



# deafscotland Bulletin August 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](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org)

Thank you.

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

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## Monthly Newsletter for deafscotland Members

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### Message from deafscotland

We hope that you, your staff, your volunteers, your service users / members and your families remain safe and healthy. As we steadily move throughout the phases of the Scottish Government's route map out of lockdown, deafscotland team are still working remotely from home and will be for another couple of months.

We've lost count how many weeks now since lockdown started and how we're easing out of lockdown carefully. There have been so many restrictions, lots of changes and adaptations which affects us all, but most importantly keeping us all safe. It has been a challenging but busy time for deafscotland over the last five months.

We are hoping that you all are keeping well during this crisis. Even with lockdown easing in some areas, the pressure is still on to keep people safe. We need to work together to get to the “new normal” to be more inclusive for all. It’s important that the ‘Communication For All’ approach is embedded in the new normal to ensure that communication is everyone’s business and no-one should be isolated or alone.

We look forward to catching up with members as the months go on. And we would like to finish off with an important message from Helen Keller – “Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.” Please look after yourself and be safe. If there’s anything we can do, please contact us at [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## **Deafness and Dementia Webinar**

We’re delighted to be partnering up with The ALLIANCE with the ALLIANCE Carer Voices project for the webinar on **Thursday 6 August 2020 at 1.00pm - 2.00pm**. Tommy Whitelaw at The ALLIANCE will be chairing the webinar.

Covering our report on ‘Deafness and Dementia: Predicting the future for Scotland’. The current UK-wide Covid-19 lockdown has brought the impact and understanding of social isolation into the mainstream and the devastating affects this isolation has on people with dementia has been openly discussed in the media. Those with hearing loss are at risk of increased social isolation; those with hearing loss and dementia are doubly vulnerable and the limited social interaction during lockdown increases the risk even further.

This timely webinar from deafscotland in partnership with the ALLIANCE Carer Voices project will present the findings of a new deafscotland study, funded by the Life Changes Trust, that looked at hearing loss and dementia in Scotland. Participants will also be given the chance to take part in wider discussion around future priorities and a Q + A session.

This event will be conducted via Zoom online conferencing. BSL / English Interpreter and Electronic Note-taker will be provided.

To register your place, please email [Membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk](mailto:Membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk).

## Recent publications

We have 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;
- Covid-19 Summary Report; and
- The Dementia and Deafness Report.

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

## Ongoing projects

The first survey on **the Covid-19 crisis** for people with a hearing loss is complete and the report is written. The **second survey – the Road to Recovery** – is now live. To take part, click here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5CHMNF7>

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

Our **Deafness and Dementia Project** report was launched on Friday 17 July 2020: <https://deafscotland.org/dementia/>

## **The next Cross Party Group on Deafness meeting**

The next meeting will be going ahead on Wednesday 2 September 2020 at 1.00pm.

We will be doing this remotely via Zoom, an online video call / conference platform.

We will be in touch with members shortly by email with further details and instructions for Zoom.

## **Our Virtual Museum**

Our Project Worker, Stewart Campbell, is finishing this month but the Virtual Museum remains an ongoing living archive and we are still looking for your valued contributions – past, present or even the future. This can be done as a document, story or as a film – the choice is yours. For more information or guidance on the project, please visit <https://deafscotland.org/virtual-museum-info>.

If you have any experiences you would like to share with other people linked to the Coronavirus and the impact this has had on your life, please contact us at [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

## **Our Campaigns**



Remember we have three ongoing crucial campaigns.

### **Communication For All:**

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

### **BSL For ALL:**

<https://deafscotland.org/bsl-for-all/>

## **Connect Us Too:**

<https://deafscotland.org/resources/connect-us-too/>

Have you got your Communication For All car / window stickers? Yes? That's fantastic! Don't forget to share it with us on Twitter or Facebook.

Maybe you've seen it or come across it on the move, why take a photograph and share it with us on Twitter or Facebook.

No? To get some stickers, please contact us at [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org) Then why not have some fun and put it somewhere unusual but for people to see. Then take a photograph to share it with us on Twitter or Facebook.

## **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](mailto: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=PL7TPJkTbihG\\_7MIFYQeX4ryL-kOyGtk-d](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7TPJkTbihG_7MIFYQeX4ryL-kOyGtk-d)

Best wishes, Janis & deafscotland Team

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## NEWS / INFORMATION ON COVID-19

**Information from deafscotland:**

<https://deafscotland.org/latest-news/>

**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>

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## NEWS / INFORMATION

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### 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](mailto:morven@disabilityequality.scot).

