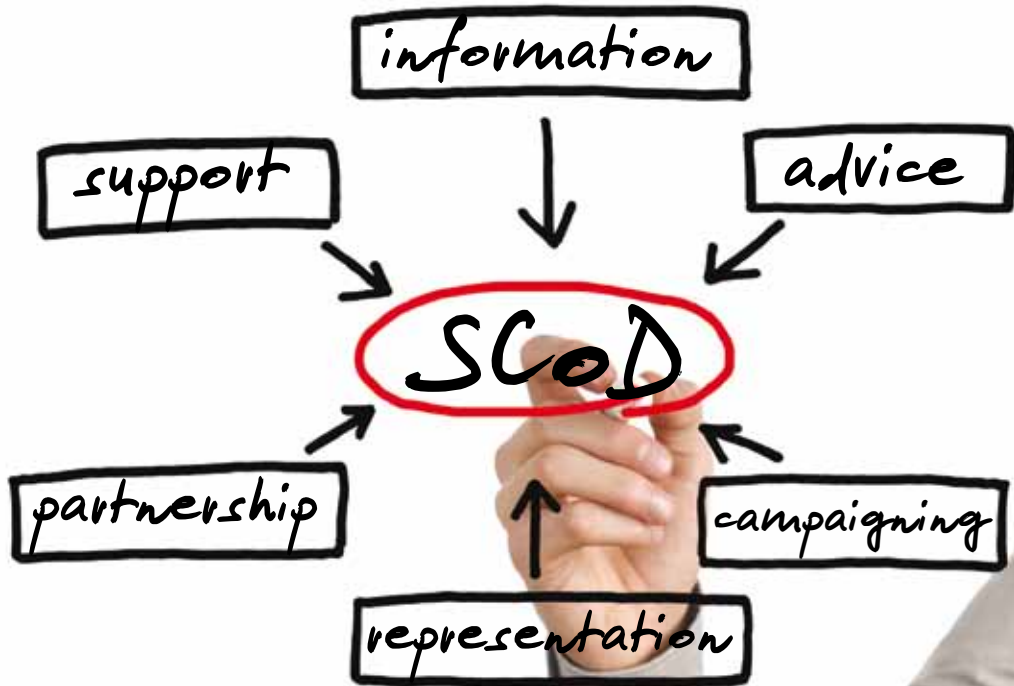




Scottish Council on Deafness Annual Report 2010-11





My second year as Convenor of Scottish Council on Deafness (SCoD) has been an interesting and fulfilling time, despite the challenges of the current financial climate.

Through careful management and planning, we have succeeded in maintaining reserves and securing further funding to support our work with deaf people throughout Scotland.

Building on over 80 years' experience as the only Scottish deaf umbrella body, our relationship with the Scottish Government has grown stronger with representatives from SCoD contributing to Government

working groups on mental health, independent living and also to the Cross Party Group on Deafness.

Over the years, SCoD has established strong links with the NHS and many local authority departments, and we continue working with them to increase deaf awareness amongst service providers.

This is an important step in our aim to help create a world where deaf people have equal access and opportunity in every aspect of their lives.

I would like to thank the small staff team for the amount of work they do and also the Management Committee for their time and dedication. Thanks also to all of our members for their continued support.

Many organisations have been with us since the early days and their loyalty is commendable and greatly appreciated.

The contribution of our volunteers is invaluable. Thanks to them for their hard work and commitment.

Finally, it is with great pleasure that I thank all of those who donated to SCoD this year despite the recession. We were overwhelmed by such generosity.


Convenor

Working Partnerships are crucial to our role as the umbrella body for deaf organisations in Scotland so I am delighted to report that, after years of lobbying the Scottish Government, funding has finally been allocated to develop and set up the Scottish Mental Health Service for Deaf people which will be run by NHS Lothian. This is a direct result of our successful working partnership with member organisations and mental health organisations who share our concern over lack of accessible services for Scottish deaf people who have mental health problems.

We also worked in partnership with member organisations to provide deaf awareness training to counselling organisations and debt advisory groups and with the Scottish Sensory Centre and others in the fight against the threatened cessation of funding for the Scottish Sensory Centre. We are pleased to say that together we won this fight.

