



Dear Colleagues,

March has been an exceptionally busy month and many of the SCoD team are going to be on holiday over April, so we plan to be just as effective but probably not quite as available, particularly over the next three weeks. Plenty of dates for your diaries!

BSL (Scotland) Bill

The Bill and work to support it remains a high priority. We are now at the end of the evidence collection phase and are waiting on the report from the Education and Culture Committee. At SCoD, we support many of the Scottish Government's suggested amendments and are keen to see the local and national accountability developed through an amended Bill. Please ensure you are linking with Mark Griffin MSP or us at SCoD regarding any amendments so they can be considered fully at this time. SCoD will be working to inform people about the next stages in more detail.



Research – Public Bodies

Dr Marian Grimes has consulted, developed and tested a relevant question set and we have had a super response from the public bodies targeted in the survey. She is now involved in more detailed follow up conversations on the telephone. We anticipate Marian reporting towards the end of April.



SCoD Legal Changes

We are at the end of this transition and expect to be trading as the new Company and recognised Charity from the first of April. The next quarter period will allow time to sort out banking arrangements and finalise the process for recruitment to the Board later in the year.



Connect and Thrive

The Connect and Thrive programmed theme for the next three years is developing nicely and we are already seeing improvements: collaborating; communicating and capitalising! SCoD was awarded funds through the Scottish Government Equalities Unit to support engagement and participation around the BSL (Scotland) Bill and we are keen to develop a more joined up approach across the deaf sector. The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) has some staff members that will support this cluster approach and assist the integration, coordination, monitoring and evaluation across the funded services.

We are in discussions with the Alliance (formerly known as the Health and Social Care Alliance) and hope to add value to their strategic work, creating a “quick win” arrangement to get key messages around deafness and the See Hear Strategy to their vast membership.

Our plans for the year are developing, better informed by the recent conference.

Connect & Collaborate Conference

The attendance and contribution to the conference, held in the Royal Concert Hall on 12th of March was fantastic. Feedback has been excellent and I must thank John Hay for chairing the day so well. Kellas and the SCoD team worked hard behind the scenes and I have been very pleased to see all the messages of support and congratulations. The whole day has received



some excellent feedback and a Survey Monkey evaluation will report after Easter. The response and good wishes have fired us up to have a bigger and better event next year. Our next Spring newsletter will be a themed "conference report", outlining and recording the event, the people and the content. Huge thanks to the contributors and attendees for making a day to remember. Loads of new connections were made.

Next year the theme is Connect and Communicate...do you want to participate, run a workshop, send in ideas or suggestions?

Please get in touch with Kellas before we hold our debrief meeting on 13th April – that will be when we start to plan next year's event.....save the date **10th March 2016**. Our contact details are kellas@scod.org.uk, telephone 0141 248 2474, SMS 07925 417338 or send a BSL video to derek@scod.org.uk.

We provided some information about the feasibility and planning commissioned with Big Lottery Investing in Ideas funds. More will be said at the National Council meeting scheduled for Thursday 21st May.



Cross Party Group on Deafness

Of course the Cross Party Group was updated on the BSL (Scotland) Bill and also focused on the Lipreading Strategy, which was launched in Falkirk on Thursday 26th March. Delia Henry (AoHL) spoke about the learning and tools to support lipreading development produced by Dr Linda Armstrong and the strategy group, from the recent funding. The next meeting, on the evening of Wednesday 10th June, will look at Inclusive Communication as well as the BSL (Scotland) Bill as well as holding the AGM. It was agreed to seek a joint meeting with the Cross Party Group on Mental Health later in the year.

Other activities

Policy meeting: Wednesday 15th April, led by Mandy and chaired by John Gill.

Communications Think Day: Friday 15th May, led by Angela Bonomy and a presentation from Mark Charlton from The Alliance.

We will follow up the "Deaf Register?" Think Day with a report and we will be able to tell you more about our "Effecting Change, Equality and Access for Deaf People in Scotland" after meeting with a group of services and representatives from the Scottish Government Equalities Unit in mid-April.

Final note:

I note no one has contacted us about the potential for a strategic bid to Big Lottery. We will see how joint working develops over the next few months.

Best wishes
Janis McDonald
Chief Officer



Equality and Access for Deaf People: Final Update – April 2015

The Equality and Access for Deaf People Project, funded by The Scottish Government Equality Unit, came to a close at the end of March 2015. Originally it was planned to be a 2 year project, however it emerged that funding was only in place for 18 months, so plans had to change.

Stephen Joyce has returned back to his full time post as Training Manager for Deafblind Scotland as his secondment has now ended. The draft of the final project report is currently being written. The project has succeeded in highlighting several opportunities to improve and develop services for Deaf people and the approach that Deaf and Public Sector organisations can take.



Some examples include:

Connect & Collaborate Conference – Thursday 12th March 2015

The project theme has acted as a catalyst to establish what will be an annual conference. SCoD, in partnership with the project, has strategically planned for the first three conferences. We had over 170 people at the conference. 125 were SCoD members, key stakeholders and representatives from the Public, Private and Third Sectors, who gathered to collaborate and connect at the first conference at the beginning of March. It was a real success, with different partnerships and future collaborations now being planned as a result of the raised awareness about the experience of deaf people and the contribution they can and want to make to working with organisations. A full conference report will be published soon. Next year's conference is on Thursday 10th March 2016 at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall – theme will be “Connect & Communicate”.

GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child)

This is the foundation policy now for Education in Scotland. The project was keen to understand the potential implications and opportunities that it offered to improve the experience for Deaf children and young people – how it can improve their access to and equality of their education. As part of this process, the project realised that it was important not just for the project officers but for all those working with Deaf and Deafblind children and young people, to understand the policy and as a result how they could improve their participation, engagement, and enablement through it. So working in collaboration with The ALLIANCE Scotland, and in particular, Ronnie Hill, we organised a national event for Deaf organisations in Scotland so that GIRFEC could promote their work and give a better understanding of their aims and the processes that are involved, terminology and protocols were clarified and explained, and momentum has since gathered. The project has continued to explore the implications and the application of GIRFEC and its supporting infrastructure. This will be reported on more fully in our final report, highlighting the importance of our collaboration and effective communication strategically across health, social and education services.

Community of Interest Gathering event (COI)

The project realised early on that the future improvements for access and equality for Deaf people in part lay in the more effective collaboration of the organisations working in the Deaf Sector. Historically, this has been challenging as the model for funding has often created internal competition for ongoing projects to be sustained. However, the project was aware in the current financial climate the sector's capacity to work together and effectively collaborating was going to be increasingly important. This was the motivation behind offering a first event that created a Community of Interest. Professionals from a wide variety of organisations were invited to share best practices and establish a network which would be beneficial to all the work in the sector, both present and future. This created useful links and contacts as well as supporting the changing approach within the sector to find different ways to work together, sharing resources and the different areas of specialties that have developed over the years. This change is apparent as we begin in 2015, to see Deaf Sector organisations actively exploring how they can work more effectively together.

BSL (Scotland) Bill

We knew that the BSL (Scotland) Bill offered a real opportunity to Deaf people to have more access and equality to all aspects of their lives. So the project worked hard to encourage Deaf BSL users to participate, illustrating and demonstrating the methods and approach that would be helpful and informative to those actively involved in the gathering of evidence to support the needs of this proposed legislation. The project, where ever possible, worked closely with other organisations to do this – in particular BDA Scotland.

The project has raised awareness of the needs of and the capabilities to contribute that Deaf people have. The project has used the power of networking and engaging as real tools to widen this awareness.

Our interim and final reports will be available on the SCoD website soon.



Finally thank you...

The Project Team (Rosie Rutherford, Stephen Joyce & Derek Todd) would like to thank our Project Implementation Group (P.I.G.) members for their time, support and contribution to our project. Thanks also goes to members of the British Sign Language & Linguistic Access Working Group (BSL&LAWG) and those who “connected and collaborated” with our project throughout the last 18 months. The project team enjoyed meeting and working with you all.

News:General



ContactSCOTLAND-BSL

A nationwide roll-out of a new online interpreting service that will allow deaf people across Scotland who use sign language to contact public sector services.

The Scottish Government has extended the current NHS 24 online British Sign Language (BSL) Video Relay Interpreting Service pilot to the rest of the Public Sector in Scotland. The new Scottish Government funded service, contactSCOTLAND, will mean Deaf people can now contact all public services in Scotland, such as their local council, doctor’s surgery and the Scottish Government, without the need for someone to call on their behalf.

This service can’t be underestimated - Deaf people can now do what hearing people have always been able to do and perhaps taken for granted for so long.

“This is a fantastic project and gives British Sign Language users equal access to public sector services, allowing them to enjoy greater participation in daily and public life.”

Jamie Hepburn - Minister for Sport, Health Improvement and Mental Health.

contactSCOTLAND-BSL, since its national launch has proved to attract a great deal of attention from both public services and Deaf people themselves. The diversity of calls and the call numbers from all over Scotland has shown that Deaf people want to have access to such a wide range of public services.

The service is free and can be used to contact **all public sector bodies in Scotland**. It is **not for emergency 999 calls nor is it to replace face-to-face interpreting’ when that is what is required**. More information on how this BSL Video Relay Interpreting service works can be found on the contactSCOTLAND-BSL website www.contactsotland-bsl.org



Update from contactSCOTLAND-BSL

As of the 20th March 2015, we are nearly at the end of the third week of contactSCOTLAND, and call volumes and feedback from across Scotland has been really positive. During the first two weeks of March we received over 200 calls, the



contactSCOTLAND queue received:

2nd - 8th March 74 calls

9th - 16th March 58 calls

We have received comments from people saying how helpful and supportive the online interpreter has been, which is excellent! For many people they are building their confidence in using the service. There are still lots of Deaf people who are unaware of the service, we currently have posters etc, but we do plan on producing some information cards on the service, similar in size to a business card. Once they are printed we will pass them on.

SLi and contactSCOTLAND had an exhibition stall at the SCoD conference. There were lots of people stopping and taking information away. A few people also had the opportunity to try the service out. We will continue to attend different events to promote the service - if you are aware of a group or organisation that would like more information or a demonstration, please let me know.



