



## CONNECT & THRIVE – CONNECT AND COMMUNICATE



Dear Colleagues,

You are reading this in the knowledge that the BSL (Scotland) Bill was passed at the Stage 3 Debate!

This is a fairly rushed bulletin as we have been very focused on the Bill recently, and the following is an extract from the Convenor's address at the recognition event in Hemma, Edinburgh after the debate:

"The result today was **extremely positive**, we always knew that work would continue on SCoD's MISSION to achieve a society where deaf people have equal access, rights and citizenship.

We take that work forward with recognition of BSL and a clear intention to promote and support the language. Of course BSL is critical for some Deaf People.



Hopefully it will be a language tool in the "integration" process.

And alongside other parts of the communication toolbox, tackling inequality and promoting diversity in Scotland. I believe that improved understanding of BSL and deafness more generally will be a step change in society.

To get this far, we need to recognise the contributions from many quarters that supported Mark Griffin MSP to bring the Member's Bill forward:

Cathie Craigie, former MSP, who worked tirelessly to support the Cross Party Group on Deafness and SCoD.



Lilian Lawson, Director, Mandy Reid, Policy Officer and the whole SCoD team over the last ten years.

The BSL and Linguistic Access Working Group (BSL & LAWG) and all its members, too many organisations and individuals to mention.

The collective effort underpinned the need to promote and support linguistic access for Deaf People, including tactile BSL.

The various steering groups, working groups and focus groups that followed the facts, created the priorities and set the agendas. All the people involved in engagement activity and the work to support the need for the Bill.

The Non-Governmental Bills Unit

The Scottish Parliament Officers



We could not end the formalities without particular thanks to two individuals: Mark Griffin MSP, Shadow Minister for Opportunity and Dr Alasdair Allan, Minister for Learning, Science and Scotland's Languages.



Firstly, Mark Griffin is well known to us, having collaborated in the development of the Bill. We respect his approach and recognise this is his achievement, on behalf of us all. I'm sure he is more than happy to share his success and is well aware of our gratitude for his efforts.

Then Dr Allan, Minister, we know that the passage of the Bill was supported by the Scottish Government and that was assisted by your role and personal interest. We ask you to pass on our thanks to your colleagues but also to know we acknowledge your personal contribution.

Finally, can I also thank Hilary Third, the Scottish Government Officer supporting us all through the various hurdles we met along the way”.

### **National Council Meeting**

We have re-organised the National Council meeting for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Papers will be going out separately. We would like to encourage attendance as we will be looking to inform a manifesto for the next election and develop research priorities for the next few years.



### **Deaf Sector Partnership**

We have a very early website up and running. I hope you will notice the increased number of translated articles going out via SCoD and the Deaf Sector Partnership site over the next 6 months. Whilst it has taken a wee bit longer than first hoped, it is intended to increase the opportunity for shared resources. **What do you have to share?**

What **suggestions** do you have to develop the site and other social media support?

Please feel free to contact Adeel or Derek via English/ BSL clip to [media@scod.org.uk](mailto:media@scod.org.uk)

Can we take the opportunity to **welcome two new individual associate members** to SCoD, Bob Duncan and Harold Nicolson.

We are still **seeking new members!**



### **Employment Opportunities (Paid & Voluntary)**

We hope to recruit a temporary membership worker through a disability employment scheme. We also plan to recruit a new worker through our Effecting Change, Equality and Access Project. Hopefully we will have more to tell you in the next edition. We will also be recruiting for new Board members soon. Watch out for the recruitment information!

### **Effecting change equality & access for deaf people in Scotland**

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## Consultations



### **Launch of Public Consultation on Complaints Concerning Functions relating to the Named Person and Child's Plan**

The Scottish Government launched a public consultation on complaints concerning functions relating to the Named Person and Child's Plan. The consultation is open for **eight weeks** until **Friday 30 October 2015** on Citizen Space.