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### From Third Force News (TFN)

#### Video conferencing vital for those with hearing issues

TFN have published an article about the necessity of video calling for people with hearing loss. Visit the link below to find out more.

[http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/video-conferencing-vital-for-those-with-hearing-issues?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=TFN%20digest%20Tuesday%202014%20July%202020&utm\\_content=TFN%20digest%20Tuesday%202014%20July%202020+CID\\_e0715d7385ca47d1fc98e502479b24ac&utm\\_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm\\_term=Video%20conferencing%20vital%20for%20those%20with%20hearing%20issues](http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/video-conferencing-vital-for-those-with-hearing-issues?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=TFN%20digest%20Tuesday%202014%20July%202020&utm_content=TFN%20digest%20Tuesday%202014%20July%202020+CID_e0715d7385ca47d1fc98e502479b24ac&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Video%20conferencing%20vital%20for%20those%20with%20hearing%20issues)

## **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](mailto:trudi@solarbear.org.uk)

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## **From SignLive**

### **Great news for pet owners!**

#BSL users can now use the SignLive app to contact the PDSA - Saving Pets, Changing Lives, the UK's leading vet charity.

#deafaccess #PDSA #PDSAPets #deaf

<https://vimeo.com/426939560>

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## 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](mailto:equality@glasgow.gov.uk)

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## From the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)

The SQA are currently reviewing the National 3 English Course. If you have experience of delivering National 3 English, SQA would like to hear from you. This is the link to the survey:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2LTEKxW0bE-LuCwphdcXHxvTQY128YRGtR2s6K\\_jSOtUMjgwQIRUUjZSUDFHTVdEVktMSIJRVzFOWC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2LTEKxW0bE-LuCwphdcXHxvTQY128YRGtR2s6K_jSOtUMjgwQIRUUjZSUDFHTVdEVktMSIJRVzFOWC4u)

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## From Ai-Media

**5 Ways to Make Your Content More Accessible**

Access to information is easier than ever before, but there is still some work to do when it comes to web accessibility for people with disabilities. Here's how to make your content inclusive in five simple steps.

## **1. Know your requirements**

There might be rules and regulations in your region about digital accessibility. Look up the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) for resources on web accessibility legislation around the world.

## **2. Make your website 100% accessible**

Your website is the portal to your content, so it needs a lot of attention. According to research, the top areas that need improvement on most websites include: alt text (providing text versions of all images and graphs for people who are blind and have low vision); and text contrast (making sure text and backgrounds have high contrast for people with low vision).

## **3. Caption your videos, live streams and meetings**

If you use video content, live streams or video conferencing without captions, people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing are missing out on your content.

Luckily, there are so many options for captioning your content. These include captions for recorded video content, Zoom meetings, live stream captions, speech-to-text captions, broadcast captions, and much more.

In addition to the accessibility that they offer, captions boost audience engagement, increase traffic to your webpage, provide more flexible options for people to connect with your content, and create a more satisfying user experience.

## **4. Use audio description**

Audio description makes your content accessible to people who are blind or have low vision by describing aloud the visual elements of a video. It is an easy way to bring clarity and richness to your videos for people who are often excluded from video content.

## **5. Transcribe your content**

Transcripts are written text versions of video or audio content – usually provided as a written document alongside the original media.

They make your content accessible to people who are deaf, hard-of-hearing and those who are blind or have low vision. They can improve

accessibility for people with certain psychosocial and intellectual disabilities.

Uploading transcripts to your website can also enhance your website performance. It does this by providing a written version of your content for search engines to crawl.

For more information on captioning, audio description or transcription services, visit the Ai-media website at <https://www.ai-media.tv/>.

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## From The Department of Work and Pensions

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-what-to-do-if-youre-already-getting-benefits>

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) is regularly updating its information on claiming benefits. For more information, click on the link above.

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## From BT

This summer will be like no other that we've experienced. With families still juggling childcare and work, we know that it will be a challenge to help our children explore and enjoy the online world safely this summer.