We were delighted that the Scottish Government Equality Unit awarded funding to extend our Policy & Research Officer's post for another year. This is an endorsement of this strand of our work over the past four years and will enable us to continue to engage with member organisations, disability organisations and deaf individuals throughout the country.

As the Voice of Deaf People in Scotland, we listen to the concerns of our members and partner organisations and take these up with the Scottish Government and other statutory bodies. We are particularly grateful to our National Council, Management Committee and sub-committee members for all their hard work.

It was agreed at our AGM in 2007 that SCoD should take the lead in ensuring that Scottish Deaf Heritage is preserved and promoted. We began with our successful "Presenting the Past:

My Firsts" project and will produce six DVDs showing older Deaf people's life experiences. We are pleased that our expertise in producing DVDs has been recognised with Awards for All funding our "Deaf Sporting Memories" project.



Finally, a big Thank You to the Scottish Government, the Big Lottery Fund, the Heritage Lottery Fund, and Awards for All for their continued support. Thanks also for the donations we have received from Trusts and individuals. These funds have enabled us to continue our vital work with others in Scotland to improve the lives of deaf people.


Director

Year Ended 31 March 2011

	Restricted Fund £	Un- Restricted Fund £	Total 2011 £	Total 2010 £
Incoming resources	96,443	163,356	259,799	403,596
Resources expended	118,090	167,222	285,312	353,503
Net (outgoing) / incoming resources in year	(21,647)	(3,866)	(25,513)	50,093
Gross transfers between funds	(40,651)	40,651	-	-
Other recognised gains	-	3,170	3,170	27,429
Balance at 1 April 2010	(62,298) 44,070	39,955 224,484	(22,343) 268,554	77,522 191,032
Balance at 31 March 2011	(18,228)	264,439	246,211	268,554

Balance Sheet	£	2011 £	£	2010 £
Fixed assets		109,701		106,545
Current assets	156,987		180,599	
Current liabilities	20,477		18,590	
Net current assets		136,510		162,009
Net assets		246,211		268,554
General fund		264,439		224,484
Restricted funds		(18,228)		44,070
		246,211		268,554

The summarised financial statements have been extracted from the full financial statements which were approved on 1 September 2011 and do not constitute the charity's statutory financial statements. The full financial statements have been audited and the auditor's opinion was unqualified. The summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity and do not constitute the charity's statutory financial statements. For further information, the full annual financial statements, the auditor's report on these financial statements and management committee's report should be consulted. Copies of the audited financial statements can be obtained by writing to the Scottish Council on Deafness. The Management Committee has decided that the reserves policy is equivalent to 50% of annual net expenditure. The unrestricted funds of the charity at 31 March 2011 are £264,439.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by John Denerley, Convenor and Alan Macdonald, Honorary Treasurer.

Independent Auditor's Statement to the Management Committee of the Scottish Council on Deafness.

We have examined the summarised financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011.

Respective Responsibilities of Management Committee and Auditor

The Management Committee is responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with the recommendations of the charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full financial statements and Management Committee's Report. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements and the Management Committee's Report of The Scottish Council on Deafness for the year ended 31 March 2011

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 *The auditor's statement on the summary financial statement* issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom.

Chiene+Tait
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Chartered Accountants
and Registered Auditors
61 Dublin Street
Edinburgh EH3 6NL
www.chiene.co.uk

BSL Bill



Cathie Craigie MSP (pictured, right) launched a consultation document on the Proposed British Sign Language (BSL) Bill at Glasgow Metropolitan University in July 2010. The consultation ran until 28th October 2010. SCoD played a crucial role in making this consultation exercise a success; we arranged for a camera to be available for Deaf BSL users to respond to the consultation in their language; we took part in the BSL UPTAKE Cafe in Edinburgh where we again set up the camera to film many more responses; we distributed the consultation document as widely as possible via our bulletin, newsletter, emails and website.