I am pleased to report that Andy Irvine has just been appointed to work one day a week, as the contactSCOTLAND development project officer. Andy will undertake a range of duties to promote and raise awareness of contactSCOTLAND, he will also work with the team to produce the weekly call reports.

Andy's contact details are Andy.i@signlanguageinteractions.com or **07712583462**.



Scotland's Commissioner
for Children & Young People

Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People

Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People have produced quite a number of videos to inform Deaf children and young people about their rights.

You can find them at www.sccyp.org.uk/bsl.



Learning Opportunities 2015

The online version of the Deafblind Studies programme will go live mid May 2015.

After a successful pilot, this newly developed version of the course makes a wider range of learning opportunities available in order to meet the needs of a broader group of professionals who support deafblind people to lead the lives they would wish to lead.

Suitable for those seeking a first professional qualification, continuing professional development or underpinning knowledge for sensory related units as part of an SVQ3 or Health and Social Care Diploma (L3/5), you can undertake:

- The Certificate in Deafblind Studies (one year of part time study)
- The Certificate and The Diploma in Deafblind Studies (two years of part time study)
- Individual or combinations of credit rated modules to meet specific training



requirements.

The programme is designed for staff who work with deafblind people in a range of support roles. It can also help to develop excellent professional knowledge for those working with people who are d/Deaf, hard of hearing, blind or partially sighted, have learning difficulties and/or communication support needs.

This eight module course (Open University credit rated and recognised across the UK) explores congenital and acquired deafblindness across the age range and builds in-depth knowledge of deafblindness; communication; movement, mobility and orientation; and public policy.



Year One - The Certificate in Deafblind Studies – is designed to build indepth, foundational knowledge of: deafblindness; communication; movement, mobility & orientation; and Public Policy.

Year Two - The Diploma in Deafblind Studies - extends this learning, focusing on assessment, service development and service delivery.

For full costs and further details about the content visit: www.deafblindstudies.org.uk or contact the Course Director, Gerard Swan (Mon-Thurs only) at gerard@deafblindstudies.org.uk or 07941 531931.



Call for views on the Carers (Scotland) Bill – Stage 1 consideration by the Scottish Parliament Health and Sport Committee

25 March 2015 – The Health and Sport Committee has launched a call for written views to inform its consideration of the Carers (Scotland) Bill.

The Bill was introduced on 9 March 2015 and the Health and Sport Committee has been designated as lead committee for consideration of it at Stage 1.

What information is the Committee looking for?

The Committee is seeking responses to the following questions—

Do you support the Bill?

What do you feel would be the benefits of the provisions set out in the Bill?

How do you feel the Bill could be amended or strengthened?

Is there anything that you would add to the Bill?

Is there anything that you would remove from the Bill?

Further information on the Committee's call for views and a summary of the main provisions in the Bill can be found at the address below—

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/88138.aspx>

The Committee is seeking response to its call for views by Wednesday 22 April 2015.

The Bill and accompanying documents can be viewed on the Parliament's website at—
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/86987.aspx>



Contact

Should you require alternative formats of this information or further assistance in making a written submission to the Committee, please do not hesitate to contact the clerking team of the Committee.

For Committee information, contact: Andrew Howlett. Tel 0131 348 5410 Email: andrew.howlett@scottish.parliament.uk

EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Inquiry into attainment of school pupils with a sensory impairment – Call for views

The Committee is holding a short inquiry to consider how the attainment levels of school pupils with a hearing and/or a visual impairment can be improved. We invite you to give us concise and specific suggestions about what could be done to improve the attainment of children with a sensory impairment.

The deadline for responses is Wednesday 29 April 2015. For more information about how to respond please see here: [Call for views](#)

Further information on the inquiry will be published on our website: [Inquiry homepage](#)

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

John A Hay MBE, a retired Deaf Studies and BSL/English Interpreting lecturer at the University of Wolverhampton attended a reception at Buckingham Palace, hosted by Her Majesty The Queen on 18th March.

Her Majesty, The Queen, who is patron of The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, hosted the event to mark its 50th anniversary as Sir Winston's living legacy.

Since 1965, over 5000 British citizens have been awarded Churchill Fellowships, from over 100,000 applicants, to travel overseas to study areas of topical and personal interest. The knowledge and innovative ideas they bring back are shared, for the benefit of their profession, their community, and, in lots of cases, the nation. For many people, a Churchill Fellowship proves transformational, and they go on to achieve great things - effecting positive change within society.

John, himself profoundly deaf since birth, went on his Fellowship in the autumn of 2006 to several European countries, the USA and Canada to investigate the Deaf museums and archival centres. Since then the British Deaf History Society of which John is the Chair, has developed its Deaf Museum & Archive in Warrington with collections being expanded with more artefacts and technical equipment assisting deaf people, being on display.

John feels very much privileged to be selected to represent the Midlands region from which only eight Churchill Fellows being invited to attend the evening reception meeting The Queen and her Prince Consort, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Fellows from every decade since 1965 represented the Trust at the reception, as well as representatives from The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust in Australia, and the Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States.

To mark its semi-centennial, The Trust has just awarded a record number of 150



WINSTON
CHURCHILL
MEMORIAL
TRUST



Travelling Fellowships – investing at least £1.3m in British citizens. This year's Fellows will travel to 58 countries between them, across six continents, where they will carry out a wide range of projects. The average length of a Fellowship is 6 weeks. Many [events](#) are being held throughout the year to celebrate Sir Winston's life and legacy.