At **BT Skills for Tomorrow** we have free tips, advice, videos, games and courses to help families this summer. From managing screen time to learning about online influencers, and games to keep your kids entertained whilst learning, we can help you and your family to make the most of life in the digital world. [www.bt.com/skillsfortomorrow/families](http://www.bt.com/skillsfortomorrow/families)

To kick off the summer, we are first teaming up with families media partner Channel Mum to celebrate the amazing people who have used tech to help local families get through lockdown. Do you know someone who has helped families at this challenging time? Nominate them at: <https://www.channelmum.com/btdigitalhero>

### Spread the word:

- Do you know a family who might find what we have handy? Please let them know they can find out more here [www.bt.com/skillsfortomorrow/families](http://www.bt.com/skillsfortomorrow/families)

- Or let your networks know they can nominate their digital lockdown heroes here <https://www.channelmum.com/btdigitalhero>
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## **Scottish charities step up to meet unprecedented surge in need**

New 100<sup>th</sup> day data from the **National Emergencies Trust's (NET) Coronavirus Appeal** reveals the important role of grassroots community organisations tackling hardship

More than 702 grassroots charities and groups across Scotland have transformed their services in the last three months to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic, according to new data released by the National Emergencies Trust to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> day of its nationwide Coronavirus Appeal.

The Trust launched its nationwide Coronavirus Appeal on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020, just days after the World Health Authority (WHO) declared a global pandemic. Today, 100 days since the Appeal launched, grants data shows that nearly £3million has been distributed to Scotland's grassroots groups, helping them provide urgent services to curb the crisis in communities.

In Scotland, the greatest need has been grants for temporary emergency response coordination followed by food, medicine and wellbeing services. Existing local charities and groups have transformed their services to cope with the huge surge in need, and extraordinary new operating conditions; and new groups have also been established, at speed, to support the most vulnerable communities. For example:

**Building Bridges**, based in **Leith, Edinburgh** is a charity with a focus on forging relationships and building connections between communities, has provided Halal and vegetarian meals to roughly 70-80 local individuals and families every week during the pandemic. The charity has been working with local organisations such as Asian Concern, Punjabi Junction and the Mosque Kitchen to continue connecting communities together and ensure that those who are struggling, on low income or have lost their job can be supported.

**Concrete Garden**, based in **Possilpark, Glasgow** is a health and wellbeing charity, focusing on therapeutic gardening, outdoor play and volunteering. The charity has two community gardens and a natural play area. Funds from the National Emergencies Trust were put towards equipment and technology needed to create activity packs, online play, crafts and meditation spaces. As a result, Concrete Garden were able to send out wellbeing packs to 300 people.

Since it launched on 18<sup>th</sup> March, the NET Coronavirus Appeal has raised more than £82million including a £20million donation from the Covid-19 Support Fund, an initiative by the insurance and long-term savings industry and £20million from UK Government. To-date £51.2 million has been distributed to Community Foundations across the UK to support the vital work of grassroots charities on the community front-line. Individual grants awarded by the Community Foundations have ranged from £35 to £240,000, enabling groups to provide essential services to those most impacted by coronavirus.

The NET is currently working in partnership with UK Community Foundations (UKCF) and its network of 46 accredited Community Foundations and one distributing partner, to distribute funds across the four nations and Crown dependencies. It continues to assess the most effective ways to reach marginalised and disadvantaged groups to ensure help gets to those who need it most.

Groups who have specialist knowledge of their communities' needs are encouraged to apply for grants from Foundation Scotland so they can continue to provide essential services to those most affected by the social and economic impacts of the coronavirus

Anyone can make a donation by texting APPEAL to 70141 to donate £10. Or alternatively by visiting [www.nationalemergenciestrust.org.uk](http://www.nationalemergenciestrust.org.uk)

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## **From Disability Equality Scotland**

**Disability Equality Scotland praises new app function that allows wheelchair users to track accessible spaces on First buses**

Disability Equality Scotland has praised national bus operator First Bus for fast-tracking technology which will enable wheelchair users to track accessible spaces on their local bus services in 'real-time'.

The [mobile app](#) update, available now, enables customers across the UK to view available wheelchair spaces across its fleet. This important innovation makes bus travel easier by tracking wheelchair capacity through an icon that moves across a virtual map. The update forms part of a fast-tracked investment in the app which has seen First become the first UK bus operator to not only allow bus passengers to live track the location of their next bus, but also show its capacity in 'real time'.

Emma Scott, Operations Manager at Disability Equality Scotland explained why this is such a welcome improvement for wheelchair users in the area, "We welcome the fast-tracking of the app which will give wheelchair users more confidence to use public transport during these uncertain times. By giving wheelchair users this information in an inclusive and accessible way, it allows them to make decisions about whether to wait or find an alternative route."

Andrew Jarvis, Managing Director of First Bus in Scotland said "We are really proud to have been able to fast-track our recent app updates to ensure safe, informed travel during these difficult times. Our buses provide an essential service for our customers and we are doing all we can to support them. The app update is aligned with our longstanding pledge to improve the bus experience for our disabled passengers."

