



deafscotland Bulletin November 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



Message from deafscotland

We have an apology to make. There is no BSL version of our news this month. This is due to a number of deadlines coming up all at the same time and our staff team running out of time. We will be back online next month with our Xmas special!

Please do remember this quote from Helen Keller as we continue to be in lockdown in some areas of Scotland – “Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much”. Please look after yourself and be safe out there.

Our next National Council Meeting

The next National Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 November 2020 at 1.00pm via Zoom (an online platform). Information and papers have been sent out to members.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our 92nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday 2 December 2020 via Zoom (an online platform). Star member (full members) have voting rights at the AGM. Some of you have yet to pay your membership so now might be the time to check whether or not your organisation has paid their dues.

Updates on our website

Don't forget we have a COVID-19 – the Communication Virus Wellbeing and Resilience page on our website which gives information, factsheets and toolkits on the pandemic and the “road to recovery”.

<https://deafscotland.org/covid-19-the-communication-virus/>

There is also more information on the **publications page**:

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

These new publications include:

- Briefing on Communication For All Campaign;
- deafscotland's asks for the Scottish Parliamentary Election in 2021;
- First Minister's National Advisory Council on Women and Girls: Deaf Women Circle Report.

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

Ongoing projects

Self-Management Survey

The second Self-Management Survey is still live. Please encourage deaf people to fill in the questionnaire:

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

Our Virtual Museum

We have had a few technical hitches with our Virtual Museum and due to Covid-19 they are taking longer than usual to put right. We ask that

you please bear with us until we can make the whole museum “live”, which will be as soon as we can sort out these technical problems.

Our Campaigns

We have three ongoing campaigns:



Communication For All:

We continue to promote Communication For All, Inclusive Communication and Accessible Information in a number of responses to Scottish Government consultations, Scottish Parliament Committees, and Janis attended a meeting of the UK Parliament’s Scottish Affairs Committee on Wednesday 4 November. The meeting is available on UK Parliament TV 14:01:58 minutes into the recording (the video is only available with audio): <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/16858b78-bd6d-4030-9765-0d222e6d042d>



BSL For All:

We have made a number of BSL clips with different people celebrating the 5 years since the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015 was passed. These will be available on our YouTube channel.

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



Connect Us Too:

We are in discussion with See Me Scotland about our next piece of work on the Connect Us Too agenda. More information will be available next month.

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

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

At the moment, we are not countersigning disclosure applications. We're a small team and have very limited resources in place. We're currently working on a number of projects over the coming months which requires our full focus. Apologies for the inconvenience.

We will let you know when we will run this service again.

There is a Disclosure Scotland update available on our website:
<https://deafscotland.org/disclosure-for-people-working-with-protected-groups/>

Getting in touch

Please contact us at admin@deafscotland.org if you have questions about anything in this news section.

BSL translation

This will be back next month...

Best wishes, Janis & deafscotland Team

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>

NEWS / INFORMATION

From the Scottish Recovery Network

Build back better:

What a recovery mind-set can offer the future of Scotland's mental health and wellbeing

Developed from conversations at our online cafés, the [Build back better](#) report and animation highlight the need for lived experience, peer support and communities to be at the heart of creating and delivering mental health support. This new report and animation complement the [Staying connected resources](#) we launched in the summer.

The resources can also be found on the Scottish Recovery Network YouTube channels, British Sign Language playlist

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIOPPO_PpGpUfXfcCn_E5jRjXuuDpFjEZ

From the Scottish Sensory Centre

The Scottish Sensory Centre Library Service is resuming its Postal Lending service for the first time since Mid-March 2020. Staff are being allowed back into the offices on a very part-time and restricted basis. The library cannot accept any visitors but will be able to process loans once a week.

Contact sscmail@ed.ac.uk if you would like to organise any loans or have questions about returning items.

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/library>

We would like a **snapshot of how education services for deaf children are operating now**. This **survey** should take approx 10-15 minutes to complete. This survey is in response to issues raised by deaf education professionals across Scotland over the summer/start of this term. All information we gather will be made anonymous. We will not identify any council area by name. We will report generically.

<https://edinburgh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/deaf-education-in-scotland-and-covid-19>

Thank you for your time and cooperation during this busy period.

From the ALLIANCE

The ALLIANCE has been invited to lead on the engagement work for the **Independent Review of Adult Social Care Services**. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was able to attend one of our targeted engagement events. We appreciate they were organised at short notice, and we are grateful for those who could attend- playing such a valuable role in generating some quality and powerful discussions. We have attempted to capture the discussions in our [Event Reports](#), which can be found on our website.