WINSTON
CHURCHILL
MEMORIAL
TRUST



“We were delighted and honoured that the Queen hosted a reception to mark our anniversary year. Sir Winston's legacy lives on through our Fellows – individuals who, like him, have vision, leadership, a passion with a purpose, and a commitment to help their fellow citizens” Jamie Balfour, Director General of The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust.

For further information please contact:

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust on 020 7799 1660 www.wcmt.org.uk

To contact John A Hay MBE mobile: 07980240775 (**Text only**) or e-mail:

Deafhay@sky.com

See John's Fellowship story:

<http://www.wcmt.org.uk/fellows/stories/john-hays-story>



MONEY MATTERS

Our Money Matters Advisor is here to help YOU!

Drop in: Tuesdays 1:00pm – 3:00pm

- Money Advice
- Benefits Explained
- Apply for Benefits
- Welfare Reform
- Debt—Avoid it
- Debt—Reduce it
- Pension
- Spend Less
- Reduce Costs

For further Information please contact:

Kaz Langlands

Tel: 0131 652 3209

SMS: 07792 941629

Email: kaz.langlands@deafaction.org

Facetime: kaz.langlands@deafaction.org

Webcam: OOV00—Kaz Langlands Skype: kaz.langlands1



New Youth Service in Edinburgh and the Lothians

Deaf Action has started up a new service for young people affected by Deafness in the Edinburgh and Lothian areas, between the ages of 10 and 18, and we have a couple of upcoming events as part of this Youth Service.

The first is an open day being held at Laserquest in Edinburgh, to offer information about the Youth Service, the youth council and to gather interest from young people! With this we will offer discounted games of Laserquest for anyone who wishes to play

(£3.50 per game – usually £5!), organised this during the Easter holidays so hope that lots of young people can attend.

The second is a Young Inventors Workshop, where young people and potential youth workers will be grouped into teams, and work together to design and create a machine. This workshop will be completely free and prizes will be available for the best ideas! This workshop will in fact help support the selection process of the sessional youth work team and will allow us to observe how potential candidates interact and engage with young people.

Please get in touch with Alex Furneaux to book spaces for either event.

Alex Furneaux: Youth Work Project Co-ordinator

Direct SMS: 07816938167

Telephone: 0131 652 3208

Email: alexfurneaux@deafaction.org

Consultations



Primary Medical Services: A consultation on General Practitioner Telephone Numbers

Background

In July 2005, the Scottish Government introduced a ban on premium rate telephone numbers (0870 or 09). This however did not include 084 numbers, which are not classed as “premium rate” numbers. This Government’s policy is clear that no person should be financially disadvantaged while contacting their GP practice.

This policy was reiterated in February 2011 by the then Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing Nicola Sturgeon MSP in an open letter to the Chief Executives of each NHS Boards.

This guidance stated that practices must not enter into, renew or extend a telephone contract unless they were satisfied that having regard to arrangements as a whole, persons would not be charged more to make the relevant calls than if they made the equivalent call to a geographic number, where they are not comparable to this all reasonable steps to rectify this must be taken. As independent contractors, decisions on the type of telephone system used in their practices are generally the responsibility of the practice partners.

084 numbers

The 084 number range is not classified as premium rate by Ofcom, the communications regulator, instead they are generally classified as non-geographic numbers or as number translation services. When the 084 numbers were introduced in GP practices the extra functionality that these systems provided allowed practices to improve telephone access to patients. This included call queuing which handled large call volumes, automated appointment booking and providing out of hours access to amend or cancel appointments. These days however telecommunications solutions are available to rent or purchase which operate with the same functionality but have a standard geographic number. When a call to an 084 number reaches the telephone network, the number dialled by the caller is “translated” by the network to a geographic number to deliver the call to its destination. These “translation” costs are generally higher for 084 than for other number ranges. In addition the cost of



originating calls from a mobile network is higher than that from a fixed line. Therefore the costs of allowing its customers to access 084 numbers is higher for mobile operators than it is for fixed operators. In a highly competitive market these call costs are ultimately paid for by the customers. This is why charges to call 084 numbers can differ depending on the provider and whether the call is made from a fixed line or a mobile. Where mobile providers offer contracts with bundled call minutes, 084 numbers are often excluded from these packages. For those on Pay As You Go tariffs, calls to these numbers usually cost more than those made from a contract mobile account.

Mobile Telephones

Current regulations prevent practices from using particular number ranges as their contact number, specifically numbers beginning with 087, 090, 091 (premium rate numbers) or 070 (personal numbers). However, the current regulations do not include any specific requirement for practices to consider the cost or type of calls being made to them. This has resulted in an unintended difference in treatment of people contacting a practice with an 084 number by mobile telephone in comparison to a caller on a landline. In terms of call tariffs, the call rates which patients are charged to call a 084 number will depend on their mobile phone service provider.

Consultation Questions:

1. The Scottish Government's policy is that no person should be financially disadvantaged when contacting their GP practice.

Do you agree with this statement? Yes/No

2. The Scottish Government considers that, given the above statement, no person should have to pay more than the standard cost of a local call when contacting their GP practice.