To find out more about what First Bus is doing to support customers during Covid-19, visit <https://www.firstgroup.com/help-and-support/coronavirus-information>.

If customers are exempt from Government face covering guidelines, First Bus have journey assistance cards available to download from <https://www.firstgroup.com/help-and-support/extra-help-travel>.

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## **From British Deaf Association Scotland**

### **Let's catch up about your local BSL Plans**

BDA Scotland want to encourage Deaf BSL users to join us for a Zoom chat. We want to know about your experiences of accessing your local council, health board or other public bodies. We want to know what they are doing well regarding BSL access, and what needs to improve. This

includes your local issues. If you are keen in joining, please let us know. We will get in touch with you and arrange a date for the Zoom chat.

If you want more information, please contact Helen Morgans-Wenhold at [hco.scot@bda.org.uk](mailto:hco.scot@bda.org.uk).

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## CONSULTATIONS

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### 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>

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## EVENTS

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### From Generations Working Together

#### How can we build an intergenerational nation?

10 September 2020, 1:00pm–3:00pm at Online on zoom

How do we create an intergenerational nation where younger and older people help each other, communicate...

To Book, click here: <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/events/how-can-we-build-an-intergenerational-nation-10-09-2020>

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

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**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](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org).

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

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## **SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT PQs, MOTIONS AND DEBATES**

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**S5M-22333 Jeremy Balfour (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)**

**Access to All in Retail**

That the Parliament welcomes the Action on Hearing Loss campaign, Access for All in Retail, which calls on retailers to take action and make their stores accessible for the 12 million people in the UK who are deaf or have hearing loss; understands, that for too long, retail spaces have been inaccessible for these people, whether this has been through the use of background music, a lack of hearing loops, or by failing to provide their staff with deaf awareness training; believes that the COVID-19 pandemic has only added to these barriers, with face covers, physical partitions and social distancing creating a more difficult experience; understands the campaign asks retailers to take the simple steps of

minimising the barriers created by face coverings, reducing background noise, using hearing loops and training staff about deaf awareness; encourages everyone to sign Action on Hearing Loss open letter to show retailers how important it believes these measures are, and wishes the campaign success.

**Supported by:** Alexander Stewart, Miles Briggs, Brian Whittle, Murdo Fraser, Margaret Mitchell, Mark McDonald, Annie Wells

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**S5W-30394: Monica Lennon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour):**

To ask the Scottish Government what efforts have been made to source transparent face coverings for use in health and social care settings to aid communication for patients and staff who are deaf or have hearing loss.

**Jeane Freeman:**

The Scottish Government has been working with partners to explore options for transparent masks and face coverings. Currently, there are no commercially available transparent masks that are certified for use in clinical settings. However, £50,000 of funding from the Scottish Enterprise's Pivotal Enterprise Resilience Fund (PERF) was recently awarded to an Edinburgh based company to expand its production of face coverings to include coverings with transparent panes, which enable lip-reading. This company is also being supported by the National Manufacturing Institute for Scotland (NMIS) to upgrade these face coverings to type IIR masks suitable for use in clinical settings. The Scottish Government is aware that when face coverings and face masks are worn there may be additional challenges for those who are deaf or have hearing loss, as well as others with different communication needs. Guidance is being continually updated as to when face masks and face coverings should be used in health and social care settings. The latest guidance on the extended use of face masks recommends that staff working in clinical areas of an adult acute, community hospital or care home for the elderly should wear a medical face mask at all times. However, the guidance also stipulates that where necessary and when safe to do so, staff can lower or remove their mask to allow for lip-reading, but must maintain 2m physical distancing. Where physical distancing is not possible, other communication methods should be used.

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## **S5W-30393: Monica Lennon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour)**

To ask the Scottish Government what assessment has been made of the implications of its guidance on the use of face coverings for people who are deaf or have hearing loss.

### **Jeane Freeman:**

In developing its advice on face coverings, the Scottish Government took account of equality issues and advice from national disability stakeholders.

People do not have to wear a face covering if they have a health condition or they are disabled. Additionally, if a face covering would be inappropriate because it would cause difficulty, pain, or severe distress or anxiety or because it cannot be worn in the proper manner safely and consistently, people do not have to use one. This is reflected both in the relevant regulations and Scottish Government guidance.



## **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

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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org) BEFORE THE 24TH DAY OF EVERY MONTH.