We would like to continue the momentum from these discussion further, and encourage members to utilise our [facilitation pack](#), supporting organisations in organising local or targeted events during the consultation period to access the views of individuals, clients, service users and carers. Equally this resource would be beneficial to those who were unable to attend our events but would like to capture the views of the individuals and families you support. This information can be sent to us using our [template](#), and will be collated and feedback in our final report to the Social Care Advisory Panel.

In order to reach the widest audience possible, we have also created an [online survey](#) which we would be grateful if you could share with individuals and via your social media accounts to encourage individuals with lived experience to share their views and insights with this review.

We would be keen to support members to lead on their own engagement activity, and/or for their views to be shared with us, enabling us to track our member activity throughout the review process. If you would like to explore this opportunity with us more, please contacts us at people@alliance-scotland.org.uk

From TPAS

Regulator's National Panel highlights some tenants are struggling to manage their housing costs and wider finances

New research from **the Scottish Housing Regulator** highlights tenants' difficulties in managing their housing costs and wider finances. The report brings together feedback from the National Panel of Tenants and Service Users. The feedback suggests an upward trend in the financial pressures tenants are facing, with higher levels of concerns about future financial circumstances than in last year's survey.

Nearly a third of National Panel members who took part in this year's survey said they are not managing well with their housing costs, including rent, energy bills and other housing-related costs. The same proportion are not managing well with their finances as a whole. Around half have experienced difficulties affording their rent. Four fifths are also concerned about the future affordability of their rent.

The insight into tenants' financial circumstances was part of the annual programme of research from the Regulator's National Panel. Members also fed back through the survey on a range of issues relating to landlords' key attributes, accessibility and responsiveness.

Alongside the survey, the programme looked at services for people who are homeless, Gypsy/Travellers and factored owners. The homelessness research highlighted the diverse nature of people's circumstances and needs when accessing services, their emotional needs and the impact of support from service staff. The feedback from Gypsy/Travellers showed widespread positive feedback about the improvements social landlords have made to sites as well as suggestions for further improvements. Factored owners also gave positive and negative views of their experiences as well as views on value for money.

The COVID-19 lockdown restrictions meant that fewer people than planned were able to take part in the homelessness and Gypsy/Traveller services part of the programme this year. The National Panel provides a flavour of views, rather than a wholly representative account. The impact of COVID-19 on the homelessness and Gypsy/Traveller elements means that the feedback should be treated as illustrative. The Regulator has published the findings because they nevertheless draw out some important themes that will be of wider interest.

Iain Muirhead, the Regulator's Director of Digital and Business Support, said: "This year's National Panel report again gives us an important insight into tenants' and service users' experiences. The feedback is a

clear reminder for everyone working in social housing of the financial pressures tenants face. The survey took place before lockdown, and COVID-19 will obviously have heightened these pressures for many people. It is vital that social landlords continue to work with tenants to ensure the rent they charge is at a level tenants can afford to pay.”

The research was carried out for the Regulator by Engage Scotland.

The Panel has more than 450 members. It is open to anyone who is a social housing tenant or uses social landlords’ services. Membership is diverse and includes people from urban and rural areas, across age bands, local authority and RSL tenants. Anyone interested in joining the Panel should contact Engage at natpan@engagescotland.co.uk.

The report is available on the Regulator’s website www.housingregulator.gov.scot

From Inclusion Scotland

Inclusion Scotland has published our [Guidance on Accessing Politics](#) as a tool to support deaf and disabled people looking to get involved in politics, and for all those who wish to make politics more accessible for deaf and disabled people.

The Guidance provides important information on:

1. Removing barriers preventing deaf and disabled people from accessing politics and political parties
2. Deaf and disabled people’s right to equal treatment and reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010
3. Political representation in Scotland, and how D/deaf and disabled people can find and influence their political representatives
4. The value of deaf and disabled people’s lived experiences
5. Running for elected office as a deaf or disabled person
6. Support available from Inclusion Scotland, including Access to Politics and the Access to Elected Office Fund (Scotland)

The Guidance on Accessing Politics is [a comprehensive full text document](#). It is also available in [Large Print](#), [Easy Read](#), and [BSL video](#). All versions of the Guidance are available on Inclusion Scotland’s website and social media platforms.