Link to consultation and how to respond:

The Named Person and Child's Plan are part of the Getting It Right For Every Child approach and the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. This consultation document outlines two options for the management of complaints Relating to the functions of the Named Person and/or Child's Plan:

A parent or child will make a complaint to each organisation involved in a matter. This will mean that the complaint is investigated by the organisation or body whose performance is being complained about.

A parent or child will make a complaint to the organisation providing the Named Person or to the organisation acting as the managing authority for complaints made about the Child's Plan. The complaint, regardless of the number of organisations or issues involved, will be investigated by one point of contact for the parent and child.

If the parent or child is not satisfied with the response to their complaint, and local processes have been exhausted, it is proposed that for both options, they can escalate it to the Scottish Public Sector Ombudsman (SPSO) as an independent arbiter.

These proposals have been developed by the Scottish Government in close partnership with professionals in Health, Education, Social Work and SPSO.

Any responses received after the 30 October 2015 will be considered but cannot be included in the subsequent consultation analysis report or published on the Scottish Government website.

If you would like to return a paper copy of your consultation response you can find the consultation documents on the Scottish Government consultation page [here](#).



## **Services in relation to children at risk of becoming looked after etc. Order 2016**

### **Informal Consultation Paper**

Part 12 of the Children and Young People Act 2014 ("the Act") places a duty on local authorities to make arrangements to ensure that relevant services of such description as are to be specified by the Scottish Ministers are provided to certain persons. The purpose of this provision is to allow services to be provided to families in order to prevent a child from becoming looked after. This provision is intended to act as an early and effective support mechanism to help families who experience difficulty so that they can provide suitable care for their child and access to appropriate support services, preventing the child requiring any compulsory supervision measures.

The Scottish Government is now consulting on the proposals for the Order to be made under Part 12 of the Act ("the Order"). The Order will make further provision to describe the relevant services that should be provided under this part of the Act and when they should be provided.

The Act is rooted in the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach, and puts a number of key elements into statute, including the Named Person (Part 4) and the single Child's Plan (Part 5). These provisions seek to ensure that almost every child and young person in Scotland has access to a Named Person and that a statutory Child's Plan is prepared for every child or young person who requires one

as a result of their wellbeing needs. The GIRFEC approach is about how services

can best support children, young people and families so that outcomes can be improved, delivery of services can be made more efficient, and the vision of making Scotland the best place in the world to grow up can be achieved.

The intention of Part 12 is to complement the GIRFEC approach by requiring local authorities to provide specific relevant services to families at a point when the authority considers a child to be at risk of becoming looked after; or, in the case of a pregnant woman, the local authority considers that the child may be at risk of becoming looked after once born.

We propose to describe the relevant services in the Order in a way which covers **services facilitating family decision making and services designed to increase parenting capacity and improve parenting skills.**

There has been a wealth of evidence in Scotland and internationally about the value of providing family decision making (FDM) /mediation services as a practical tool to ensure increased child and family participation in decision-making. There has also been evidence on the effectiveness of this service in reducing the numbers of children entering formal care (and potential decrease in court proceedings). There are many models of FDM services in Scotland, including family group conferencing (FGC). Some local authorities and third sector organisations also provide FDM to vulnerable pregnant women to empower families to make decisions / identify support available within the wider family which can lead to avoiding formal care or speeding up permanency once the child is born, as appropriate.

Whilst the benefits of FDM are widely recognised and evidenced in research, it is also acknowledged that FDM may not be appropriate in certain circumstances, and the child's safety and wellbeing has to be paramount. **We would therefore propose to set out in the Order that relevant services should only be provided when this is in the child's best interests.**

It was also felt important to offer the families services to increase parenting capacity and improve parenting skills, if this is in the child's best interests as above. There are many models of services designed to increase parenting capacity and improve parenting skills that are already offered to families across Scotland and it is not our intention to prescribe a particular model of this type of service, to allow for customising a specific programme to suit the local circumstances and individual family needs. The whole purpose of this provision is to ensure that families have access to support to address any issues that could potentially lead to the child entering formal care.

