



# deafscotland Bulletin March 2021



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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### **New deafscotland report will examine the prevalence rates of mental health and deafness in Scotland**

For a number of years now and more specifically over the past two years, deafscotland have carried out a range of research studies aimed at highlighting, and going some way to plug, the current gaps in data on the numbers of people with hearing loss in Scotland. By addressing these gaps, it is hoped that the best possible estimates of numbers can be obtained, helping to assist with service provision across all four pillars of deafness. Both the **Census** and **Dementia and Deafness** reports have highlighted the need for accurate data collection so that services can be provided as required. **“Mental Health and Deafness in Scotland: Exploring the Data”**, is the next in the series of this research.

With input from Queen Margaret University, this new report will look at the data relating to deafness and mental health that is available publicly at this time. As with the previous studies, we will use additional sources to check how far this data matches the actual picture. Using the information from these additional sources and combining them with population statistics obtained from the Office of the National Records of Scotland (NRS), we will provide detailed estimates for each of the 32 Local Authorities in Scotland. It is hoped that these estimates can be used for anticipatory planning and, if needed, service re-design to ensure accessibility and inclusion for all.

There can be little doubt that the isolation of Lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic will impact upon the mental health of society. The Scottish Government Report “Scotland’s Wellbeing: The Impact of COVID-19”, confirms that social isolation experienced due to Lockdown measures has resulted in increased levels of loneliness leading to distress, depression and anxiety across the country. It is evident that there will be a greater number of people accessing mental health services in the coming months.

People across each of the four pillars of deafness require dedicated service provision, specific to the needs of individuals within that particular pillar: Deaf, Deafblind, Deafened, and Hard of Hearing. This can only be provided if detailed data on people with hearing loss and mental health issues in Scotland is obtained. It is hoped that this report will go some way to giving Local Authorities an overview which will assist decision-makers to plan this vital service provision now and as society re-builds in the days after COVID.

The deafscotland report “**Mental Health and Deafness in Scotland: Exploring the Data**” is due to be published on 30 March 2021.

## **The Virtual Museum**

Finally, after many trials, our Virtual Museum has opened:

<https://deafscotland.org/virtual-museum-info/> Please do go have a look and let us know what you think.

As most of us are still in lockdown and the weather is not very great for being outside, why not take the time to look at all our interesting exhibits. There are so many different things to see and read about – for example:

- i. “Home” by Lucy Clark <https://deafscotland.org/vm-display-home/>
- ii. Dame Evelyn Glennie’s story <https://deafscotland.org/vm-display-dame-evelyn-glennie/>

- iii. National Signing Choir 2019  
<https://deafscotland.org/national-signing-choir-2019/>
- iv. John Dearie's story <https://deafscotland.org/john-dearie-2/>
- v. Shiona McClafferty – I'm deaf <https://deafscotland.org/vm-display-shiona-mcclafferty-im-deaf/>

People from across the four pillars of deafness have given us their stories, put together specific memories they think are interesting, sent us information about long-dead deaf people and gone out and made videos of what they want to share with the world.

If you have something relating to deafness you think other people might be interested in, please get in touch with us so we can have a conversation about how to get involved.

## **Virtual Assistant Project – Volunteers needed for our Working Group**

deafscotland is pleased to announce we have received funding from Foundation Scotland to produce a toolkit to help people with hearing loss and dementia use Virtual Assistant technology. We are looking for volunteers to join our Working Group and be part of creating this valuable resource. We will provide language/communication support for the group meetings.

The COVID-19 Lockdown has brought the impact and understanding of social isolation into the mainstream. Evidence shows that those with hearing loss are at greater risk of increased social isolation than others; those with hearing loss and dementia are doubly vulnerable.