We hope this guide is useful to you and we encourage you to distribute it freely throughout your organisation and to those you work with. Your thoughts on the Guidance are welcome, and we would particularly value your feedback on [the BSL version](#). This guide should never be considered 'complete' – we hope it will grow and be added to through the benefit of deaf and disabled people's lived experiences.

From the Scottish Government

Scottish Government Face Covering Exemption Cards

Face coverings are an important non-pharmaceutical intervention and bring a benefit in reducing transmission of Covid-19 as they provide a barrier to protect the wearer from droplet and aerosols and they provide protection to those around the wearer should the wearer be asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic. As such, we have made face coverings mandatory in a large range of indoor public places, indoor communal workplaces, shops and on public transport, where we know the risks are highest.

In developing our policy on face coverings we were aware that there would be circumstances where a person would be unable to, or it would be inappropriate, for them to wear a face covering and as such there are exemptions within the regulations and guidance. Our exemption policy, which was developed in consultation with Disabled People's Organisations, promotes understanding and kindness.

However, despite guidance reinforced by public health messaging, we are aware through discussions with third sector stakeholders and the media of reports of incidences of hate crime and of people being denied access to shops and essential services and products when not wearing a face covering.

The purpose of this card is to support people to feel more confident and safe when accessing public spaces and using public services.

The service will be delivered by **Disability Equality Scotland (DES)** on behalf of the Scottish Government and physical and digital cards are available to request online at www.exempt.scot or via a free helpline on 0800 121 6240.

This exemption card, which is available upon request, is distinct from the UK Government exemption card which can simply be downloaded from the gov.uk website. The Scottish Government recognises that other forms of exemption cards exist and are valid.

It is important to remember that it is only the minority of people who are exempt from wearing a face covering and we should all continue to follow the FACTS for a safer Scotland in order to reduce transmission of Covid-19 and protect ourselves, each other and the NHS.

From Ai-Media

COVID-19 Pandemic Shines a Spotlight on Accessibility

Deaf and hard-of-hearing communities have encountered significant communication barriers during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. First, many practise lipreading, which a mask typically obscures. Also, sign languages across the world rely on facial expressions to convey tone, intensity, meaning and whether something is a question or statement.

Thankfully, great innovators have pushed to solve this problem, and some large entities – companies, hospitals and governments – have been receptive to supporting accessibility initiatives.

Clear, accessible face masks

Apple worked with Gallaudet University to develop masks with a clear plastic panel that the company is distributing to its corporate and retail employees. Apple conducted research and testing to find the materials that filter the air properly and do not disrupt the supply of medical personal protective equipment.

The UK government ordered 250,000 clear face masks from ClearMask for their NHS and social care workers on the frontline. The ClearMask masks also boast an anti-fogging barrier to further ensure the face and mouth are always visible. And many other organisations are now producing similar masks.

Interpreters for public broadcasts

It's not just masks that have created communication barriers during the coronavirus pandemic. Very important public health information has been distributed by government and health officials and relayed via broadcast news. There's been an outcry for more interpreters at informational press conferences and high-quality captioning on news broadcasts.

Deaf Australia CEO Kyle Miers has said, “What’s constantly highlighted is that we can rely on captions. But if you’ve got live captions, there’s often many mistakes that are made. It really affects the accuracy.”

In the United States, the National Association of the Deaf’s Chief Executive Officer Howard Rosenblum explained that US federal law requires live national broadcasts to provide captioning, but only the top 25 markets in the US provide live captioning for news broadcasts. He went on to say that the live news broadcast captioning in the US is ‘usually’ not accurate, as “most of them recycle the teleprompter script as captioning, and that does not include breaking news, which is what most emergency broadcasts entail.”

Everyone’s responsibility

When it’s critical that everyone receives information, it’s essential that governments, broadcasters and companies work to ensure information is accessible to all.

For more accessibility-related articles, visit the Ai-Media blog at <https://www.ai-media.tv/ai-media-blog/>

And if you’d like more information on Ai-Media’s captioning, or our range of accessible media services, visit us at ai-media.tv.

Laura.burfoot@ai-media.tv

From the BDA

Deaf Roots & Pride Transitions – Online Support

Scotland’s Deaf Roots & Pride team has launched an online support service for young people who are making the move to college or uni in the coming months. If you need advice on anything relating to your next steps, such as communication support or apprenticeships, you can book a slot and talk with the team via video chat.

