

Whether you're holding a Zoom meeting with colleagues, clients or good friends; the flexibility, accessibility and engagement that live captions offer make for a more satisfying experience for all your meeting attendees.

They will be thankful that you made the effort to include them, engage their interest, and work to their changing needs by adding live captions to your Zoom meeting.

[Read our full article](#) on live captioning for Zoom, or visit the Ai-Media website at ai-media.tv for all our captioning and accessibility services.

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- LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/ai-media_854939/
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/AiMedia01>

From Stage Captions

Remote Live Captioning Services

Are you holding your meetings or events virtually due to COVID-19?

Remote Live Captioning allows d/Deaf and hard of hearing participants to follow what's going on, with live subtitles delivered to multiple locations and devices.

Captions can be embedded, overlaid or viewed in full browser mode. Clients are able to customise the font size and colour at their end.

A full transcript of the event is provided afterwards.

Available for webinars, digital talks, team meetings, live theatre, church services and other virtual events.

No specialist equipment required. Suitable for use with Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Lifesize and other platforms.

Access to Work enquiries welcome.

No booking fees

NRCPD registered. Enhanced Disclosure.

Contact details: Email: admin@stagecaptions.co.uk

Website: www.stagecaptions.co.uk

Mobile: 07837 622229

Twitter: @stagecaptions

From Solar Bear

Solar Flares: Deaf Heritage Project

At Solar Bear we have been awarded a National Lottery Heritage grant to create and share 8 digital art projects exploring deaf heritage in Scotland.

What does Deaf Heritage mean?

What does it look like here in Scotland today?

We want to examine all the different aspects looking to the past, present and the future.

Each year we will select topics. This year we plan to explore Deaf Clubs, Deaf young people and technology.

This autumn we will advertise an opportunity for 2 digital art projects (films, photos, design, animation).

We are then going to share these stories/projects about deaf heritage in Scotland with as many people as possible (deaf and hearing).

We want you to get involved.

Come join our Facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3247974532095283>

Or

Are you interested in knowing more about the project? Got a story to tell? Or are you a budding digital artist? Then please get in touch with Trudi (Project Co-ordinator) at trudi@solarbear.org.uk

From Near Me

The Scottish Government and NHS Scotland are looking at a secure form of video consulting service that lets people have health and social care appointments from home or wherever is convenient. All you need is a device for making video calls like a smartphone and an internet connection. This new service is called Near Me.

The Scottish Government would like to know what people think about this way of having social care and health appointments. To have your say, click here: <https://www.nearme.scot/views>

From the Scottish Government

Children's hearings: Views sought on extending the age range of young people referred.

The Scottish Government is consulting on raising the age at which a young person can be referred to a children's hearing from 16 to 18.

Currently only 16 and 17-year-olds who are already within the children's hearing system can be referred or have their order continued until they are 18.

The proposal is that the bar on new referrals is removed so all young people between 16 and 18 can benefit from the range of protective and supportive measures available through children's hearings.

The consultation, **which runs until October**, also asks whether improvements are needed to the advice and support available for young people who are victims of crime.

Background

The 2019-20 Programme for Government made a commitment to consult on enabling joint reporting to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and the Principal Reporter of all 16 and 17-year-olds' offence cases.

This consultation goes further and seek views on increasing the age at which children can be referred to the Reporter for care, protection and offence grounds.

Consultation on Raising the Age of Referral to the Principal Reporter: <https://consult.gov.scot/children-and-families/age-of-referral-to-the-principal-reporter/>

Currently only 16 and 17-year-olds who have a compulsory supervision order or an open referral can be referred to the children's hearing system. Courts can also make a referral following guilt being accepted or established.

Young Scot Dedicated Young Carer Platform

The Scottish Government has been working with Young Scot for the past 3 years to develop a dedicated platform for young carers which contains opportunities, discounts and information all exclusively for young carers.

What has been developed for this platform is a package that is designed by young carers for young carers and is continually updated to reflect the world and challenges young carers face.

Who can apply?

A young carer in Scotland is anyone, aged under the age of 18, or 18 and still in school, who cares, unpaid, for a family member or friend due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction.