We have recently produced a set of accessible factsheets containing general information and tips on how to get started using virtual communication technology. <https://deafscotland.org/news/virtual-assistant-technology-for-those-with-hearing-loss-and-dementia/>

### **What do we want to do?**

With help from those living with dementia, we want to produce accessible factsheets on how to use Virtual Assistant technology to help improve the quality of life for people with hearing loss and dementia and their carers, now and after lockdown is over.

If you live with hearing loss and dementia or care for someone who has hearing loss and dementia and would like to be part of a Working Group or you would like more information on the project, please contact:

**Andrena McMenemy**

e: [research@deafscotland.org](mailto:research@deafscotland.org) t: 07947 835969

### **Mainstream cycling clubs and friends who cycle.**

As part of our Cycling Safely Project funded by Paths for All we would like to know more about mainstream cycling clubs and any deaf members they have. Please take part in our research:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBMLZ86>

We produced three films to support deaf people to cycle safely:

<https://deafscotland.org/british-sign-language/cycling-safety-for-deaf-people/> Please share with all the deaf people you know.

### **Walking Project**

We got a grant from Paths for All to provide inclusive information on walking safely in Scotland. We need to start the evaluation process with a baseline survey. We would appreciate it if you share the survey with all the deaf people across the four pillars of deafness who you know.

This is the link to the survey: <https://forms.gle/QAYHZR2ACKCZY4PV8>.

We have extended the closing date by a week so that people can still take part. The survey will close on Wednesday 10 March 2021.

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 Ai-Media

### Access as a Black Deaf Woman during COVID-19: Interview with Vilma Jackson – Part 3

For people in marginalised communities, access to information – and even healthcare – has been even harder during COVID-19. Vilma Jackson is a performance artist who lives in the UK. This is the third part of our interview with her, the first appeared in the deafscotland December 2020 bulletin. Can you tell us more about how the pandemic has exacerbated the access challenges of being Deaf and Black, in your experience?

Vilma: There were numerous access issues during the early stages of the pandemic: The lack of access to government information and the experience of wearing a face mask in public.

In addition, the access to information was also problematic during the emergence of the Black Lives Matter movement. Considering all these events, and the visual panic that was happening in reality and on our screens made me much more anxious.

Watching the video of George Floyd's death had a significant impact on me personally. When this video was first circulated, captioning was non-existent, and I was unaware of the context. It was clear to me that this was a moment of great distress, yet it was difficult to understand what was going on.

Delayed information is a problem for the Deaf community. When there are important events, may they be social or political, the lack of access to that event means that, as a community, we are not experiencing it as equals. The pandemic and the BLM movement has certainly made me reflect on my own personal experiences.

My family lives in New York, so I was incredibly worried about their safety. In reflection, when I visit them, I do feel anxiety when there is a police presence. I'm even concerned when I use sign language. In a certain scenario could they confuse it with a sign of aggression? Would they think I'm using gang signs?

So, as a Deaf Black Woman, I am undoubtedly cautious when visiting the USA. This is triple oppression to me.

If you'd like more information on Ai-Media's range of accessible media services, contact our team or visit our website at [ai-media.tv](http://ai-media.tv).

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## **From the Scottish Older People's Assembly**

### **Charity calls for Scotland-wide rollout of Older People's Champions**

Age Scotland has joined forces with the Scottish Older People's Assembly to ask every local authority to appoint an Older People's Champion to amplify older voices across the country.

The national charity for older people is calling on all of Scotland's 32 local authorities to create the role to ensure that older people's voices are heard, their interests catered for and their concerns addressed.

Nine local authorities have already appointed a councillor to the apolitical role but the Age Scotland and SOPA campaign aims to build a network of champions to represent older people's views and identify issues that affect older people from Shetland to Dumfries and Galloway.

An Older People's Champion would also make sure that council policies affecting older people, including transport, social care, public toilets and community services, are communicated clearly and directly.