The Act defines the eligible child as one who is considered by the local authority to be at risk of becoming looked after. Although Ministers have power to do so, it is not our intention at this stage to prescribe when or how a local authority should consider whether a child is at risk of becoming looked after in the Order. We consider that there is a range of circumstances when a child could be considered at risk of becoming looked after and this may be better determined by professional judgment and experience, underpinned by the National Practice Model as an assessment tool. We intend to provide some examples and case studies to provide some context on this in the guidance which we will issue on Part 12.

The intention is that the Order will come in force in August 2016, at the same time as the GIRFEC provisions in the Act (Parts 4 and 5).



### **What next?**

We would be grateful to hear your views on the proposals above. We are happy to discuss any aspect of this and look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions.

You can email us at:

[looked\\_after\\_children@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:looked_after_children@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Alternatively, you can write to us at:

Early Engagement Team  
Care and Justice Division  
Area 2B North  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh  
EH6 6QQ

Our deadline for responses is **Friday 16 October 2015**.



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### **Local Government and Regeneration Committee - Footpath Parking and Double Parking (Scotland) Bill**

The Local Government and Regeneration Committee has launched its Stage 1 consideration of the Footpath Parking and Double Parking (Scotland) Bill.

[Click here to see further information on the Bill and its accompanying documents.](#)

#### **Call for evidence**

You can respond by submitting written evidence to the Committee.

[Click here to see the call for written evidence.](#)

Please note that submissions should be made, preferably, in less than 4 pages and word format and e-mailed to [lgr.committee@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:lgr.committee@scottish.parliament.uk).

The **deadline for written evidence is Friday 6 November 2015**.

#### **Electronic survey**

Alternatively, you may wish to respond on this issue via a short and anonymous online survey.

[Click here to see the survey.](#)

If you have any queries, please e-mail [lgr.committee@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:lgr.committee@scottish.parliament.uk).

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## Have your say!

The Scottish Government and CoSLA today launched new draft Delivery Plans setting out their plans for actions they will take to progress and protect the human rights of disabled people have in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Marco Baigi MSP, Minister for Local Government and Community Empowerment, and Cllr Peter Johnstone, CoSLA Spokesperson for Health and Wellbeing launched the draft plans at an event in Glasgow and asked disabled people, their organisations and allies to look at them and to tell them what needs to happen to make these plans work, and what's missing from them.

Dr Jim Elder-Woodward, Independent Chair of the Scottish Independent Living Coalition (SILC) said at the launch 'These draft plans may be a long read, but they constitute a major milestone on a long road ahead of us. There is a way yet to go before disabled people can enjoy their legal and moral rights of choice, control, dignity, and freedom; as full and equal participative citizenship. These draft plans are indeed a marker in the road but the real litmus test is hinted at in the title 'Delivery' and the concerted move to action all of us have to make, together, to bring them to fruition.

Both plans look at what these organisations can do to improve the lives of disabled people across a number of specific areas like justice, education, employment, transport and housing and also at themes such as awareness, participation and communication.

Anyone can comment on the plans and you can feed in through engagement events.

To help you get started you can look at the background information provided by the Independent Living in Scotland project (ILiS) at <http://www.ilis.co.uk/get-active/2015-uncrpd-consultations-by-scottish-government-and-cosla>.

You can read a copy of the CoSLA draft Delivery Plan and consultation questions at- <http://www.cosla.gov.uk/news/2015/09/sg-and-cosla-launch-disability-plans-consultation>





## Take the Hearing Link challenge for Lipreading Awareness Week

Next week marks the start of national Lipreading Awareness Week 2015 (14-19<sup>th</sup> September) and the UK hearing loss charity Hearing Link, is challenging **YOU** to test your lipreading skills!

Lipreading Awareness Week, led by the Association of Teachers of Lipreading to Adults (ATLA), is an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of lipreading for people with hearing loss.

Currently 1 in 6 adults in the UK live with some degree of hearing loss and the majority of them rely on lipreading to aid communication at home, work and socially every day.