Online support will be available Mondays and Fridays between 1pm and 3pm.

If you live in the central belt of Scotland and are aged between 8 and 25 years old, you can book a slot by contacting Mitchell at transitionscot.drp@bda.org.uk or SMS/FT 07795 822102

You can also find a number of Transitions resources in BSL on our dedicated DRP Transitions webpage at bda.org.uk/drpscotland

Thank you to [The National Lottery Community Fund Scotland](#) and Robertson Trust for making this possible.

#DRPTransitions

From Bellman and Symfon UK

Maxi Pro brings out the words so you hear them loud and clear, even when there's a lot going on in the background.

Maxi Pro is a complete listening solution that connects your smartphone, tablet and even TV, so you can enjoy your favourite show and chat with your friends or family without having to leave the couch.

Using the internal mic or the external mic on a 5m cable (that comes with it) The Maxi Pro can amplify conversation across the prescribed 2m social distance – thereby overcoming the additional barriers to communication for hard of hearing people during Covid-19. Maxi Pro can be used by hearing aid users (with a neckloop) and non-hearing aid users (with headphones or earphones). London hospitals receiving Covid-19 patients have been using The Maxi Pro is used in wards to support hard of hearing patients.

<https://bellman.com/maxipro/>

From the Scottish Government

Scottish Government sets out its vision for disability assistance in Scotland

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have an impact on the Scottish Government, Social Security Scotland and our delivery partners – particularly those working in health and social care and the Department for Work and Pensions - the Scottish Government is continuing to progress policy, design and development work on social security and disability assistance. Discussions are underway with partners about what the impacts of COVID-19 mean for the Scottish Government delivery timeline for disability assistance and other benefits still to be introduced.

Work on what people can expect from that service has continued. On Friday 23 October, to illustrate how the Scottish Government will be doing things differently and delivering a service built on the principles of dignity, fairness and respect, a series of papers were published giving more detail on the planned approach. These should give a better understanding of what people should expect when accessing disability benefits through Social Security Scotland - right through from application to appeal.

The papers are available at <https://www.gov.scot/collections/social-security-policy-position-papers/>

Flu is Serious seasonal flu campaign will run across TV, radio, press and digital for 6 weeks. The flu vaccination programme started on the 1st October, and this year we are already seeing unprecedented interest to get the flu vaccine.

NHS Scotland strongly recommends those eligible get their free flu vaccine this year. This is for three reasons:

1. Flu can be serious and life threatening. Every year thousands of people in Scotland are hospitalised because of flu, with people 65 and over being at particular risk.
2. To reduce the risk of you spreading flu to friends and family.
3. To reduce the pressure that a spike in seasonal flu would put on our NHS on top of COVID-19.

Campaign Information

The Flu is Serious campaign aims to highlight the seriousness of flu, especially with COVID-19 around and importance of getting vaccinated. We are also looking to inform new audiences eligible for the flu vaccine, including:

- social care workers
- household contacts of those that were shielding, and
- from December 55-64 year olds will also be eligible.

We are asking people that if they are offered the vaccine, to please get it. They should visit www.nhsinform.scot/flu or call **0800 22 44 88** to find out about local arrangements as not all vaccinations will take place this year at GP surgeries.

We have another **Parent Club** update for you, as our Positive Parenting Campaign is live.

From 7 November 2020, all physical punishment of a child will be illegal, meaning children in Scotland will have the same protections against assault as adults. You can read more information on the Act here:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/physical-punishment-and-discipline-of-children-how-the-law-is-changing/>

Being a parent is one of the best jobs in the world but we know it can be hard work, and it can be a struggle to keep calm when your child(ren) are acting up. To help families manage the challenges, especially during these difficult times, the **Positive Parenting Campaign** brings together tips on coping with the challenges of being a parent and keeping calm with your wee one so you can focus on building a rewarding relationship together.

View the 'Kicking Off' 40 second film here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-44xjbjBGq0&feature=youtu.be>

View the 'Stressful Day' 40 second film here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nB8NSPNnS64>

View the 'Pick your Battles' 40 second film here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCMI7TVNCCc>

For more information visit: <https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/coping-with-being-a-parent>

From Police Scotland

Winter Road Safety: Get ready for winter

Winter is coming, which means changes in road conditions, daylight hours and unpredictable weather. Pedestrians, cyclists and drivers all have a responsibility to keep Scotland's roads safe this winter.