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## **From Falkirk Community Trust**

### **Hippodrome Silent Film Festival Scoops Silent London Awards**

The Hippodrome Silent Film Festival (aka HippFest) is delighted to have picked up two awards at this year's prestigious Silent London Awards. HippFest won Best Real-World Silent Film Screening of 2020 for its screening of *Filibus* (1915) and honourable mention for its online screening of *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* (1920) accompanied by musician and broadcaster Neil Brand on piano.

The Silent London Awards are an international poll where the public and industry can nominate their favourite films, venues and festivals each year. This year the poll was split into 14 different categories.

The 10th HippFest goes online this year and will run from 17-21 March 2021. Full programme announced on 16 February 2021.

Full details of the Silent London Awards can be found here  
<https://silentlondon.co.uk/2021/01/26/the-silent-london-poll-of-2020-and-the-winners-are/>

The Hippodrome Silent Film Festival is organised by Falkirk Community Trust with key funding and support from Falkirk Council, Screen Scotland, Film Hub Scotland (BFI Film Audience Network).

[www.hippfest.co.uk](http://www.hippfest.co.uk)

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## From the Scottish Government

### Organ Donation and Tissue Donation Opt Out Campaign,

#### **The law is changing in Scotland on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March.**

The TV/VOD and radio will run for 2 weeks from today, and digital will run until early April. There will also be a national mailing to all homes in Scotland during the month of February, so please expect this to land at your door. As per previous door drop mailings, additional languages and formats for the mailing will be available online.

The new advert will be on TV (VOD) and radio for two weeks, with the digital campaign running until early April, a national leaflet door drop in February, and the multi-channel campaign going live in March.

You can find out more on [organdonationscotland.org](http://organdonationscotland.org), and there is a section for Frequently Asked Questions that you may find helpful: [Law change facts | Organ Donation Scotland](#)

[View the Organ Donation TV ad here](#)

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### **Connecting Scotland – Residential Care Application**

The Scottish Government's £1M programme to provide care homes with a digital device and connectivity support, if required, is still open and we are still inviting applications.

#### **If you have a family member or a friend in a residential care home:**

You can ask that the care home applies for a tablet so that your loved one can communicate with you during Covid lockdowns. The link is here:

<https://connecting.scot/organisations/forms/residential-care-application>

Pass it on to the Care Home Manager so that they can apply.



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## Parent Club

Parent Club has developed a **Return of School and Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Campaign** to help parents to feel **supported to abide by all current restrictions (both themselves and their children) throughout the phased return to schools and ELC settings**. By following the rules, parents and children can help keep schools and nurseries open, and will help to open the school gates for more pupils.

- [View the Parent Club Return to schools and nurseries video here](#)

In addition to signage already in place in primary school and ELC settings, this campaign is now live on digital and social channels, and will continue until **Wednesday 24 March**. We will also have coverage of key campaign messages via the Bauer Radio Life Matters platforms for this week and the w/c 15<sup>th</sup> March. Parents and experts will be sharing their experiences on the return to schools and nurseries and how they are sticking to the restrictions to help reduce community transmission to help keep schools and nurseries open.

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**Parent Club Wellbeing for Wee Ones Campaign**, which is aimed at parents of young babies. The Wellbeing for Wee Ones campaign looks to reassure parents that the natural interactions they already have with their babies are having a huge impact on their emotional and social wellbeing, both now and in the future. The campaign also shows that interacting with babies from the moment they're born is important for their child's brain development.

The Wellbeing for Wee Ones campaign was developed in consultation with key stakeholders and parents to make sure messaging was as widely accessible as possible. The strategy and creative highlight the importance for parents to interact with their infant in a way that promotes their infant's wellbeing (mental health) and demonstrates simple, effective behaviours that parents can adopt as part of their everyday life.

We have included information and tips for parents on the Parent Club Website, along with more on the 'science' behind it: [Wellbeing for wee ones | Parent Club](#)



View the Wellbeing for Wee Ones 30 sec film [here](#)

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### **Coronavirus ‘4 Things’ Narrative campaign.**

The campaign aims to reinforce why there is **still a need for continued protective behaviours** against the backdrop of the vaccine rollout and will run until 14<sup>th</sup> March, on TV, radio, digital, social and press channels.