Attending a lipreading class can empower them to lead their life fully by helping to improve their social skills and building confidence and self-esteem. However, lipreading is a challenging for anyone, with or without a hearing loss, because it is easy to misinterpret lip and mouth shapes.

To help more people understand the challenges involved; Hearing Link is challenging the general public to take its online lipreading quiz to find out how good their lipreading skills are. The test features a speaker saying ten short words and phrases – but without sound. The viewer must guess what was said by selecting an answer from multiple choice options. At the end of the quiz, you'll receive your results.

Quiz-takers will then be prompted to challenge their friends and family to test their lipreading skills via social media using the hashtag #lipchallenge2015.

Dr Lorraine Gailey, Chief Executive of Hearing Link said: "Lipreading is an important and essential skill for people living with hearing loss; however it isn't easy to get right for an experience lipreading or a person without a hearing loss. Our quiz highlights how challenging it can be for to use this skill each day. We hope by our supporters testing their own lipreading skills and challenging their friends and family to do the same, it will help to raise awareness of lipreading amongst the wider public."

Hearing Link will also be sharing people's experiences of lipreading and useful information via its website and social media channels throughout the week.

Take part and find out more at <http://www.hearinglink.org/national-lipreading-awareness-week>.

If you have a question about hearing loss or lipreading, contact Hearing Link's helpdesk by emailing [helpdesk@hearinglink.org](mailto:helpdesk@hearinglink.org); Tel: 0300 111 1113 or SMS: 07526 123255.

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## Message from ATLA: Lipreading Awareness Week

If you struggle to hear in noisy social situations or at work and in meetings; the very best thing that you can do to help yourself is to join a Lipreading and Managing Hearing Loss class.

You will learn about the useful skill of lipreading, strategies, organisations and equipment that can help you. There will be free taster sessions all over the country during Lipreading Awareness Week. To find out more and a class taking place near you visit: [www.atlalipreading.org.uk](http://www.atlalipreading.org.uk). Classes are small, friendly, and great fun!

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## Fairer Scotland Autumn Events



Complimenting the Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund there are a number of local events across Scotland.

The Scottish Government, working with Democratic Society in Scotland, has designed a number of Planning Events across Scotland to prioritise ideas and policies that the Scottish Government can implement to create a fairer Scotland. These Events compliment the Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund.

The Planning Events are designed to allow a representative audience to hear, discuss, prioritise and take action on ideas to create a Fairer Scotland. The Scottish Government wants to hear about what needs to change and things that can be done differently to make people's lives better.

The priorities that come from these Planning Events will feed into a final Fairer Scotland Forum in December 2015. The Fairer Scotland Forum will host a representative audience made up of people from across the country who will work with policy makers, experts, and political representatives to create a series of recommendations on how we can all work to create a Fairer Scotland.

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/latest/>



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## Scottish Government update on Equality and Violence Against Women & Girls Funds (VAWGF, CSF & RCSF) 2015-16

There have been a large number of applications for the above funds, and the funds are heavily oversubscribed. We are in the final stages of the assessment process and proposals will go to Ministers for decision before the end of February. We expect the process to be completed and applicants informed of decisions by the beginning of March at the latest.

We are grateful for your patience and we will provide you with information on your application as soon as we can.



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## What would make Scotland fairer?

Grassroots community groups are holding events throughout Scotland during the next few weeks to discuss how to make Scotland a fairer place. Inequality, poverty, deprivation, crime and isolation are among the hot topics being discussed, along with



ideas about how we can tackle these issues together.

If you would like any further information about the Fund, who is eligible to apply or who has received a grant so far, please contact the Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund team on **01383 620780** or email [fairerscotlandenquiries@vaf.org.uk](mailto:fairerscotlandenquiries@vaf.org.uk).

**Website:** [www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk](http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk)

**Phone:** 01383 620780



### **Public Contracts Scotland - New free procurement training programme for Scottish SME's launched**

The Supplier Development Programme (SDP) – Scotland's free tender training service for SME's – has launched a new programme of tender training events.

This year will see changes in Procurement with the introduction of the Reform Act and the SDP is on hand to help businesses understand the up and coming changes within public sector tendering.