You can find advice on how to stay safe this winter whether you are travelling on foot, by cycle or car here:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/road-safety/winter-road-safety/>

From Public Health Scotland

As NHS services which were paused due to COVID-19 resume, work to improve the health of British Sign Language (BSL) users continues. Today, the fifth anniversary of the [BSL \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#), Public Health Scotland launches three new resources to support NHS Boards when engaging with patients and carers who require support from interpreting and translation services, including BSL users.

Developed as part of the BSL National Plan (2017-2023) which sets long-term goals for BSL in Scotland, these resources aim to provide NHS Boards with a standard that forms the basis for local adaption.

1. [NHS Scotland Interpreting, Communications Support and Translation National Policy](#) provides guidance on responsibilities to patients and carers who require support from interpreting or translation services. Strengthening staff understanding of interpreting and communication support ensures that the health needs of patients whose first or preferred language is not English have equitable access to the health care services they provide.
2. [NHS Scotland Competency Framework for Interpreting](#) offers clear and precise guidance for NHS staff and interpreting providers to ensure interpreters are supplying safe, effective, high-quality services as patient's progress through their care pathway.
3. [Working with British Sign Language \(BSL\) users in primary care](#) aims to improve awareness among GP practice staff of issues faced by BSL users within primary care to ensure equal access to GP services for deaf and hearing populations.

In addition to these new resources two BSL e-learning modules, [BSL and Tactile BSL awareness](#) and [Making Communication Better](#), are available for NHS staff on the Virtual Learning Environment.

Online health advice for BSL users, including information on COVID-19, is available on the [BSL pages of NHS Inform](#) and further information on the BSL Health Improvement plan in BSL is available here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUKJZExIWvE>

From RNIB

Our new virtual family event programme is now live. The events are open to children, young people and families from across the UK and we would love to see lots of Scottish families attending!

Families can book online to take part [here](#).

This programme was designed to support families during this really difficult time and we aim to start back our face to face events as soon as it's safe to do so, however we are looking to continue to do a blend of both virtual and face to face events moving forward.

To be added to our distribution list or for more information about these events please email cypf@rnib.org.uk.

CONSULTATIONS

From the Scottish Parliament Local Government and Communities Committee

The Local Government and Communities Committee has today launched a call for views on the Fair Rents (Scotland) Bill. The Committee would welcome responses from all those with an interest in the Bill and you can access the call for views via the Citizen Space link below.

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/lgc/fair-rents-bill>

The closing date for responses is **Monday 7 December**.

Between now and the election next spring, the Committee and the Parliament expect to have a very full work schedule, especially taking into account of the ongoing impact of the pandemic. Any proposal for new laws requires very careful consideration, and there is a possibility the Bill might fall before the election is called. The Committee undertakes to consider carefully all submissions it receives on the Bill and to decide on next steps by early in the New Year.

About the Bill

A Bill to impose caps on rent rises for private residential tenancies, allow private residential tenants to ask for a “fair open market rent”, and require private landlords to enter information about the level of rents they charge in a public register.

Current Status of the Bill

This Member's Bill was introduced in the Scottish Parliament by Pauline McNeill MSP, on 1 June 2020.

From Food Standards Scotland

We're writing to make you aware that Food Standards Scotland (FSS) is launching a consultation on its **British Sign Language (BSL) Plan**.

In line with Scottish Government's requirements and other public bodies in Scotland, FSS's BSL plan aims to improve the accessibility of its services and information to BSL users. It aligns with goals detailed in the Scottish Government's BSL National Plan (2017-23) and sets out the specific actions that FSS aims to carry out to ensure there are no barriers to BSL users in accessing our information.

Our draft plan was first consultation on in 2019. The plan has evolved and changes have been made to the original version. In addition, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed the environments in which we work and live. Therefore, we feel it is important for us to seek feedback and views from BSL users (and the organisations/groups who represent them) on the latest version of the plan prior to final publication by the end of 2020.

The consultation will run from Thursday 22 October until **Thursday 10 Dec 2020** and will be available in BSL and written English versions on our website. <https://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/about-us/consultations/have-your-say-on-fss-british-sign-language-plan>

EVENTS

From Voluntary Health Scotland

Renewing Scotland's full potential in a digital world: consultation response

Join us on 3 December to discuss how we create digital inclusion that tackles inequality and promotes wellbeing -

<https://vhscotland.org.uk/event/renewing-scotlands-full-potential-in-a-digital-world-consultation-response/> . The importance of digital has been hugely prominent over the last few months. The opportunities for digital

to improve wellbeing were demonstrated across Scotland especially throughout lockdown. But digital also widened inequalities and had a negative impact on health outcomes of those already facing disadvantages. The Scottish Government are consulting on '[Renewing Scotland's Full Potential in a Digital World](#)' and we want to shape our response around our members and partners experience.