The Narrative campaign introduces the importance of **four key interventions** needed in order to suppress the virus:

1. Get vaccinated
2. Follow health protection measures (FACTS)
3. If you have symptoms self-isolate immediately and book a test
4. Follow restrictions including travel advice (here and overseas)

A new end line to support this message has been introduced: **Until we’ve all been vaccinated, protecting all of us, takes all of us.**

- [View the Narrative Campaign TV ad here](#)
- [View the Narrative Campaign TV ad – BSL version here](#)

This campaign will run alongside the **new FACTS, Outbreak Levels** and **Test & Protect campaigns** which will be running in March, and together these campaigns will work together to outline the key interventions that will help to protect us all.

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The **Social Renewal Advisory Board** was set up by Scottish Ministers to make proposals that can renew Scotland once we start to emerge from the pandemic. The final report “If not now, when?” sets a course towards this future.

The report is available to read/download here:  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/not-now-social-renewal-advisory-board-report-january-2021/pages/13/>

There is a BSL version of the Summary available here:  
<https://vimeo.com/502372045/dea043b785>

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## **From The Equality and Human Rights Commission in Scotland**

The EHRC has published two documents that they wanted to bring to your attention.

Our [annual report for 2019-20](#) can be downloaded from our website and gives an overview of some of our achievements including successful legal interventions on key equality and human rights concerns, our agenda-setting work to tackle harassment in the workplace and our work to influence policy using our ground-breaking *Is Scotland Fairer?* Research.

We have also [published a briefing](#) ahead of the May elections which can also be downloaded from our website. We believe Scotland has the opportunity, the capability, and the will to tackle deeply entrenched inequalities and become a fairer, more prosperous and inclusive society – if that will is reflected in the next Scottish Parliament – and we have laid out policy priorities which we hope to see reflected in commitments made ahead of the election.

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## **From Skills Development Scotland**

### **#ThanksForTheChance**

During Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2021 we are asking anyone in business to take part in #ThanksForTheChance.

From 1 – 5 March, we're asking employers, learning providers and apprentices to share their stories of who gave them a chance in the workplace on social media using #ThanksForTheChance and #BusinessBackingTalent.

By sharing our stories we can recognise the mentors, bosses and businesses that helped shape our careers and make us what we are today. In doing so, we can inspire those who can create opportunities for young people who are facing the toughest of challenges.

We would be grateful for your support to promote this on your social channels and with your own networks to encourage participation.

The full suite of resources to support #ThanksForTheChance are available on [our website](#).

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## **From Food Standards Scotland**

### **BSL Plan**

Food Standards Scotland (FSS) has [published its first British Sign Language \(BSL\) plan \(2021-2024\)](#), setting out how the organisation aims to support the Scottish Government's BSL National Plan (2017-2023) by improving the accessibility of our information, advice and services for BSL users. This includes:

- Improving the accessibility of information, such as food safety and healthy eating advice, on the [FSS website](#)
- Providing BSL awareness training to FSS staff to help encourage a BSL knowledgeable workforce
- Ensuring BSL users have equal opportunities to join the FSS workforce and supporting them in their roles across the organisation.

The FSS BSL Steering Group developed this piece of work, and engaged with BSL users and members of the Deaf community in Scotland (and those who represent them) to seek their feedback and views to ensure the actions detailed in the plan meet their requirements.

The plan is available in [BSL and written English versions](#) on our website and we'll be sharing this information on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), including on the BSL (Scotland) Act 2015 Facebook group. We would be grateful if you're able to make your colleagues and networks aware of the plan's publication too.

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## **From Lothian Buses**

From Sunday (21 February) our Skylink 200, 300 and 400 services will be rerouted to serve the Royal Highland Centre mass vaccination centre. A stop has been placed on Ingliston Road, at the gates to the entrance of the centre, which should make it easier for those with mobility issues.