Caring can include:

- medical or nursing care, such as helping someone to take medication or applying dressings
- personal care, such as helping to wash, dress or eat
- practical support, such as taking a person shopping or to medical appointments, cleaning or accompanying them to social events
- emotional support

Any young carer, regardless of their caring duties, aged 11 to 18 are entitled to apply for the young carer package. To find out more how to sign up you can go here.

Young carers can now sign up without a Young Scot card, so no one misses out. The requirement for a Young Scot National Entitlement Card number to be entered has been removed as an interim measure to widen accessibility at a time when cards are no longer in production.

Responding to Covid 19

We have been working with Young Scot to ensure that the opportunities currently available are suitable for social distancing and self-isolation. This package is available to all young carers aged 11 to 18 and we are encouraging the promotion of this as widely as possible.

New opportunities include subscriptions to mindfulness relaxation apps, mobile data top ups, sanitary product vouchers and entertainment subscriptions. Visit [New digital opportunities for young carers](#) for a live list of all available rewards.

For More Information

Stakeholder website section on Young Carer Package - <https://youngscot.net/youngcarers>

Young Carers campaign - <https://young.scot/campaigns/national/young-carers>

From Glasgow City Council

In 2017, we published the Glasgow Council Family's second set of Equality Outcomes as part of our duty under the Equality Act 2010. These outcomes do not include everything we do to reduce inequality in the city but rather provide a structured framework on which to prioritise and evidence progress.

We are now required to develop a new set of outcomes for 2021 to 2025 and we would like your organisations opinion on how we can improve or add to the next set of outcomes.

We appreciate that, at the moment, not everyone will be in a position to respond to our survey. Therefore we would like to assure you that this will not be the only opportunity to share your opinion and suggestions. Given the impact of the current pandemic we will be reviewing the timeframes and mechanisms for future workshops; and will keep you informed of all future opportunities to share your views.

The survey should take around 20 minutes to complete and can be accessed at: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/EqualityOutcomes/>

The survey will close on **Friday 28 August**.

If there is anything we can do to support you to share your views in this difficult time then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

If you would like more information about this, please contact:

equality@glasgow.gov.uk

From BDA Scotland

BDA Scotland's Deaf Roots & Pride (DRP) Transitions will be awarding the Jock Young Award for exceptional achievement by a Deaf Young person aged 8 to 25 in Central belt of Scotland.

The aim of the award is to recognise the achievements of a young person who you might be interested in nominating and we will give the Jock Young Award to the best overall nominee. The other nominees will be sent a certificate of merit.

The categories for the achievements include educational, sporting, personal skills, contribution to Scottish BSL culture and Deaf role model of the year.

Please see the website below for the application form and please submit the application by **Friday 31st July 2020**.

To submit your application in BSL or in English, please apply online: <https://bda.org.uk/jock-young-award/>

We will contact you to let you know the result by the 28th August 2020. For more information, contact Lesley Winning at adminsco.t.drp@bda.org.uk

From Healthcare Improvement Scotland

The Improvement Hub (ihub) is hosting a series of discussion sessions to explore how the health and social care system is responding and adapting in the context of COVID-19. These discussions will focus on some key themes – community led approaches, collaboration, and inclusion – and will be an opportunity to discuss emerging insights as the system moves from crisis response into recovery and renewal.

These sessions are aimed at anyone working within the health and social care system (including in community settings, third sector and independent sector organisations, and housing), and will be of interest to those involved in planning for the future. They take place online via Microsoft Teams.

Aims

These discussion sessions aim to:

- share emerging thinking to support recovery in the context of COVID-19
- enable learning from others working in the health and social care system, and
- support a move from insight gathering towards sense-making and ultimately action.

Dates and times

Session 2: Collaboration in the context of planning and commissioning for the health and well-being of communities.

Tuesday 14 July 2020, 10:00 – 11:00

Microsoft Teams open from 09:45

Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/health-and-social-care-learning-system-webinar-collaboration-tickets-107696316582>

Session 3: Inclusion

Tuesday 28 July 2020, 13:00 - 14:00

Microsoft Teams open from 12:45

Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/health-and-social-care-learning-system-webinar-inclusion-tickets-107698914352>

From the Life Changes Trust

New book honours 20 years of activism by people with dementia in Scotland

The Life Changes Trust is today publishing a landmark book, 'Loud and Clear', telling the story of twenty years of involvement, voice and activism by people living with dementia in Scotland.