Ageing Well: 6th Talk with the Open University: Standing Tall

This talk on 8 December - <https://vhscotland.org.uk/event/ageing-well-6th-talk-with-the-open-university-standing-tall/> - will explore age-related postural alignment changes affecting postural stability and balance, and ways to compensate for 'gravity of ageing'.

From Social Security Scotland

Scottish Child Payment is a new payment for families on tax credits or certain benefits to help towards the costs of looking after a child. It's £40 paid every four weeks for each child under six.

We want to make sure that you have the information you need to help families access this new benefit.

Our roadshows are aimed at people who work with and support families. During the online event, we will provide you with information about the eligibility criteria and how clients can apply for this new benefit. You will also have opportunity to ask us questions.

For more information and to sign up to one of our roadshow events, please click on one of the event dates below.

9 November 2020: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-child-payment-webex-event-tickets-123344832715>

13 November 2020: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-child-payment-webex-event-tickets-123345318167>

16 November 2020: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-child-payment-webex-event-tickets-124407330675>

20 November 2020: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-child-payment-webex-event-tickets-124408042805>

24 November 2020: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-child-payment-webex-event-tickets-124408899367>

26 November 2020: <https://sss.stage.wsdev.org/news-events/events/scottish-child-payment-roadshow-26-november>

From the Scottish Sensory Centre

Webinar: The Role of the Educational Psychologist and Learners who are deaf or visually impaired

Date: Tuesday, 17th November, 2020

Time: 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Cost: £25

via Blackboard Collaborate (nb: works best with Google Chrome Browser). Joining instructions and assistance with testing your technology will follow your course registration confirmation.

This webinar will be of interest to educational staff supporting children with a hearing impairment or visual impairment, including CVI.

Presenters: Aicha Reid, Depute Principal Educational Psychologist, Children's Services, City of Edinburgh; and

Fiona Gorrie, Trainee Educational Psychologist (3rd year), The City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh.

Session 1: The role of the Educational Psychologist has changed significantly in recent times. The aim of this session is to develop your understanding of the contribution of the Educational Psychologist as part of the team supporting the children and young people you work with.

We will discuss areas of interest, for example, the current thinking in educational policy around inclusion. Aicha will share some information from research which can be applied to supporting children who are D/deaf or have hearing impairments in education.

This will be a good opportunity to ask a friendly Educational Psychologist the questions you've always wondered about but never had the chance or time to ask!

Session 2: The role of an Educational Psychologist in the team around children and young people with Visual Impairment (focus on Cerebral Visual Impairment), through exploration of the five functions of an Educational Psychologist: training, intervention, research, assessment and consultation.

Online payment: ePay:

<https://www.epay.ed.ac.uk/product-catalogue/college-of-humanities-and-social-science/moray-house-school-of-education/seminar/the-educational-psychologist-vihi-learners>

From Your Local Cinema

Accessible, Inclusive, Subtitled/Captioned Cinema Shows!

Many cinemas are closed, due to coronavirus-related restrictions. All cinemas can screen the latest films with subtitles - when open! Check actual cinema websites for the latest info.

Latest releases:

Tenet, Saint Maud, Kajillionaire, Two By Two Overboard, Rebecca, Bill & Ted, On the Rocks, Cats & Dogs, Eternal Beauty, Trial of Chicago 7, New Mutants, Onward, Akira, Les Miserables, Trolls World Tour and more!

Subtitled trailers!

Dune, The Batman, Tenet, No Time To Die, Top Gun Maverick, Wonder Woman, Pixar's Soul and more!

<https://www.yourlocalcinema.com/>

VACANCIES

From Public Appointments Scotland

The **Scottish Fiscal Commission** is Scotland's official, independent economic and fiscal forecaster. Our economic, tax and social security forecasts feed directly into the Scottish Budget and the Government's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

We are looking for a new Commissioner to join the Scottish Fiscal Commission. The appointment will be from 1 April 2021, for a term of four years.

For more information and to apply, please see: <https://bit.ly/34g1bT3>

Closing date for applications is Midday on **9 November 2020**.