Like Cathie Craigie MSP, we were surprised but delighted that the consultation received over 850 responses; 98% of these responses were in favour of the Bill. On 10th March 2011, Cathie Craigie MSP submitted a motion of support for the BSL (Scotland) Bill. To succeed this stage it needed the support of 18 MSPs across all parties. 41 MSPs have supported the motion – again an overwhelming response. If re-elected on 5th May 2011, Cathie will steer this Bill towards the statute books.

Page 6 SCoD Annual Report 2010-11



Mental Health

We continued to lobby the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government for a dedicated mental health service for deaf people in Scotland.

SCoD and member organisations were delighted to learn in May 2010 that the Scottish Government had finally agreed to fund a Pan Scotland Community Mental Health Service for Deaf People and the funding would be recurring. We invited the Scottish Government Mental Health Division to meet SCoD's Mental Health and Deaf People Task Group (MHDPTG) to outline how this service would be staffed and managed. With this major success

under our belts, we turned our focus on mental health services for deaf children and adolescents, resulting in the formation of the Deaf Children & Adolescents Mental Health Service Sub-group which met a number of times. This sub-group was chaired by SCoD's Vice-Convenor, Frances Dolan who works for West Scotland Deaf Children's Society. The group hopes to have a briefing/campaigning paper ready in late 2011.

Over the course of the year the MHDPTG invited other professionals to talk about their services including Geoff Burgess of the Samaritans.

Accessing Health

We worked closely with NHS Education for Scotland, NHS 24, NHS Health Scotland, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service and NHS National Services Scotland to improve deaf people's access to their services, to lobby for more deaf and deafblind awareness raising in the health sector and to improve recording the language and communication needs of deaf patients. We were invited to join NHS 24 BSL Online Interpreting Pilot Project Board – NHS 24 hopes to launch this innovative service in July 2011.

citizens advice scotland and deaf access

Further meetings took place with Citizens Advice Scotland to discuss ongoing access issues affecting deaf people. We are pleased to report that they are becoming more receptive to our suggestions.

Lip Reading

Our Communication and Access Sub-committee discussed concerns about the lack of funding for training lip reading tutors, lack of funding for lip reading classes and lack of promotion of these classes. They agreed to draft a letter template for people to copy and send to local MSPs, seeking their support.

When ready, the template will be available to download from our website.

SSC In addition to running the unique resource library on deafness, the Scottish Sensory Centre (SSC) provides the crucial service of professional training for teachers of deaf children. With future funding in jeopardy, we supported a campaign against their closure. Our members were also encouraged to get involved in the campaign which ultimately reversed the Scottish Government's decision.

Television

Hard of hearing people and hearing aid users continued to complain to us about unnecessary background noise on television programmes. So we continued lobbying the BBC and other television companies to stop or at least reduce the background noise.

Accessing Politics: the Scottish Election

Work with the Scottish Parliament continued, advising on the accessibility of their election information to Deaf BSL users. We made use of our "don't leave me out!" information sheets by sending them to successful parliamentary candidates.

These were produced in 2010 with the aid of Electoral Commission funding and can be downloaded from our

website:

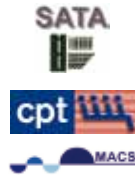
www.scod.org.uk.



The
Electoral
Commission

Transport

We continued to raise transport issues with Transport Scotland, Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (MACS) and through the Scottish Accessible Transport Alliance (SATA). We had invited Bob Benson of MACS and George Mair of the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK – Scotland to speak to our National Council at their meeting in October 2010. The National Council members made it very clear how aggrieved they were about transport issues, in particular the need to state your destination when using the National Entitlement Card. Our advice on accessibility issues was sought for the new Riverside Transport Museum and we were invited to view the museum prior to its official opening.



Events

National Council: Meetings for all SCoD Members

Our National Council continued to meet on a regular basis with a series of interesting speakers.

Glasgow in June 2010

welcomed Marion Fletcher of the Scottish Association of Sign Language Interpreters to talk about her organisation's work and at the same meeting, Lilian Lawson, SCoD Director consulted with the National Council on the Proposed British Sign Language (BSL) Bill.

Perth in October 2010

saw George Mair of the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK – Scotland and Bob Benson of MACS to talk about their organisations and respond to transport issues

raised by National Council members.