The new Programme has been designed to ensure that SME's can easily progress through the various different course levels with free events in or near their business location, plus many of the courses can be accessed online via webinar, reducing the time burden on small businesses being out of the office.

The Programme includes a wealth of new courses, including "hot topics" such as Community Benefits and Sustainable Procurement, as well as core issues such as finding contracts and completing PQQs. So whether you are just starting out and wish to find out about how to work with the public sector or need to improve your tender skills, SDP will have a course for you. Please click on the following link to browse and book a course and get tender ready: <https://www.sdpscotland.co.uk/events-training/>

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### **North-east charity nominated for third award**



North East Sensory Services (NESS), which has offices in Aberdeen, Dundee and Elgin, has been nominated as finalists in the national Children & Young People Now Awards 2015. The awards have become the gold standard for everyone working with children, young people and families across the UK.

The award-winning charity won two prestigious awards earlier this year. In May, the organisation won the 2015 Elevator Alick Buchanan-Smith Enterprising Communities Award and the Trend Life with Style Community Award 2015.

NESS were chosen as finalists in the Children & Young People Now Advice and Guidance category for its outstanding work with children and young people through the charity's Young People's Sensory Service. NESS, which supports people who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing and/or visually impaired, provides services for people from birth to the elderly. The charity has been serving disabled people in Aberdeen since 1879, and the charity is unique in that it provides joint sensory services for both hearing and visually impaired clients.

The charity provides essential social work support to over 4,800 service users, and the

Young People's Service gives practical and emotional guidance and support to parents and children alike. Regular social groups and advice sessions are held from mother and baby sessions to employment advice for teens, along with a comprehensive schedule of activities and outings.

Graham Findlay, NESS chief executive, said: "We are delighted to be nominated for our third award this year. This is a UK wide award and being a finalist recognises the important work we do every day with young people in the North-east of Scotland. The children we work with are starting life with significant disadvantages, and at NESS we do all we can to prepare them to go on to lead independent lives. This nomination will help raise the profile of the work we do, as we continue to expand our services."

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## Health drop-in service every Tuesday afternoon in Glasgow 2pm to 4pm

Health drop-in service



- We will explain what access and inclusion (health) means and how you can use the service.
- We want improve access to health information for you.
- We want to know about your experience in Health.
- We will put you in touch with other organisations that can offer extra support.

For more information or to book an appointment, contact Katie Mowat:  
BDA Scotland, Suite 58, 1st Floor,  
93 Hope Street, Glasgow,  
G2 6LD  
Email: [health.scot@bda.org.uk](mailto:health.scot@bda.org.uk)  
ooVoo: Katie.Mowat.BDA  
SMS: 07795822102

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## Vacancies

### NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Highland Board Chair Appointments



NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Highland are looking for a new Board Chair. For full details please visit the link below.

<https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/Default.aspx>

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### Member appointments to Scottish Enterprise



#### Scottish Enterprise – Appointment of Members to the Board Appointments for three years from 1 January 2016

Scottish Ministers are looking to appoint up-to two Members to the Board of Scottish Enterprise (SE) from 1 January 2016. One position requires applicants to demonstrate recent and relevant financial experience, including serving on or chairing effectively an audit committee. The other requires knowledge and/or experience of a

number of different areas of expertise.

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

SE is an economic development agency that provides enterprise, investment and innovation support within the context of the Government Economic Strategy. We recognise that Scotland's competitiveness is shaped by the inter-play between internationalisation, innovation, investment and inclusive growth. Woven through our drivers is also our commitment to address the significant opportunities of the low carbon agenda.