It's the first book of its kind, charting the history and telling the story of how people with dementia in Scotland confronted the status quo. The

story is told largely through their eyes and reflects their successes and struggles to achieve ground-breaking change.

For many years, people with dementia were largely undiagnosed, unseen, unvalued, ignored and their voices were unheard. Over the last twenty years, this has started to shift, thanks to a group of people in Scotland living with dementia, speaking up and becoming activists themselves. After decades of silencing and discrimination, people with dementia have been joining forces, taking action and campaigning for social change. Their work has changed policy in Scotland and influenced others across the world.

This book tells their story.

One of Scotland's first activists - also known as the father figure of activists - is James McKillop. James has had a diagnosis of dementia for two decades.

James remembers being turned away from a dementia conference in 2000 - because he had dementia.

He describes why he got involved in having the voice of people with dementia heard: "In the early days, there was nothing for people with dementia, nobody would speak to me or listen. At the beginning, if you had dementia, people wouldn't ask you the time off your watch. They just regarded you as completely incapable of anything. People made assumptions - they never asked us anything, so it's important we are now allowed to speak and this is happening now. People with dementia are being able to voice their opinions and concerns."

Pioneering activist from Scotland travelled from Australia to Japan, changing how dementia was perceived and inspiring people to speak out and advocate for themselves. These countries attribute much of their awareness of the importance of involvement to Scotland's movement.

Colm Cunningham, Director of the Dementia Centre in New South Wales, Australia, said "I'm in Australia and I've seen the impact and influence of the activism from Scotland across many countries. The world has changed through their work."

Philly Hare, author of 'Loud & Clear' said, "I feel very privileged to have researched and written this book on behalf of Life Changes Trust. It has been wonderful to meet or re-meet so many remarkable people and to tell their story. Scotland has a lot to be proud of – and has built a strong foundation on which so much more can be done in the future. So this is by no means the end... but an important pause for celebration and reflection."

Arlene Crockett, Director of Evidence and Influencing for Dementia at the Life Changes Trust said, "It is clear from this book that the impact of dementia activism in Scotland on both policy and practice has been significant. The courage and energy of the activists themselves has also inspired many individuals – and in some cases, has influenced their working practices and life courses. Everything that has been achieved by these remarkable activists contribute to Scotland's reputation for being, in many ways, at the cutting edge of how we support and empower people living with dementia."

James McKillop said of 'Loud and Clear', "It's important a record is made before we are gone. I'm looking forward to reading it. I hope it makes me feel glorious!"

The Life Changes Trust was set up with a National Lottery Community Fund endowment of £50 million to improve the lives of people affected by dementia and young people with care experience.

From the Scottish Government's Mental Health Directorate

"The **Test and Protect Campaign**, NHS Scotland's approach to controlling the spread of coronavirus in our communities, was launched on **Thursday 28 May**. This campaign will run for six weeks, with activity on social media, TV and radio, press and outdoor digital posters.

The main focus of the campaign is to inform people about the Test and Protect process, and how this process will support people to get tested as soon as they develop symptoms. We are looking for your support to share this message within your networks and within your organisations, as we require our collective cooperation to control the spread of coronavirus within our communities. The First Minister has set out the [Route Map](#) for easing restrictions, and as we move through Phase 1

we are calling on everyone to become familiar with the Test and Protect service. **You can also view the published guidance for employers for Test & Protect [here](#).**

We are also developing a **Door Drop** for every household in Scotland that will provide key information about the service and guidance on the support available for those that need to isolate, which will land in every Scottish home the week of **22 June**.

Stakeholder Toolkit

Please find attached the Test and Protect Stakeholder Toolkit, which outlines:

- The Test and Protect service
- Infographic outlining the Test & Protect process
- Links to further information
- Key messages
- Campaign details
- Social Posts
- Editorial Copy

You can also download all campaign assets [here](#).

From the Scottish Parliament Finance and Constitution Committee

The Finance and Constitution Committee has launched a call for views on the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill Financial Memorandum.