The story can be found below or on the website here: <https://www.lothianbuses.com/news/2021/02/lothian-announce-new-links-to-nhs-lothian-vaccination-centre-at-royal-highland-centre/>

We've also launched a dedicated [Vaccination Centres journey planner page](#) on the website to find journeys to/from mass centres, community hospitals and health centres for vaccine appointments.

Lothian also recently announced that Lothian Country's Service 275 will be rerouted to serve the Vaccination Centre at Pyramid's Business Park, West Lothian, providing vital links across the region for locals attending vaccination appointments.

Information on services operating to Edinburgh Airport via Royal Highland Centre is outlined below:

Skylink 200 – Ocean Terminal <> Airport via Newhaven, Granton, Muirhouse, Drylaw, Blackhall and Clermiston.

Skylink 300 – Surgeons' Hall <> Airport via Tollcross, Shandon, Slateford, Sighthill and Gyle Centre.

Skylink 400 – Fort Kinnaird <> Airport via Niddrie, Royal Infirmary, Gilmerton, Fairmilehead, Oxfgangs, Clovenstone, Sighthill and Gyle Centre.

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## CONSULTATIONS

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### From the Scottish Government

**Consultation on the draft regulations for Adult Disability Payment, a new Scottish benefit which will replace Personal Independence Payment and be delivered by Social Security Scotland.**

If you wish to respond electronically, please use the Scottish Government's consultation hub, Citizen Space (<https://consult.gov.scot/social-security/adult-disability-payment-regulations/> ). The list of questions can also be found at Annex K.

All responses should be submitted to us by **Monday 15 March 2021**.

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### From NHS 24

**Covid-19 vaccination survey**

There is now an opportunity for you and your stakeholders to provide your **feedback on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine website content**.

We would be delighted if you could please take some time to complete the questionnaire, which can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

The questionnaire will remain open until **12 March**. Your views are extremely important to us and your help with this would be greatly appreciated.

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## **From Elaine Smith MSP (Central Scotland Labour)**

### **Right to Food (Scotland) Bill**

On Thursday, February 11, I lodged my final proposal for a member's bill to enshrine the Right to Food into law in Scotland.

When I launched the public consultation for the Right to Food (Scotland) bill proposal in June, we were already well-aware of the rise in food bank usage and the high level of child poverty in communities across Scotland pre-Covid 19, and we know that the pandemic is now having an adverse effect on the most vulnerable people.

The consultation responses from individuals, charities, local food banks, poverty organisations and trade unions confirmed the wide-reaching nature of food insecurity in Scotland, and the high level of popular support for parliament taking radical action to address the issues in our food system.

The Right to Food (Scotland) bill would give the Scottish government the responsibility for taking action to ensure that everyone in Scotland will have access to healthy, nutritious food, and hold it to account for the actions taken.

To enable this proposal to be further discussed by parliament, MSPs from across the political parties in parliament will need to support my proposal by Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. I am now encouraging individuals and organisations to email their MSPs to show them how important it is that the right to food is prioritised by parliament.

No one should be left without food in modern Scotland. If you agree please take a moment to contact MSPs urging them to support my bill.

You can find your MSP by entering your postcode

at <https://beta.parliament.scot/msps/current-and-previous-msps>.

Please also share this with any individual or organisation you feel may be interested.

I will also be compiling endorsements for the bill to display at <https://righttofoodscotland.wixsite.com/righttofood> and on social media. If you would like to issue a supportive quote for inclusion please email it to [righttofoodconsultation@Parliament.Scot](mailto:righttofoodconsultation@Parliament.Scot).

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## **From Scottish Ambulance Service and Age Scotland**

### **Falls Treatment Focus Groups**

The Policy team is proposing to hold a series of focus group meetings with representatives from our member groups. These will be facilitated by an Age Scotland staff member and will be no more than an hour long. Depending on the numbers involved, there will be three or four meetings in total but participants will only need to attend one. To keep things manageable, there won't be any more than 6 participants per meeting.