Do you agree with this statement?

Yes/No

Proposal 1

Calls made to GP practices who have a telephone number beginning 084 can be very expensive if called from a mobile phone as, unlike geographical numbers (those beginning 01 and 02), these are not included in many call plans.

Given this, would you support an outright ban on 084 numbers?

Yes/No

Proposal 2

If a patient rings the GP Practice and the line is engaged or they are held in a queue, it can be frustrating and expensive for the patient. One option may be to have a "ring back" service, where the patient types in their phone number and once the line is available or they reach first in the queue they are called back by the practice.

Would you agree with the introduction of this service?

Yes/No

Proposal 3

One option may be to look into whether a call handling system could viably be introduced. This system, similar to that of the NHS 24 111 system, would see calls



routed through a switchboard operator who would direct the call to the local practice.

Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes/No

Proposal 4

Each practice would obtain an 030 number, Ofcom introduced the 030 number range exclusively for public sector and not for profit bodies. 030 numbers offer the same extra functions as 084 numbers. All mobile operators have to charge 030 numbers in the same way as they would geographical numbers, ie included within a customer's bundle in their tariff. Although for the caller an 030 call is charged at the same as a local call, a charge is levied on the person or organisation receiving the call to cover the cost of the extra functions.

Would you agree with the introduction of these numbers?

Yes/No

Proposal 5

All GP practices would be required to use geographical numbers. There would be a grace period for each practice which had to change to enable current contracts to end without incurring unnecessary financial penalty to the practice
Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes/No

Any other comments:

If you would like to contribute to the **SCoD response**, please email your comments to Mandy at mandy@scod.org.uk by **Friday 24th April 2015**. To make your own contribution to the consultation, go to <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/03/2712>



Vacancies



Scottish Council on Deafness

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : **Cloud Awareness Project Manager**

Place of Work : Scottish Council on Deafness
Central Chambers Suite 62
93 Hope Street
Glasgow
G2 6LD

Accountable to : Management Committee

Line Manager : **Chief Officer**

Salary Scale : **£7.85 Per Hour/35 HPW - flexible**

General Statement: The Scottish Council on Deafness (SCoD) is the national co-ordinating body for organisations, which cater for a wide range of needs of Deaf, deafened, deafblind and hard of hearing people. SCoD has a membership of organisations, public bodies and businesses from all over Scotland. The Membership Worker will have a key role to play in SCoD's membership development and operational support services.



Main Tasks and Responsibilities:

1. To research and understand the potential of Cloud Technology and support the use of Cloud (Office 365) within Scottish Council on Deafness and its services.
2. To support staff training and practical application of "Cloud" facilities.
3. To provide support to the SCoD Team on ICT matters. Developing the shared diary, building shared contacts and suchlike.
4. To contribute to the cleansing and accuracy of SCoD data/ records. Support plans to grow membership and suggest/devise electronic ways to develop the "membership offer" and support the membership engagement, involvement, and participation in SCoD and other planning systems including those on a National and Local basis.
5. To link and liaise with other SCoD team members to ensure good internal and external communications.
6. To assist the team in basic administrative functions, mail, reception etc and organising conferences, open days and other events, including the booking of venues, catering, communication services, etc. as and when required, under supervision.
7. Under supervision, to deal with various enquiries and support the administrative and electronic processes: for example - incoming and outgoing mail, incoming calls, faxes, e-mails, visitors. To contribute to the currency, accuracy and circulation of information.
8. To support the development and compliance of health and safety, HR and other SCoD infrastructure requirements. Contribute to the ICT infrastructure development and ensure policies and procedures are current and relevant.
9. To be a First Aider/Appointed Person at Work.
10. To deliver any agreed workplans, take responsibility for recording work achieved and develop skills, knowledge and experience of practical office based activities.
11. To carry out his/her responsibilities with due regard to SCoD's Equal Opportunities Policy.
12. To carry out any other duties as requested by the Chief Officer commensurate with the position



Working Conditions:

35 hours per week

The postholder will be required to be flexible in his/her working hours as some meetings may occur outside office hours and/or involve an overnight stay. The postholder may have to travel around Scotland. The office is generally open between 08.30 and 18.30 or later, weekdays.

The postholder will be expected to undertake training in Deaf Awareness

Applications need to be via Job Centre Plus referral ONLY.



The Parole Board for Scotland (PBS) is an independent, non-departmental public body that works within the criminal justice system. Operating within a statutory framework, its job is to protect the public by risk assessing prisoners to decide whether they can be safely released into the community on licence. The Board aims to make risk assessments which are rigorous, fair and timely and which can contribute to the rehabilitation of prisoners, and ultimately reduce reoffending.

General Member duties and responsibilities

The task for a Parole Board member is, first and foremost, to protect the public. The impact of Board Members' decisions can be far-reaching and serious. The role carries with it a big responsibility and the decisions are often difficult, but with that responsibility comes the reward of a fascinating and fulfilling role and visible evidence that you are contributing towards a Safer, Stronger Scotland.