Glasgow in March 2011

welcomed presentations from Joan Jamieson of NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) Information Service Division (ISD) and Delia Henry and Shabnum Mustapha of RNID Scotland. Joan Jamieson spoke about collecting more detailed information in the NHS to ensure an awareness of deaf people's communication and language needs. Delia Henry and Shabnum Mustapha talked about their "Read My Lips" campaign. A special thanks to Joan Jamieson and her division for sponsoring this meeting.

Annual Open Day

Our offices were opened once again for our annual open day. Visitors not only talked with staff about their work and projects but also used the day as an opportunity to film their responses to the BSL Bill consultation.



SCoD Sub-Committees

In addition to the Mental Health & Deaf People Task Group and Deaf Children & Adolescents Mental Health Services Sub-group, the Management Committee set up two new sub-committees: Health & Wellbeing and Communication & Access. Both sub-committees comprise representatives from SCoD member organisations, local authorities, health authorities and voluntary organisations. Topics covered by these sub-committees included communication support workers, notetakers, lipreading, telecare, transport, older deaf people, accessible formats and online interpreting.

Annual General Meeting

The theme for October's AGM in Perth was "Making the Law in Scotland". Murray Earle of SPICe (Scottish Parliament Information Centre) gave an interesting presentation about how the Law is made and how individuals and organisations like SCoD can influence the law and policy makers. The timing of his presentation was very relevant as we neared the end of the consultation period on the Proposed BSL Bill.

Cross Party Group on Deafness

We continued to provide the secretariat support to the Cross Party Group on Deafness (CPGD). In 2010 the group met in June and September and in 2011 in January and March. Topics discussed at these meetings included: lipreading, the sensory impairment agenda, BSL & Linguistic Access Roadmap, UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Proposed British Sign Language (BSL) Bill.



Disclosure
SCOTLAND

Following changes to Disclosure Scotland procedures in February when the new PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) Disclosure scheme was introduced, we continue to countersign disclosure applications as an umbrella organisation. We initially applied for registration as an umbrella body so that we could countersign disclosure applications on behalf of our member organisations then when we started receiving enquiries from individuals who had seen our details on the Disclosure Scotland website, it became apparent that SCoD was the only organisation in Glasgow registered to countersign disclosures. This year we countersigned 105 applications for people working with children and/or vulnerable adults.



We receive requests for information by email, telephone, letter and in

person. Quite often the caller has only recently been diagnosed with deafness or is calling on behalf of an elderly relative. They do not know where to start to get information and support, however we at SCoD are able to provide information about the sensory service in their area and other local organisations as well as giving information about equipment (fire alarms, telephones etc) and where to get these.

This year we have had many enquiries about lip reading classes. This is a much needed and much sought after provision which in some areas is being taken away due to lack of appropriate funding. SCoD recognises

this need and is working to change attitudes. The number of enquiries we receive only endorses the importance of this campaign.

We frequently receive requests for statistics about the numbers of Deaf, Deafblind, hard of hearing and deafened people in Scotland or in a particular local authority area. These requests come from varied sources including Local Authorities, Social Work, Researchers at the Scottish Parliament and also students preparing for dissertations or presentations. Unfortunately these figures are not readily available and SCoD is pressing the Scottish Government to address this. Perhaps because of the success of our two counselling projects and our campaign for a mental health service for deaf people in Scotland, we are

often asked about mental health practitioners who can communicate with deaf people. While demand still outweighs availability, things have improved immensely over the past few years but we continue to strive for better provision.

Some information requests are quite specific from organisations such as Rape Crisis, the Scottish Refugee Council and Open Mind. Enquiries also came from MSPs and care homes.

We also deal with lots of general enquiries for example about deaf awareness, the new Equality Act and how it relates to deaf people, the provision of communication support at meetings and learning BSL.



COMPLETED 31 MAR 2011



Without the Big Lottery Recession Fund extension in March 2010, this project would have finished in September.