### **Board Member duties and responsibilities**

The Board has corporate responsibility for ensuring that SE fulfil the aims and objectives set by the Scottish Ministers and for promoting the efficient and effective use of staff and other resources by SE in accordance with the principles of [Best Value](#) as set out in the Scottish Public Finance Manual (SPFM). To this end, and in pursuit of its wider corporate responsibilities, the Board shall:

- establish the overall strategic direction of SE within the policy, planning and resources framework determined by the Scottish Ministers;
- ensure that the Scottish Ministers are kept informed of any changes which are likely to impact on the strategic direction of SE or on the attainability of its targets, and determine the steps needed to deal with such changes;
- ensure that any statutory or administrative requirements for the use of public funds (i.e. all funds falling within the stewardship of SE) are complied with; that the Board operates within the limits of its statutory authority and any delegated authority agreed with the sponsor Directorate, and in accordance with any other conditions relating to the use of public funds; and that, in reaching decisions, the Board takes into account relevant guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers;
- ensure that the Board receives and reviews regular financial information concerning the management of SE; is informed in a timely manner about any concerns about the activities of SE; and provides positive assurance to the sponsor Directorate that appropriate action has been taken on such concerns;
- demonstrate high standards of corporate governance at all times, including by setting up and using an independent audit committee - in accordance with the guidance on [Audit Committees](#) in the SPFM - to help the Board to address the key financial and other risks facing SE. The Board is expected to assure itself on the effectiveness of the internal control and risk management systems;
- provide commitment and leadership in the development and promotion of Best Value principles throughout the organisation.

### **Skills, knowledge and experience required**

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate:

- the ability to provide strategic challenge, constructively, at board level within a large complex organisation; and
- the ability to operate effectively at a senior management level in a business/organisation.

One position on the Board will require applicants to also demonstrate:

- recent and relevant financial experience including serving on or chairing

effectively an audit committee.

It would be desirable if applicants could demonstrate at least one of the following for the remaining position on the Board.

- knowledge and experience gained in at least one of Scotland's key sectors and the ability to use that experience more widely;
- entrepreneurial experience demonstrated through a track record in setting up and growing a high growth business;
- international business experience/evidence of a global mindset.

### **Remuneration**

The appointment attracts remuneration of £12,660 per annum plus expenses incurred as a result of carrying out the duties of the appointment including reasonable travel and subsistence outwith travel to Board meetings. Should travel expenses to Board meetings involve travel beyond the central belt a travel allowance will be paid. Dependant carer and childcare expenses will be reimbursed. The post is not pensionable.

### **Term of appointment**

The appointment will be for a period of three years from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2018 with the possibility of reappointment subject to evidence of effective performance and having regard to the skills, knowledge, understanding and experience required by the Board at the time. Any appointments and subsequent re-appointments will not extend beyond a maximum of eight years.

### **Time commitment**

Members will be expected to give a commitment of around 2½ days per month.

### **Location of meetings**

Board meetings are normally held in Glasgow or Edinburgh.

### **Disqualification/Eligibility**

By virtue of the Scottish Parliament (Disqualification) Order 2007, as a member of the SE Board you are disqualified from being a member of the Scottish Parliament. In addition to disqualification for the Scottish Parliament you must resign from your appointment if you accept nomination for either the House of Commons or the European Parliament.

Applicants will be ineligible to apply for this appointment if they have already served a total of eight years on the Scottish Enterprise Board.

### **Closing date for applications is Tuesday, 20 October 2015.**

An application pack and full details on this and other public appointments can be found at the public appointments website [www.appointed-for-scotland.org/](http://www.appointed-for-scotland.org/).

If you experience any difficulties accessing our website, please contact Public Appointments, Wellbeing and Diversity (PAWD) on Freephone 0300 244 1898, by email at [paapplicationsmailbox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:paapplicationsmailbox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or by writing to Public Appointments, Scottish Government, E1 Spur, Saughton House, Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh EH11 3XD.

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## Events



NHS Forth Valley

### Join NHS Forth Valley Disability Service on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2015

- Discuss what's happening locally in Forth Valley
- Watch a demo on how contactSCOTLAND can help you
- Understand the changes to NHS Forth Valley Interpreting Service
- Talk about BSL Bill - Stage 3

**Come to Forth Valley Sensory Centre, Redbrae Rd, Camelon at 5.30pm**

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### Creating a Fairer Scotland - Planning Events

The Scottish Government is inviting you to have your say on what a Fairer Scotland should look like in 2030, and what should be done to make this vision a reality.