As a General Member of the PBS your duties will be judicial in nature, and will include:

- communicating effectively with victims, prisoners, relevant professionals and witnesses who may appear at Tribunals or Oral Hearings;
- deciding on the suitability for release on licence of long term prisoners (those sentenced to four years or more) to serve a portion of their sentence on licence in the community;
- considering whether to direct the release on licence of life sentence prisoners once they have served the punishment part of their sentence;
- obtaining the views of victims of crime where a life sentence has been imposed; and
- consideration of the need to recall to custody offenders who have breached their licence conditions and the case for directing re-release

Skills, knowledge and experience required

The skills knowledge and experience that the successful candidates will be able to demonstrate:

- ability to analyse and review complex info to reach objective, evidence-based decisions;
- ability to express decisions logically and concisely both orally and in writing;
- ability to tailor communication to enable effective engagement with a diverse range of people;
- a general understanding of: prisoner release arrangements, risk assessment, post release offender management in Scotland; and
- flexibility, and the ability to work in a rapidly changing environment.

Desirable

- ability to demonstrate a general understanding of the Scottish criminal justice system.

Remuneration

General Members receive a daily fee of £199. All Members are entitled to be paid allowances for travel and subsistence expenses. The rate is set in line with those payable in the Civil Service. We will also reimburse reasonable child care and carer expenses.



Parole Board for Scotland



Length of appointment

The length of appointment is up to seven years. Members are usually appointed for seven years and can't serve more than eight years in total. So, if you have previously served a full term as a Member of the PBS then you cannot apply.

Time commitment

We expect all Members to spend up to 10 days per month, on PBS work including preparation.

The PBS currently convenes for Casework Meetings of up to six members, 50 times a year. These are usually held at Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh. Tribunals and oral hearings are chaired by a Legal Member who sits with two General Members. However this way of working is currently under review.

Location

Tribunals and Oral Hearings will be held by Live Link from facilities in Edinburgh and Glasgow or in the relevant establishment (prison, secure unit/hospital). General Members will also have to undertake one-to-one victim interviews. Members may need to travel throughout Scotland.

Interviews

Interviews of shortlisted applicants will be held on 26, 28, 29 May and 1 June 2015 in Glasgow.

Additional information

If you are looking for a challenging, rewarding and worthwhile opportunity we would like to hear from you. Please pass on details of this opportunity to anyone you think might be interested. To find out more about the role please contact Avril Coats, Parole Unit, Scottish Government on 0131 244 4805 or avril.coats@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.



Parole Board for Scotland

Full details of the criteria to be met for the position are contained in the person specification which forms part of the application pack. Also included in the pack is more detailed information about the PBS. For full information on the appointment, please read the Application Information Pack which you can access via the link below:

We encourage applicants to apply for these appointments online. However, if you experience any difficulties with accessing our website please contact Public Appointments Wellbeing and Diversity (PAWD) on (Freephone) 0800 015 8449 or fax 0131 244 3833 or by email at paapplicationsmailbox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

If you would prefer not to access this information electronically, please contact Sheree McAlpine on 0131 244 4372 or at sheree.mcalpine@scotland.gsi.gov.uk who will be happy to make the appropriate alternative arrangements for you.

Completed application forms must be received on or before 20 April 2015. Full details on this, and other public appointments, can be found at the public appointments website www.appointed-for-scotland.org/



Ayrshire & Arran NHS Board Member appointments

If you are looking for a challenging, rewarding and worthwhile opportunity, we would like to hear from you. Applications are invited from a wide range of people who have an interest in public service and are committed to the NHS in Scotland. Please pass on details of these opportunities to anyone else you think may be interested.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran is responsible for meeting the health needs of around 400,000 people living in the area, and provides a comprehensive range of primary, community-based and acute hospital services for the population.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran is looking for two new members to join its Board – one from June 2015 and another from July 2016. As a non-executive member of the Board, you will be expected to play a central role in guiding the strategies which address the health priorities and health care needs of the resident population and monitor the performance of the Board in delivering these. These roles are as challenging as they are rewarding – and you will be offered the training you'll need to make a strong contribution. An essential requirement of the posts is that you can demonstrate a knowledge about, interest in, or connection to the delivery of health and social care services in the area served by the Board. For **both** posts, you must be also be able to demonstrate:

- an ability to communicate effectively; and
- an ability to build effective relationships within a team.

There are different additional requirements for each of the two posts.

Post 1: This post will be of interest to people who may have experience of working on a Board previously. It is expected that the successful candidate for this post will be a member of one of the Joint Integration Boards on taking up appointment. In addition to the criteria highlighted above, for this post you must also be able to demonstrate:

- an ability to build effective relationships with stakeholders who have competing interests; and
- an ability to influence decision making and challenge constructively.

Post 2: This post will be of particular interest to people who wish to develop their skills and are willing to learn. In addition to the criteria highlighted above, for this post you must also be able to demonstrate:

- a demonstrable understanding of disadvantaged communities across Ayrshire and Arran; and
- personal experience of health and/or social care as a service user, patient or carer.

You should apply for **either** Post 1 or Post 2; **not both**. You are asked to select the post in which you feel you could make the strongest contribution.