We hope to hold the sessions during the weeks commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March. For those not online, in addition to offering sessions via Zoom at least one group will take place via telephone conferencing. Age Scotland will provide all the necessary information and support to enable anyone who would like to take part to do so via whichever means is most appropriate for them.

Participants do not need to have had a fall at home to take part, as long as they are willing to talk about how they would like to be treated if this were to happen (e.g. taken to A&E, treated at home / in the community). The Policy team will pull together a report for the Ambulance Service after all the sessions have taken place.

The Ambulance Service has asked us to put the following 4 questions to participants:

1. If you had a fall at home what would you expect from the ambulance service?
2. If you had a fall at home are there any other services you would contact other than the ambulance service?
3. If an ambulance crew recommended you didn't need to go to A&E what would be your thoughts?
4. If an ambulance crew or ambulance caller advised that you could be referred to community services and be treated at home, how would you feel about this?

For any further information, please contact Catriona Melville, Policy and Engagement Officer, on [0131 668 0338](tel:01316680338) or by email: [Catriona.melville@agescotland.org.uk](mailto:Catriona.melville@agescotland.org.uk)

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## **From the UK Government Scottish Affairs Committee**

### **Welfare policy in Scotland survey**

We have launched a survey asking for people to tell us about their experience with the benefits system in Scotland. This survey will take roughly 10 minutes to complete. Please only complete this survey if you live in Scotland.

Complete the survey:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nt3mHDeziEC-Xo277ASzSq6aCdmBZ\\_pOuZA4tNB2vTNUNVBaVDMxNIVIQ1BWT0ZOQzMzMlo4QINRVC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nt3mHDeziEC-Xo277ASzSq6aCdmBZ_pOuZA4tNB2vTNUNVBaVDMxNIVIQ1BWT0ZOQzMzMlo4QINRVC4u)

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## **EVENTS**

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### **From Generations Working Together (GWT)**

**[National Intergenerational Week](#)** (8 – 14 March 2021)

This year GWT is excited to be leading the National Intergenerational Week in partnership with Linking Generations Northern Ireland, Bridging the Generations, Wales and The Cares Family, England. In its second year, the campaign is about celebrating those ideas, moments and opportunities local to us where different age groups come together and intergenerational friendships are made! It gives us a chance to consider planning for the future and developing new themes such as developing spaces and places. Opportunities for generations to connect will become even more important as we emerge from the current pandemic, so we aim to inspire more people to build relationships between different generations!

Show your support for all things intergenerational by adding your company logo to the National Intergenerational Week website at <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/national-intergenerational-week>. Join us on #IntergenerationalWeek as we say no to the age gap.



## [National Intergenerational Conference](#)

Generations Working Together is hosting its annual Conference online, over three days from the **8th - 12th March 2021**. This year, we will host six Zoom webinars covering topics including: housing, ageism, faith communities, food, research and innovation, each lasting one and a half hours. Prices start at £10 per day for members/£15 for non-members, or you can book a week's pass for all three days costing £25 for members and £38 for non-members. GWT's [Excellence Awards](#) will be celebrated during the week and presented during some of the webinars. Please note [membership](#) is free to everyone living in Scotland and to International Students. To find out more, visit our website here at: <https://generationsworkingtogether.org/events/national-conference-2021>

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## **From Your Local Cinema**

**Accessible, Inclusive, Subtitled/Captioned Cinema Shows!**

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

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## **VACANCIES**

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### **From Public Appointments Scotland**

#### **Children's Hearings Scotland**

Scottish Government wants Scotland to be the best place in the world for children and young people to grow up. If you want to contribute to making a difference to the lives of children in Scotland, then read on to find out how.