In addition to continuing the original project, the extra funding enabled us to work with money advice providers, Citizens Advice Bureaux and Credit Unions. A number of these organisations across Scotland were visited and advised on accessibility for deaf people. A 'Money Matters' event was held in Edinburgh in November where the Citizens Advice Bureau, Capital Credit Union, Community Help and Advice Initiative (CHAI), the local Disability Employment Adviser and Lothian Deaf Counselling Service promoted their service information to deaf people. The aim of the event was for deaf people in Edinburgh to learn about existing local support services should they have financial difficulties.

Three Counselling Awareness Workshops were held: in August at



Kilmarnock's Deaf Club and in July in Wick and Thurso. Continuing the inclusion of young people in the project the Scottish Deaf Youth Association was visited, along with a counsellor. 14 free Deaf/Deafblind Awareness sessions were delivered in Skye, Aberdeen, Dunoon and Glasgow. Overall, a wide range of organisations has received training including GPs, Audiologists, Mental Health Nurses, Disability Employment Advisers and freelance counsellors. Sessions were very well received with encouraging positive feedback.

Sporting Memories

We were delighted when our application to Awards for All successfully secured £8.3k to preserve the sporting heritage of Scottish deaf people. Filming deaf sportspeople talking about their sporting achievements will take place throughout the summer of 2011. Sports will include judo, netball, athletics, golf, squash, football and mountain biking.



My Firsts

We interviewed 57 Deaf people of ages ranging from 50 to 88. Interviews took place all over Scotland in locations including Callendar House in Falkirk, the Discovery Point in Dundee, Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum in Glasgow, the Falkirk Wheel and the 22 Club in Aberdeen. Participants were interviewed by Deaf people with skills honed by the Scottish Oral History Centre.



Memories of school days, work, home life, family holidays, social life, driving, telecommunications and even of air raids, evacuation and rationing – were captured on film. The first DVD of the series, **Deaf People at Work** which focuses on employment experiences was produced and will be launched in Moray House School of Education in April 2011.



Issues 22 and 23 of the SCoDNEWS were prepared, published and distributed to around 5,000 individuals and organisations on our mailing list. Issue 22 celebrated the new History Project while Issue 23 welcomed the opening of the Tayside Deaf Hub in Dundee. Newsletters can be viewed as animated pdfs on: www.issuu.com.



12 parliamentary digest reports, featuring questions, answers, motions and other relevant business in the Scottish Parliament, were prepared and distributed in print, email and on our website.



12 issues of the bulletin were prepared and circulated in print and by email to SCoD members, associates, supporters and all 129 MSPs. SCoD publications can be viewed and downloaded from our website: www.scod.org.uk



During 2010/11 our website received **186,156 visitors**, averaging **510** each day and representing an 18% increase on last year.



The website calendar, which provides details of captioned cinema, theatre, BSL interpreted theatre, accessible courses, meetings and events throughout Scotland, offered **2,498 individual listings**. That averages out at nearly seven events each day and a 7% increase on last year!



As **Presenting the Past** is an in-house SCoD history project, the Information Officer was heavily involved in the editing, design and production of the first of six DVDs in the series funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The DVD, highlighting the experiences of Deaf People at Work will be ready to launch at Moray House in Edinburgh in April.



We continue to represent SCoD on the Scottish Accessible Information Forum and the Ecommunication sub-committee.



List your accessible event on our website and in our bulletin. Email details to nick@scod.org.uk

Our oral history project 'Presenting the Past: My Firsts', funded by the Lottery Heritage Fund, has proved a huge success and prompted an application for a similar oral history project to Awards for All. In September 2010 we were delighted to receive a grant from them for a new project entitled 'Deaf Sporting Memories.' This project will capture the sporting memories of Deaf people, preserving them on film.

A successful application was submitted to the Scottish Government's Equalities Unit to fund the post of Policy & Research Officer for a further year. An application has also been submitted under the Scottish Government's Section 16b. We are awaiting the outcome of this. Despite the difficult economic climate we have been pleased

to receive funding from a number of trusts as our rolling programme of applications continued. We are extremely grateful for the support of: Martin Connell Charitable Trust, Souter Charitable Trust, Row Fogo Charitable Trust, Sylvia Aitken Charitable Trust, JTH Charitable Trust, AM Pilkington's Charitable Trust and Talteg Ltd.