Remuneration: £8,088 per annum (non-pensionable) is payable. You will also receive reimbursement for all reasonable travel and subsistence costs and any reasonable dependant-carer expenses incurred whilst undertaking Board duties and for support required to help you carry out your duties effectively



Time commitment: The time commitment will vary week to week, but on average the role will take up around 8 hours per week. This time will be a mix of daytime Board meetings, committee meetings, reading documents and attending stakeholder events, some of which may be in the evenings or at weekends. You will need to have flexibility in order to attend at a greater frequency subject to the Board's ongoing business needs.

Appointment details: The appointments will be for up to 4 years, with the possibility of re-appointment subject to evidence of effective performance and to satisfying the requirements of the person specification for the role at the time of re-appointment.

Location: Meetings for the Board are held across Ayrshire on a rotational basis.

Interviews: Interviews will be held on 5 and 6 May 2015 in Kilmarnock. Applicants are asked to note that as the shortlisting is being held on Wednesday 29 April, notification of interview will be provided on Thursday 30 April. You are therefore asked to be prepared to attend for interview at short notice.

Further information: If you would like to find out more about the roles, you are welcome to contact the Chairman, Dr Martin Cheyne, by calling Shona McCulloch, Personal Assistant to the Chair, on 01292 513628; or by emailing shona.mcculloch1@nhs.net.



For full information on the appointments, please read the Application Information Pack accessed [here](#).

We encourage applicants to apply online, however, a downloadable application form is available. If you experience any difficulties accessing our website, please contact Public Appointments, Wellbeing and Diversity (PAWD) on (Freephone) 0800 015 8449 or fax on 0131 244 3833, by email at paapplicationsmailbox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, or by writing to PAWD, Scottish Government, E1 Spur, Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh EH11 3XD.

Completed applications must be received on or before **Friday 10 April 2015**.

Appointments to Ayrshire & Arran NHS Board are regulated by the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland.

Scottish Ministers particularly welcome applications from people currently under-represented on Scotland's public bodies, such as women, disabled people and people aged under 50.

Appointed on merit; committed to diversity and equality.

Events

Deaf History Scotland - Spring Gathering 2015

Ayrshire Mission to the Deaf (Kilmarnock Deaf Club),
10 Clark Street,
Kilmarnock
KA1 3AJ
on Saturday 9th May 2015 from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm



There will be presentations about:

- The history of Kilmarnock Deaf Club
 - by Margaret McLean
- The Deaf Church in the West of Scotland
 - by Tom Bryce
- The Deaf Church in Glasgow
 - By Richard Durno

**Please bring a packed lunch.
This is open to all DHS Members and non-DHS members.**

FREE for DHS Members and £5.00 for non-DHS members.

If interested, please give your name to the DHS Executive Committee
by Friday 1st May 2015

by post:

E. Leith (Deaf History Scotland), c/o Postgraduate Room 4.38,
50 George Square (LLC), University of Edinburgh, EH8 9LH
SMS: 07455 350 035

ellaleith@deafhistoryscotland.org.uk



What does mental health mean to you?

An event for Deaf people

Thursday 14th May 2015

6.00 - 9.15pm

Teacher Building, 14 St Enoch Square

Find out more information from NHS staff.

Share your thoughts about mental health issues.

Tell us how services can be improved.

For more information event or to register for the event contact Gemma at NHS.

gemma.gallacher@ggc.scot.nhs.uk



Scan here for BSL info about the event



Personal Advocacy Drop-in Sessions

Tuesdays from 11am – 1pm

With Avril Hepner, BDA Community Advocacy and Development Officer

Avril will offer independent, confidential, one-to-one (peer) advocacy services for Deaf BSL users.

Explain what advocacy is and how to use the service

She will find information to help you to make your own decisions and choices, put

you in touch with other organisations and sources of support and advice.

Venue: BDA Scotland, Suite 58, 1st Floor, 93 Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 6LD

Email: cado.sthscot@bda.org.uk ; SMS: 07814386298; ooVoo: Avril.Hepner.BDA



Hate Crime Drop-in Centre

Please note: the office will be closed over the festive period and reopen on the 5th January 2015.

When: Every Monday from 10 am to 2pm

Where: BDA Scotland, Suite 58, 1st Floor, 93 Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 6LD

- Do you want to know more about Hate Crime?
- Did you experience or witness a Hate Crime?
- Do you want to report a Hate Crime in a comfortable and private place?

For more information and to book an appointment, contact Helen Morgans-Wenhold

Email: hco.scot@bda.org.uk **ooVoo:** helenmorgans-wenhold

For more information, go to <http://www.bda.org.uk/Events/226>

BSL (British Sign Language) and Deaf Awareness Training in Scotland



Bespoke Deaf Awareness Training

Learners will be taught basic sign language that will allow them to communicate with deaf people. In addition, participants will be made aware of the essential 'dos and don'ts' when communicating with deaf people.

Courses can be tailored to meet the requirements of business users.

The 'I've signed up to Donaldson's' deaf awareness course will help your organisation to become compliant with the Equalities Act.

Dates for 2014/2015

Dates and times may be flexible to meet the needs of your organisation. We may also be able to hold the training courses in your work place.

Campus at Donaldson's,
Donaldson's School,
Preston Road,
Linlithgow
EH49 6HZ

Tel: 01506 841900 Email: info@donaldsons.org.uk

Lipreading Classes, Sessions & Information



Scottish Course to Train Tutors of Lipreading (SCTTL)

Could you teach people to lipread?

