

Our Inaugural National Conference  
for Scotland's Deaf Sector

Equality and Access  
for Deaf People



Our 2015 theme

# CONNECT & COLLABORATE

Keynote speaker:

**Yvonne Strachan**

Head of Equality, Human Rights and  
Third Sector at Scottish Government  
*'Creating a Sustainable Future'*

Thursday 12 March 2015  
Glasgow Royal Concert Hall



Scottish Council on Deafness

Our vision is a society where deaf people have  
equal access, rights and citizenship

# CONNECT & COLLABORATE

## The First National Conference for Scotland's Deaf Sector

On Thursday 12 March 2015, Scottish Council on Deafness (SCoD) hosts a landmark national conference aimed at placing Scotland's Deaf Sector at the fore of the public debate.

A significant number of people in Scotland – around one in six - endure some level of hearing loss. This has huge implications for us as a society, and as an economy, and yet we still make very little provision for deaf\* people.

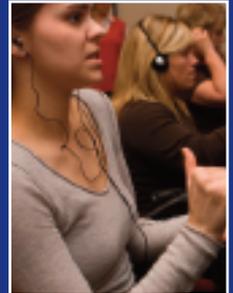
**With this event, we intend to champion the Deaf Sector in finding a national voice.**

We also intend to get equality and access issues into the mainstream conversation, and we intend to generate the sort of media interest that will ultimately lead to a better informed Scottish public. The conference will also serve as an environment where we can all come together - the Deaf Sector, including deafblind agencies, national and local government, the private sector, and public agencies - to connect. We also aim to discuss where we have been and where we are going, and to find ways for the Deaf Sector to work better together.

Our 2015 event is just a beginning. We intend our conference to grow and evolve over a period of years, helping to publicise the needs and concerns of Scotland's deaf people.

*\* Deaf, deafblind, deafened and hard of hearing*

Janis McDonald  
Chief Officer  
Scottish Council on Deafness



## Our programme

- 9.45am **Registration and networking opportunity**
- 10.35am **Welcome**  
John Hay, MBE
- 10.45am **Keynote speaker**  
Yvonne Strachan, Scottish Government Equality Unit
- 11.05am **Gerry Ramage, Artistic Director, Solar Bear**
- 11.20am **Performance from Solar Bear**
- 11.35am **Workshop Session One**  
Choose from four expert workshops. See next page.
- 12.35pm **Networking lunch**
- 1.35pm **Workshop Session Two**  
See the following pages for details
- 2.35pm **Workshop Session Three**  
See the following pages for details
- 3.30pm **Chair's closing remarks**

## Keynote Speaker

**Yvonne Strachan**  
Head of Equality, Human Rights and Third Sector at Scottish Government

### *Creating a Sustainable Future*

The Scottish Government Equality Unit leads on equality strategy, policy and legislation, mainstreaming equality in policy and budget and the engagement with equality communities.

At our conference, Yvonne will give a context for the development of partnership and joint working in Scotland, which our deaf sector can factor into its future thinking – our vision, a society where deaf people have equal access, rights and citizenship.

### **Workshop session one 11.35am**

#### **The Deafblind Scotland Health Collaboration and Access Project: the story so far**

##### **Delivered by Deafblind Scotland**

In his post as Health Project Access Officer, John Whitfield works with other health professionals to promote equal access for deafblind people to all health services in Scotland and in particular to NHS24. Here, he looks at some of the good accessibility practice that he has found around Scotland that other organisations could emulate, and he talks about the hopes for future progress.

### **Workshop session one 11.35am**

#### **Early years and family sign language**

##### **Delivered by NDCS**

This session explores the importance of the early years in achieving the best possible outcomes for deaf children and their families. In particular we will consider the role of Family Sign Language and how this can enhance the ability of hearing parents to communicate with their deaf children and promote their development. Come along to hear more about how NDCS' plans to extend the reach and impact of FSL for deaf children and their families in Scotland.

The session will explore the FSL curriculum and impact, training opportunities for professionals working in early years settings and next steps for FSL development.

### **Workshop session two 1.35pm**

#### **Securing funding for accessibility**

##### **Delivered by Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector**

Phil Broadley has years of experience of the Scottish Third Sector funding scene. Here he takes us through some of the main funds that are available for organisations who wish to improve their accessibility – whether that be improvements to buildings, or sourcing money for interpreters or signers. The session will also be your chance to become acquainted with GCVS's First Funding Stop, a marvellously comprehensive, searchable funding database

### **Workshop session two 1.35pm**

#### **Collaboration to help your health organisation adapt its services to the needs of deaf service users**

##### **Delivered by British Deaf Association Scotland**

A fascinating overview of how collaborative working has helped Scotland's NHS to engage with its deaf patients and to identify their barriers to access and the practical measures required to improve patient experience. This workshop will help you to explore your own organisation's service arrangements for deaf service users and assess the benefits a similar approach could bring.