Would you like to ensure the safety and well-being of infants, babies, children and young people in Scotland who need our support? The role of Children's Hearings Scotland (CHS) is to do just that. Scottish Ministers are looking to appoint two non-executive Board members, one with substantial governance experience and one with experience of volunteering in the Children's Hearings System. For more information on this role and how to apply, please see here: <https://bit.ly/3bb6gkp>.

The closing date for applications is **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021**.

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## Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

**Closing date: 22 March 2021 at midnight**

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is leading the way in public services by adapting to better meet the needs of its communities. Would you like to work alongside a dynamic team and play your part in improving the safety and wellbeing of people throughout Scotland?

Ministers are looking to appoint a number of Members to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Board. Working alongside the Service's Strategic Leadership Team, you will provide independent scrutiny, insight and support to ensure the best results are achieved.

We are particularly looking for individuals with proven experience in, or oversight of, leading change in service delivery. These roles require commitment and energy and offer a unique opportunity to help build a safer, stronger, more resilient Scotland through an essential public service that touches the whole of society.

[https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job\\_search\\_view.aspx?jobId=3895&JobIndex=1&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=5](https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job_search_view.aspx?jobId=3895&JobIndex=1&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=5)

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## TRAINING

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**AWARENESSbites**



**Working with deaf people during lockdown and want to know more...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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## **From Generations Working Together**

### **International Diploma in Intergenerational Learning - Edition 2**

Generations Working Together in partnership with the University of Granada is delighted to be able to offer another opportunity to participate on this accredited on-line course.

The course is aimed at anyone who wants to gain a deeper understanding of intergenerational work, its purpose, impact and practical application to enable them to apply this within their own work. Students can complete their studies at times which are suitable to them as long as this falls between the start and finish date.

course is open to all including: community workers, care home activity coordinators, nursery/playgroup staff, primary/secondary teachers,

classroom assistants, community learning & development, social care professionals, social workers, sociologists, psychologists, leisure & physical activity professionals, employment advisors, doctors, nurses and healthcare workers, librarians and third sector professionals of all backgrounds and levels.

Cost: Members: £170

Non Members £195

Application deadline: **Tuesday 20th April 2021**

For more information, go to

<https://generationsworkingtogether.org/training/international-diploma-in-intergenerational-learning-edition-2-27-04-2021>

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### **Intergenerational Practice involving Good Food**

You are invited to take part in FREE training providing practical tools, tips and techniques on intergenerational practice involving good food and bringing generations together.

#### Learning Outcomes

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1. Understand more about good food and how to include it within community activities.
  2. Demonstrate an understanding of intergenerational practice (IP) and approaches in sharing food for life get togethers.
  3. Demonstrate confidence around planning interaction between generations.
  4. Develop knowledge, skills and confidence to enhance intergenerational work and relationships.
  5. Increased confidence to plan food based activities in your community such as growing, cooking or sharing good food.

Choose a date that suits you: Venue: via Zoom interactive session

Dates: Tuesday 16th March or Tuesday 30th March Time: 10 am—2pm (with 30 minute lunch break)

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To register for a place contact:  
bella@generationsworkingtogether.org or telephone 07927550730

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## **From Visibility Scotland**

### **Introduction to Social Security Scotland Benefits**

Visibility Scotland has received funding from the Scottish Government to raise awareness of the benefits that have been devolved to Scotland, including planned changes to disability benefits. We are offering a free **“Introduction to Social Security Scotland Benefits”** online training session to staff who work with people with a sensory impairment. If you would like to book a session for a group of staff, or for further details, please contact us: [natasha.johnston@visibilityscotland.org.uk](mailto:natasha.johnston@visibilityscotland.org.uk) or by telephone on 0141 332 4632 or 07748325201.

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## **From SUSE**

### **Free Training Opportunities Available**

SUSE is the lead partner in the Disability Employment Gap Public Social Partnership (PSP) which has been commissioned by the Scottish Government. A PSP is a strategic partnering arrangement which gives the third sector the opportunity to design future public services by trying and piloting new ideas and approaches.