A qualified lipreading tutor has the ability to help improve the confidence and quality of life of deafened and hard of hearing adults of all ages.

The course is one-year, part-time, commencing Sept 2015 and comprising six study weekends covering:

- Theory of Lipreading
- Audiology
- Course Planning and Delivery
- Psychological and Social Effects of Hearing Loss
- Rehabilitation and Information Sharing

Students will also be involved in 25 weekly classes of practical teaching experience, working alongside a qualified lipreading tutor.

Applications are especially welcomed from people with a hearing loss.

For further information and an application form

Please visit our website www.scotlipreading.org.uk

Or contact - **Catriona Crosby – course administrator**

Email – cclipreading@gmail.com

Tel/SMS text – 07884072005

BSL (British Sign Language) Sessions for Learners in Scotland

Edinburgh BSL Group

This is a welcoming group of signers, both hearing and Deaf. Join us every second Thursday for a cake and some friendly, relaxed chat in BSL. The group is informal and the signers are of different levels of ability. Signing is on and voices are off!

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Walker on 07814198715 or

edinburghbslgroup@hotmail.co.uk

Meeting day: Every second Thursday

Time: 7.00 - 8.30pm

Venue: 'Edinburgh Coffee Cake', 18 South Clerk St, Edinburgh, EH8 9P

Conferences

Scottish Co-Production Network Conference

Deadline extended: 7th April 2015

We are really excited to have received some excellent proposals for contributions to the 4th National Co-production Conference, 'It's time to walk the talk...', which will be held



on 12th May 2015.

We asked for submissions to be with us by the end of this week but have agreed to extend that deadline due to the bank holiday weekend. If you need extra time please make sure your proposals are received by us by Tuesday 7th April at the latest.

Decisions of who we invite to contribute on the day will be made by a planning group of network members but our intention would be to get back to you by 20th April to confirm.

[Click here to submit your proposal](#)

Find out more about the conference [here](#).

This conference has been planned and delivered by the Scottish Co-production Network, the Joint Improvement Team, The ALLIANCE, the Scottish Recovery Network and Scottish Homelessness Involvement & Empowerment Network, and others.

Accessible Theatre: Interpreted

Lorca's Blood Wedding across Scotland, directed by Jenny Sealey MBE.

Beacon Arts Centre Greenock (1 – 3 April) and
Traverse Theatre Edinburgh (8 – 11 April).

As with all Graeae shows, all performances will use a creative combination of BSL interpretation, captioning and audio description, and a cast made up of Deaf and disabled actors as well as non-disabled actors.

We therefore want to spread the word as widely as possible across the Deaf and disabled community in Scotland.

Blood Wedding - on tour this spring

A Graeae co-production with Dundee Rep Ensemble and Derby Theatre
By Federico Garcia Lorca in a new version by David Ireland
Directed by Jenny Sealey

We are delighted to announce that all UK dates for our spring tour with Dundee Rep and Derby Theatre are now on sale.

David Ireland's radical new take on Lorca's play re-fuels this classic story with a contemporary twist. Jenny Sealey and David Ireland push this tale of searing lust, love and rebellion to its limits. When young lovers are overrun with passion, infatuation and defiance - the consequences are explosive.

Blood Wedding includes a creative combination of BSL interpretation, captioning and audio description. The play contains scenes of an adult and sexual nature and strong language.

Tour dates (click on name of venue to visit their website and book tickets):

Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock

Wed 1 April - Fri 3 April

Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh



Wed 8 April - Sat 11 April

New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich

Tue 14 April - Thu 16 April

Liverpool Everyman

Tue 21 April - Sat 25 April

For more information about Blood Wedding, [click here](#).



Glasgow | Signed

Shrek the Musical, Sun 10th May 2015 at 5.30pm

King's Theatre, 297 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JN. Tickets from theatre Box Office on Bath Street (open 10am-6pm, Mon-Sat) or tel (v0844 871 7648 Option 4; text relay calls 18001 0844 871 7677 or email specialistsales@theambassadors.com ; www.atgtickets.com/glasgow (bkg fee)

Accessible Theatre – Captioned

The Federation of Scottish Theatre www.scottishtheatre.org/ oversees captioning in Scotland's theatres. Contact your local theatre and ask to be added to their mailing list.



When booking tickets, ask for seats suitable for viewing the captions!

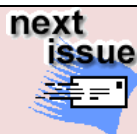
Aberdeen | Captioned

Wicked, Sat 23rd May 2015 at 2.30pm

His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL
Box office tel: 01224 641122, fax: 01224 337632; www.boxofficeaberdeen.com

The Full Monty, Sat 4th April 2015 at 2.30pm

His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL
Box office tel: 01224 641122, fax: 01224 337632; www.boxofficeaberdeen.com



Copy Deadline for the Next Issue

As always, the deadline is the end of this month.

Please forward your contributions for the next bulletin to: admin@scod.org.uk .

We are happy to publish details about your news, information, events, training courses and conferences. Please send us the **text** you want to be included in the bulletin.

If you are not a member of SCoD and would like to advertise an event, training courses or conferences, please contact our Office Manager, Kellas, at admin@scod.org.uk before you send us the text as there may be an admin charge.

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