Scottish Police Authority

Do you have the passion to make a difference for the people of Scotland? Are you a strategic-thinker with a real focus on improvement? Do you have the confidence and skills to take on one of today's most important and demanding public service roles?

Scottish Ministers are recruiting up to five members to sit on the Board of the Scottish Police Authority. For more information and to apply, please see: <https://bit.ly/34PyiyM> . The closing date for applications is **midnight on 23rd November 2020**.

Western Isles NHS Board

Non-executive Whistleblowing Champion member

For this position you must be able to demonstrate the following priority criteria:

The ability to review NHS Whistleblowing procedures; and

Constructive and supportive challenge.

For further information on this appointment and to apply please see: <http://bit.ly/35KIR5u>

Three Non-executive members

For further information on these appointments and to apply please see: <http://bit.ly/2HI5nn3>

Closing date for applications for these appointments is **midday on Thursday 26th November**.

From the Scottish Legal Aid Board

We are currently looking for **one legal** and **one non-legal member**.

The vacancy details can be found by clicking this link: [Scottish Government Appointments](#)

To ensure a balanced range of knowledge and experience, Ministers are looking for people with backgrounds from the wider community, the advice sector, the business sector, as well as solicitors and advocates.

Videos from Board members are available to view on SLAB's website [here](#). Closing date is **midnight on 16 November 2020**

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT PQs, MOTIONS AND DEBATES

Question S5W-32349: Jeremy Balfour, Lothian, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party, Date Lodged: 07/10/2020

To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the work of its Rehabilitation Framework and the role this has had in responding to the COVID-19, what plans it has to expand and develop the allied health professional workforce, and what funding it will allocate to (a) local authorities, (b) NHS boards and (c) third sector service providers to assist with this.

Answered by Jeane Freeman (30/10/2020):

I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-31349 on 1 September 2020. 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> .

In addition to this, I can confirm that when the National Advisory Board for Rehabilitation is operational in the new year it will be considering aspects of workforce delivery and system affordability for different models of care.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Simple&DateChoice=0&MSPIId=5877&SortBy=DateSubmitted&ResultsPerPage=10>

Question S5W-32223: Education, Communities and Justice
Rona Mackay, Strathkelvin and Bearsden, Scottish National Party,
Date Lodged: 01/10/2020

To ask the Scottish Government what its plans are for publishing the British Sign Language Progress Report, which is due by 24 October 2020.

Answered by Maree Todd (02/10/2020):

The COVID-19 crisis has prevented the engagement activity and evidence-gathering required to inform the BSL Progress Report. Engagement was planned with BSL users across Scotland, and through engagement by the BSL partner organisations. In addition, the Scottish Government has focused all activity on mitigating the impacts of COVID-19.

Therefore, for the reasons given, Scottish Ministers have taken the decision to postpone the publication of the Progress Report. It will be published as soon as reasonably practicable. It is anticipated that this will be by 24 October 2021 in order to allow for the necessary public engagement.

This does not mean that work around BSL is being paused – we remain fully committed to the actions set out in the BSL National Plan, and will continue work to make progress on our shared outcomes.

Question S5W-32452: Health and Social Care

George Adam, Paisley, Scottish National Party, Date Lodged:
09/10/2020

To ask the Scottish Government when NHS dental services will be available for patients to access a full range of treatments through the NHS.

Answered by Joe FitzPatrick (12/10/2020):

The pandemic has been an extremely challenging time for dentistry and the Government recognises NHS contractor efforts, patience and resilience throughout the period. The Government is committed to ensuring that the needs of patients to be seen for NHS dental treatment can be met, in a way that supports the good efforts of the dental community to maintain the high standards of health and safety needed to minimise the threat from COVID-19.

NHS dental services will be able to return to the High Street dental setting from 1 November to provide patients with access to the full range of treatments for all NHS patients. The Government is clear that this is not business as usual but by making available a full range of treatments for NHS patients, this enables dentists and dental teams to provide a wider range of NHS care for their patients, prioritised by clinical judgement and in line with wider public health protection measures.
<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/116284.aspx>



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Please forward your contributions for the next bulletin to:
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text as there will be an admin charge of £41 per article per publication.

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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, please use this template 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.

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

Important date(s)	
Contact details you want in the bulletin	
Link(s) in social media – Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube	

All articles should be emailed to admin@deafscotland.org before the 24th of the month.