The Disability Employment Gap PSP is a unique and forward-thinking initiative in the Scottish employability landscape. We aim to contribute to the ambition set by the Scottish Government in The Fairer Scotland for Disabled People – Employment Action Plan, to half the Disability Employment Gap by 2038.

There are free training sessions available for employers and providers over the next month being delivered by PSP Partners covering a wide range of topics. Check the link below to view these opportunities and secure your place online.

<https://www.suse.org.uk/employers/book-free-training-bsp/>

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

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**Motion S5M-24266: Alexander Stewart, Mid Scotland and Fife, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party, Date Lodged: 02/03/2021**

### **World Hearing Day 2021**

That the Parliament acknowledges World Hearing Day, which is held on 3 March each year to raise awareness of how to prevent deafness and hearing loss and promote ear and hearing care across the world; understands that, each year, the World Health Organization (WHO) decides the theme and develops evidence-based advocacy materials such as brochures, flyers, posters, banners, infographics and presentations, which are shared with partners in government and civil society around the world, as well as WHO regional and country offices; notes that the theme for 2021 is Hearing Care for ALL! - Screen, Rehabilitate, Communicate, with World Hearing Day 2021 marking the launch of the first-ever World Report on Hearing; acknowledges that WHO describes this as “a massive call to action” to raise awareness of the need for screening and treatment; notes that the key messages for 2021 are that "good hearing and communication are important at all stages of life, hearing loss can be addressed with appropriate care" and "people with hearing loss should get help from a health care provider", and wishes WHO, hearing care professionals and people affected by hearing loss a successful World Hearing Day 2021.

**Supported by:** David Torrance, Bill Kidd, Miles Briggs, Jamie Greene, Annie Wells, Richard Lyle, Peter Chapman, Annabelle Ewing, Monica Lennon, Kenneth Gibson, Alison Harris, Jackson Carlaw, Margaret Mitchell, Stuart McMillan, Murdo Fraser, Ruth Maguire

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**Question S5W-34910: Claire Baker, Mid Scotland and Fife, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 03/02/2021**

To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to promote the use of reusable face coverings and reduce the percentage of people in Scotland using single-use face coverings.

**Answered by Roseanna Cunningham (12/02/2021):**

As part of the wider Managing Our Waste national campaign, we partnered with Zero Waste Scotland to create communication material encouraging the use of reusable face coverings and appropriate disposal of disposable face coverings and gloves. This includes information on how to make reusable face coverings and how to clean them.

As part of its wider COVID-19 related communication strategy, Scottish Government has created tools, including a video, on how to make your own face covering. Our Coronavirus (COVID-19): public use of face coverings guidance includes information on how to care for reusable face coverings.

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**Question S5W-34444: James Kelly, Glasgow, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 11/01/2021**

**To ask the Scottish Government when all care homes will have access to COVID-19 visitor testing.**

**Answered by Mairi Gougeon (20/01/2021):**

The Scottish Government has rolled out rapid testing in care homes to support essential visits, supplying all adult care homes in Scotland with Lateral Flow Devices.

Currently all of mainland Scotland and the islands of Barra and Vatersay are in COVID protection Level 4 with Orkney, Shetland, the rest of the Western Isles and the more remote islands in Argyll and Bute and Highland in Level 3.

For areas in Level 4, only essential visits are now recommended to take place in care homes, alongside window and garden visits, if Directors of Public Health judge this to be safe.

Essential visits include circumstances where there is a concern that the resident's health and wellbeing is changing for the worse, where visiting may help with communication difficulties, to ease significant personal stress or other pressing circumstances, such as a concern that the resident may be approaching end of life.

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## 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, 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.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Deadline for articles is the 24<sup>th</sup> 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 you want in the bulletin	
Link(s) in social media – Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube	

All articles should be emailed to [admin@deafscotland.org](mailto:admin@deafscotland.org) before the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month.