We have continued to work successfully in partnership with Charitytrek to promote fundraising treks in Scotland in aid of SCoD. In September 2010, associate member Ella Leith braved the 73 miles of the Great Glen Way, raising vital funds for SCoD in doing so. We were extremely touched by her support, and the many individuals who sponsored her. An interview with Ella was included

in issue 23 of our newsletter.

We are continuing to work with Recycle 4 Charity, raising money through recycling used mobile phones and ink cartridges, and are members of Justgiving which enables people to donate to SCoD online as well as setting up their own fundraising page on our behalf.

We are indebted to everyone who has contributed financially towards our charity, including the many individuals who have been good enough to make regular donations over the years.





During the spring we worked in partnership with the Civic Participation Network and the Scottish

Disability Equality Forum to develop and deliver a workshop on Inclusive Communication to organisations supported by the Voluntary Action Fund.

This work led to SCoD becoming involved in the Independent Living in Scotland Inclusive Communication Working Group. This group of disability and equality organisations, Scottish Government, CoSLA, and NHS Health Scotland was given the job of trying to put together and agree the Principles of Inclusive Communication, a self-assessment tool for public bodies to use to review

and check how they provide information and communication support for those who need it. This piece of work took nine months to complete. The consultations that took up most of our time this year have been the Department of Work and Pensions Welfare Reform papers. You will all be aware of the Coalition Government's Welfare Reform Bill and the proposed changes to Disability Living Allowance, the Work Programme, Work Capacity Assessments and the move from many benefits to Universal Credit. The Scottish Government consultations have been about the Patient Rights Act and changes to social housing. The next big things will be the Patients Charter and the Social Housing Charter.

SCoD Membership

Full Membership

Full membership (for organisations) offers all of the benefits of associate membership but additionally, as a full member you can stand for election to the Management Committee and vote at National Council, annual and other general meetings. It represents a very real opportunity to shape and influence government policy.

New Members

This year we welcomed Grampian Deaf Group, Noteable Electronic Notetaking Services and NoteText as new SCoD members.



Associates

Our associate membership continues to grow with steady interest from individuals who wish to support SCoD.

Associate members have the chance to get more involved in our work, receiving invitations to our National Council meetings and AGM, a copy of our monthly bulletin, SCoDNEWS and reports on business at the Scottish Parliament. Visit our website for more information and an application form in pdf which you can download. Alternatively, you can visit our office and join in person or contact us and we can send you a membership form.

Wide representation is essential to our awareness raising work so that issues affecting Deaf Sign Language users, deafened, hard of hearing and deafblind people remain high on the agenda. To this end, we continued our representation on the following committees and working groups:

Audiology Services Advisory Group

Equality Unit:

- BSL & Linguistic Access Working Group
- Policy and Engagement Officers Network
- Independent Living in Scotland Core Reference Group
- Inclusive Communication Working Group



Cross Party Groups:

- on Deafness
- on Mental Health



Glasgow City Council
Riverside Museum Advisory Panel



NHS 24 Public Partnership Forum
 NHS 24 BSL Online Interpreting Pilot Project Board
 NHS 24 Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment Team
 NHS Education for Scotland Sensory Impairment Steering Group
 NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Deaf Mental Health Working Group
 NHS Health Scotland Mental Health in Later Life Working Group
 NHS National Services Division Commissioning Panel to oversee the quality of inpatient mental health services for deaf people with a sensory impairment



Scottish Accessible Information Forum
 Scottish Sensory Centre Advisory Committee
 Moray House Deaf Achievement Scotland Working Group
 SCVO's Policy Officers Network
 Scottish Accessible Transport Forum
 Signature's National Advisory Committee
 Scottish Association of Sign Language Interpreters'
 Building Bridges Project Steering Group





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Trek for SCoD



Take part in a trek and raise funds for SCoD. Find out more on our website.

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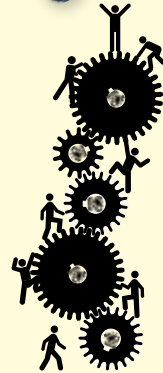
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