### **Workshop session three 2.35pm**

#### **UNCRPD – what can that do for us?**

##### **Delivered by Independent Living in Scotland**

The United Nations Convention for the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is an international human rights agreement to protect and promote the human rights of disabled people throughout the world. In this session, Heather looks at what is happening in Scotland around UNCRPD, including the Government's Disability Delivery Plan, the CoSLA Plan, and the UK Independent Mechanism. She also takes us through the consultation on the Disability Delivery Plan, due from 16th June, and canvas audience opinion on what deaf people would want in the Plan.

### **Workshop session one 11.35am**

#### **Good practice in the governance of charities**

##### **Delivered by OSCR**

Charity Trustees are the people in overall control and management of a charity. They may be called directors, management committee members etc, but the law considers them to be 'charity trustees'. They are responsible for the charity's governance and strategy, and for making sure that the charity is administered effectively. Our workshop offers examples of good practice in the governance of charities, which should help charity trustees fulfil their duties and responsibilities.

### **Workshop session one 11.35am**

#### **Scotland's Lip Reading Strategy : its development**

##### **Delivered by Action on Hearing Loss Scotland**

The Lip Reading Strategy Group was established in 2012 following representation from Action on Hearing Loss and SCoD, to look at lip reading provision in Scotland, the various referral pathways and a communication strategy. In this workshop, we look at the project's objectives and how the Strategy's partnership of health boards, the Third Sector and the Scottish Government, has developed and progressed. Delia will then tell us about the opportunities presented by the Strategy, and the plans for the future.

### **Workshop session two 1.35pm**

#### **Deaf Awareness; the next steps**

##### **Delivered by Commtacs Learning and Development**

This workshop is delivered by Andy Irvine of Commtacs, a company that specialises in training development and media. Andy takes us through learning approaches and the positive benefits of being able to deliver services to deaf and deafblind people by understanding and overcoming real or perceived barriers.

### **Workshop session two 1.35pm**

#### **The Scottish Government's See Hear Strategy and the Falkirk experience**

##### **Delivered by Falkirk Council**

The Scottish Government's launched the Scottish Sensory Impairment Strategy – or 'See Hear' - in April 2014. The Strategy makes seven provisions to try to better the everyday lives of the one million people in Scotland who have hearing, vision or dual hearing and vision sensory loss. Falkirk has embraced the See Hear Strategy, and in this workshop Maria gives an update on how the area has taken forward the Strategy recommendations in a partnership that includes the NHS, the Council, NDCS, and Guide Dogs for the Blind.

### **Workshop session three 2.35pm**

#### **Would volunteers fit in my organisation?**

##### **Delivered by Hearing link**

Volunteers can be a tremendous boon to organisations – but along with the opportunities there can also be challenges. This can be especially so if you work with the deaf or hard of hearing, or if your volunteers are deaf or hard of hearing. Linda first looks at the reasons you should consider volunteers, and the mutually beneficial ways that you can involve them in your work. Linda will also look at the truths and myths of working with volunteers, and at the ways that you can give in order to get.

### Workshop session three 2.35pm

Using a collaborative approach to help your housing organisation adapt its services to meet the needs of deaf service users

Delivered by British Deaf Association Scotland

This workshop looks at how collaborative working has helped a large social housing provider to engage with its deaf tenants, identify the barriers to access they face and develop practical measures to improve their experiences when accessing services. It will help you to explore your own service arrangements for deaf service users and to assess the benefits that a similar approach could bring to you.

### Workshop session three 2.35pm

The magic interpreter: a look at new technology for interpreting on-line

Delivered by AC2 Productions

This fascinating workshop is delivered by multimedia expert Joel Kellhofer of AC2 Productions. It begins with a short look at how on-line interpreting has grown, and moves on to an explanation of how interpreters work with deaf and hearing people over the phone. Joel will demonstrate SignLive, a new technology that promises to revolutionise phone interpreting. You will experience a real call being made using the technology, and the last twenty minutes of will be your chance to try the technology for yourself.

## Our entertainers: Solar bear

Glasgow-based theatre company Solar Bear was founded on the belief that theatre is for everyone and that there should be no barriers to taking part – on or off stage.

The organisation offers a range of tailored training and creative learning programmes for young people, adults, schools, local authorities and arts organisations across Scotland. These include Deaf Theatre Skills, Deaf Theatre Club, Deaf Youth Theatre, Therapeutic Theatre and Deaf Children's Drama Club.

At our conference, Solar Bear's artists will be performing two short pieces from their repertoire.



## Booking places

Our First National Conference is very competitively priced at £79 for non-SCoD members and £49 for SCoD members.

We are using the online booking service **Eventbrite** to handle our bookings. You can book by clicking on the link below

### [Click here to book places online](#)

Our Eventbrite page will let you list attendee names and any access requirements. It will also allow you to book your workshop choices. And you will have the option to either pay online through Eventbrite's secure payments system, or to request an invoice for future payment.

Book online through

**eventbrite** the online booking service, with the option to pay by invoice or online.



Our future Conferences: Continuing to *CONNECT*

**10th March 2016 : CONNECT & COMMUNICATE**

**9th March 2017 : CONNECT & CAPITALISE**



Scottish Council on Deafness

A society where deaf people have equal access, rights, and citizenship