The Bill can be read on the Parliament website:

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/hate-crime-and-public-order-scotland-bill>

Our call for views closes on **24 July 2020**. You can read our call for views and find out what we're looking for here:

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/115297.aspx>

Please note that in most cases your written submission will be published on the Scottish Parliament's website and may be quoted in the

Committee's report or in Committee meetings (which are public and broadcast).

If you wish to request that your submission be published without your name, please contact us at Finance.Constitution@parliament.scot .

Before making a submission, please read our privacy notice about submitting your views to a Committee.

From the Social Care Support Division, Community Health and Care Directorate, Scottish Government

Please can I draw your attention to the [Frequently Asked Questions publication](#) that accompanies [COVID guidance on Self-directed support Options 1 & 2](#).

It addresses the issues around Self Directed Support during the pandemic raised by people who use social care support, employers of personal assistants, personal assistants, independent advice and support organisations, providers of services and Local Authorities.

Further social care information and guidance about Coronavirus (COVID-19) is available at <https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-care/latest/>

From Police Scotland

'Your Police 2020-2021' survey

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/surveys/your-police-bsl/>

This survey asks for the views of the public on policing particularly the police response during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Both the BSL and English versions are on the Police Scotland Citizen Space page (link below)

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/>

The survey will remain open until **31 March 2021**.

Any queries can be sent to consultations@scotland.pnn.police.uk

From BT

Skills for Tomorrow

Tech tips are available on our website.

Go to <https://www.bt.com/tech-tips> where you will be able to watch the videos and download a PDF guides.

Tech4Good Award nominations open

BT helped create the awards with AbilityNet 10 years ago, and they recognise organisations and individuals who use digital technology to improve the lives of others, making the world a better place.

We are the headline sponsor and there are eight categories, including the **BT Young Pioneer Award**, which we support as part of BT Skills for Tomorrow.

For more information, go to <https://www.tech4goodawards.com/enter-now/youngpioneer/>

From The Department of Work and Pensions

Tell Us Once service awareness

The death of a friend or family member can be a difficult and stressful time. The Tell Us Once service helps you inform central and local government departments, as well as a range of public sector pension schemes, alleviating the need to contact different people across a range of organisations at a time when you are most vulnerable.

The Registrar can provide you with a unique reference number when you register the death or obtain an interim death certificate. You can then access the service via telephone or online.

Find out more: https://www.gov.uk/after-a-death/organisations-you-need-to-contact-and-tell-us-once?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.dwp.gov.uk%2fdwplz%2f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Coronavirus+Touchbase+special+-

[+29+May+2020&utm_term=Coronavirus+Touchbase+special+-+29+May+2020&utm_content=67426](#)

“We used this service when our mother died. The Registrar filled in all the details for us and we checked them. Then she pressed the button and it was done. We got statements later from the DWP/HMRC on what was still owed to Mum’s estate. It meant we didn’t have to remember who to contact – it was all done for us.” deafscotland member

From the Scottish Government Disability Employment Team

On Monday, 30th March 2020 the Scottish Government published our Year 1 Progress Report for A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People: Employment Action Plan. We are pleased to report that the progress report is now available in a range of accessible formats, as outlined below:

- An [online version](#);
- A [PDF version](#);
- An [Audio Version](#);
- An [Easy Read summary](#); and
- A [BSL summary](#).

The report highlights progress made to date, which includes: publishing the Scottish Government’s Recruitment and Retention Plan; and establishing a Public Social Partnership to help support employers to recruit and retain disabled people. The report also outlines progress achieved across the various Scottish Government policy areas that make a critical contribution to helping to meet the ambition of at least halving the disability employment gap in Scotland by 2038. This includes: work on Scotland's Accessible Travel Framework; alignment of health and employment policy; support for business and enterprise; and work to enhance young people's opportunities to enter and progress within the labour market.

It also sets out activity we are planning to undertake over the next year, including the review of supported employment and Individual Placement and Support (IPS), an employer-led campaign, and development of a programme to support disabled parents living in households affected by child poverty.

We would like to thank all our partners across sectors who continue to support and work in collaboration with us in delivering the plan, and helping to reduce the disability employment gap.

As outlined in the report, we recognise that the current COVID-19 outbreak will present significant challenges within the labour market, but we are committed to ensuring that disabled people are included in the recovery efforts.

If you have any queries regarding the report, please contact us at EmployabilityDET@gov.scot and a member of the team will respond as soon as possible.

CONSULTATIONS

From Elaine Smith MSP

Yesterday, I officially lodged a proposal for a bill to enshrine the Right to Food into law in Scotland.

We all have a right to food, but while it is recognised internationally it is a right so many people in Scotland are seeing go unfulfilled.

The covid-19 pandemic has brought Scotland's food system into sharp focus. Food insecurity has been experienced by more families in Scotland, with people losing their income suddenly and being left with too little to meet their basic needs, and with others experiencing physical food insecurity because the normal methods by which they acquire their food are disrupted, for example if they have been shielding.

This is your opportunity to shape the approach that Scotland takes to food going forward. The outcome of this consultation will play a big role in shaping the principles which guide our food system. I hope you will take this chance to help build a fairer, more sustainable food system which places human rights at its heart.

I urge you to respond to the consultation by the **closing date on 15 September 2020**, and to use your networks and social media to ensure that the consultation receives as many responses as possible from communities across Scotland, including those with lived experiences of food insecurity.

To help raise awareness of our campaign, I have attached a graphic, which I encourage you to share on social media platforms to show your support. You can also express your support on twitter using the hashtag #RightToFoodScot.

To find out more information, including how to respond to the consultation, please visit <https://righttofoodscotland.wixsite.com/righttofood> or the consultation page on the Scottish Parliament website at <https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/115201.aspx>

TRAINING: Working with deaf people during lockdown and want to know more...

AWARENESSbites



AWARENESSbites online: Learn how to communicate better with deaf people

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

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

We are offering two packages: Green and Purple

The Package Contents:

Green package – £15 per user

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

Purple package – £28 per user

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

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

If you would like to purchase packages, please contact us directly at admin@deafscotland.org.

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

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT PQs, MOTIONS AND DEBATES

S5W-29859 Mark Griffin (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what action it has taken to meet its duties to communicate in an inclusive way as set out in section (a) 6 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) (No.2) Act 2020, (b) 6 (7)(b) of the Consumer Scotland Act 2020 and (c) 4(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018.

Shirley-Anne Somerville: Inclusive communication means sharing information in a way that everybody can understand. It is both important and is a right. Scottish Government's Action Plan, *A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People*, published in 2016, states that in Scotland we want communication to be accessible to, and inclusive of, all.

To support this Scottish Government funds The Inclusive Communication Hub, launched in 2016 and managed by Disability Equality Scotland. It is an easy to use online tool for all who wish to be more inclusive with the information they give. It provides tools and guidance on how to make information accessible to people; and provides a central place where accessible information and resources that have been developed by organisations throughout Scotland can be accessed.

Coronavirus (Scotland) (No.2) Act 2020

Scottish Government has taken a range of steps to ensure it is fulfilling its duty to provide information in accessible formats:

- Scottish Government has worked with both the Scottish Commission for Learning Disability and Disability Equality Scotland to provide Easy Read versions of key UK and Scottish Government documents.
- Scottish Government has granted funds to Deafblind Scotland to provide translations of official UK and Scottish Government advice in Braille, Moon, XXXL print and audio. This information is being shared with other organisations working with people who may have visual impairment and deafness, and with organisations working with older people.
- NHS Inform has produced easy read and BSL versions of the COVID-19 advice and information to ensure it is accessible to all.
- The Scottish Government arranged for in-situ BSL/English interpreters to cover the daily COVID-19 press conferences, and continue to work with broadcasters to ensure the interpreter is included in their broadcasts. The Scottish Government is also producing BSL versions of key information.
- British Deaf Association are being funded to produce daily factual news summaries from official sources in BSL
- High quality, HTML documents are produced on all COVID-19 materials to make them accessible for users of assistive technology.
- The Scottish Government has developed accessible formats for *COVID-19: A Framework for Decision Making* and *Scotland's route map through and out of the crisis*. An easy read version is available for both documents and the route map is also available in audio and BSL and has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Polish and Gaelic. We will continue to ensure we communicate messages about the route map in an inclusive way.

Consumer Scotland Act 2020

The Consumer Scotland Act was introduced to Parliament on 5 June 2019 and received Royal Assent on 9 June 2020. When established, Consumer Scotland will be an independent body accountable to Parliament. As such, it will be for the body to consider how best to meet the inclusive communications duty and what the associated cost will be.

Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

Social Security Scotland's current capability is as follows:

- Interpretation, Translation and Transcription services available in over 100 languages
- British Sign Language (BSL) video relay service available through Contact Scotland
- Deafblind interpreters, Text Relay and electronic note taker services
- All letters, information and guidance are available in Braille, Large Print, Easy Read and various Audio formats
- Online content follows the Scottish Government's accessibility design standards. It is compatible with screen reader software on Jaws, Voiceover and Non Visual Desktop Access (NVDA) platforms

The requirement to communicate inclusively is included in Social Security Scotland's Corporate Plan and Our Charter and further work will be undertaken to embed inclusive communication principles across the organisation.

Work is being guided by user research and stakeholder expertise. An Inclusive Communication Reference Group has been created which includes over 20 representatives from organisations across a wide range of client groups.

S5W-29860 Mark Griffin (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what the estimated cost is of meeting its duties to communicate in an inclusive way as set out in section (a) 6 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) (No.2) Act 2020, (b) 6 (7)(b) of the Consumer Scotland Act 2020 and (c) 4(2) of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018, and what budget it has allocated to ensure compliance with each of these duties.

Shirley-Anne Somerville: The Scottish Government is seeking to meet its duties to communicate in an inclusive way by embedding inclusive communication principles into the design of its systems and processes rather than create separate products and services. When producing or publishing accessible documents the costs is incorporated into the wider

costs of delivery. This means it is not possible to provide a fixed costs for all the action it is taking to communicate in an inclusive way.

Coronavirus Act 2020

A range actions are being taken forward to ensure the Scottish Government are communicating in an accessible way, for example the provision of BSL interpreter at the daily briefings, public information documents being produced in a range of formats and specialist organisations producing documents in accessible formats for particular audiences. It is not possible to give a total amount for all of this work as it is not funded through a single budget.

However, Scottish Government can provide the following individual costs to date

1. Marketing and Insight Unit Translation Spend to Date: £42,770
2. Partnership Translations and Accessible Formats – Supported by partnership organisations (no cost)
3. Cost for translators during Ministerial daily updates
 - 2019-20 – £1,200
 - 2020-21 – £5,405
4. The Scottish Government have developed accessible formats for *COVID-19: A Framework for Decision Making* and *Scotland's route map through and out of the crisis*. An easy read version is available for both documents and the route map is also available in audio and BSL and has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Polish and Gaelic. We will continue to ensure we communicate messages about the route map in an inclusive way. The estimated cost of this is £14,800.

Consumer Act 2020

The Consumer Scotland Act was introduced to Parliament on 5 June 2019 and received Royal Assent on 9 June 2020.

When established, Consumer Scotland will be an independent body accountable to Parliament. As such, it will be for the body to consider how best to meet the inclusive communication duty and what the associated cost will be.

Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018

The costs of ensuring that Social Security Scotland deliver an inclusive and accessible service is wrapped up in the overall service design and delivery costs of social security. It is considered in everything from the words and layout of an application form to the selection and fit out of office space. It is not just about the way in which Social Security Scotland produce documents it is about every interaction. As such, Social Security Scotland cannot pull out a stand alone cost or budget line for meeting these commitments, it is woven through everything that they do. However, there are some services that Social Security Scotland procure that can be pulled out as a direct contributor to meeting their duties. This includes translation costs and provision of materials in alternative formats.

Some of this is planned in and proactive – for example production of communication materials in a range of different formats and languages as agreed with stakeholders (e.g. Easy Read, Braille, foreign languages and BSL). Social Security Scotland have budgeted £30,000 for this in financial year 2020-21.

There are other costs that will be demand led – for example language interpretation and translation services. Social Security Scotland have budgeted £83,000 for this in financial year 2020-21, based on estimates. This is not an upper limit and will be revised upward if demand increases.



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.

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 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

Please do not include logos, graphics or photographs as we cannot include these in our bulletin. We might be able to share on social media – please email admin@deafscotland.org to ask.

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	

ALL ARTICLES TO BE EMAILED TO:
admin@deafscotland.org BEFORE THE 24TH DAY OF EVERY MONTH.