In addition to the conversations that are already happening, the Scottish Government wants to work with a broad mix of people across the country to prioritise practical steps that can be taken to create a fairer Scotland.

**To do this, a series of local Planning Events will be taking place to allow a broadly representative audience to hear, discuss, prioritise and take action on ideas to create a Fairer Scotland. These planning events provide a chance for people to think about and prioritise ideas that will help make Scotland a fairer place to live and make a real impact on Scotland's future.**

The priorities that come from these planning events will feed into a final Fairer Scotland Forum in December. The Fairer Scotland Forum will host a broadly representative audience made up of people from across the country who will work with policy makers, experts, and political representatives to create a series of recommendations on how we can all work to create a Fairer Scotland.

The Planning Events will take place on the following dates:

- **Kilmarnock, Tuesday 29th September, [Register Interest here](#)**
- **Inverness, Wednesday 7th October, [Register Interest here](#)**
- **Midlothian, Wednesday 14th October, [Register Interest here](#)**
- **Dumfries, Tuesday 20th October, [Register Interest here](#)**
- **Stornoway, Thursday 29th October, [Register Interest here](#)**
- **Dundee, Thursday 5th November, [Register Interest here](#)**
- **Inverclyde, Tuesday, 10th November, [Register Interest here](#)**
- **Glasgow, Tuesday, 17th November, [Register Interest here](#)**

Please note that registering Interest to take part does not guarantee a place due to venue capacity & need for event audience to be broadly representative of the local area.

**More information on Creating a Fairer Scotland is available [here](#).**

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## **Intensive Interaction for children & young people with complex needs and sensory impairments: Places still available**

**A small number of places still available on a first come first served basis**  
**SSC Course 8: Intensive Interaction for children & young people with complex needs and sensory impairments:**  
**Friday, 2nd October, 2015**

This course will be of interest to staff of all disciplines who work with adults and children with severe learning difficulties, including social services staff, teachers and assistants, nurses, staff from voluntary organisations, therapists and parents and other carers.

The focus is on the communication needs of people who have not achieved use nor perhaps an understanding of speech and may be “difficult to reach” in various ways.

# SSC

Intensive Interaction is an approach where the member of staff is seen as the main teaching resource, using personal qualities of face, voice and body language to involve the learner in progressive sequences of interactive activities. These activities provide the person with learning difficulties with the opportunity to learn the pre-speech fundamentals of communication such as enjoying being with another person, giving sustained attention, turn-taking, use and understanding of eye contacts, facial expressions, body language and non-verbal signalling.

The course will include extensive use of video examples. Comprehensive handouts will be given. Course members should expect to work in a warm, humorous and supportive atmosphere.

The programme will cover:

- the development of Intensive Interaction.
- how people learn to communicate and relate in infancy.
- the fundamentals of communication.
- the principles of Intensive Interaction.
- how to do Intensive Interaction.
- organising work on Intensive Interaction.
- record-keeping and documentation.
- issues: age appropriateness, challenging behaviours, physical contact, teamwork, ethics, emotional bonding/professional objectivity.

Presenter:

Dr Dave Hewett, PhD is a freelance trainer and consultant for staff working in the field of learning difficulties. Previously he was headteacher of Harperbury Hospital School, Hertfordshire, but has been working nationwide with staff from all professions for over ten years. He has published extensively on Intensive Interaction, including the book ‘Access to Communication’ (with Melanie Nind) and on challenging behaviours including ‘Challenging Behaviour: Principles and Practices’.

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/vi&multi/voct15.html>

If you prefer a hard copy of the application form emailed to you please contact [ruth.simpson@ed.ac.uk](mailto:ruth.simpson@ed.ac.uk)



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## West Scotland Deaf Children's Society Coffee Morning

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October from 11am – 12pm



Our coffee morning will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October for parents/carers and children 3 and under. The time is 11am until 12pm. Anyone interested in coming along please contact the office to let us know.

[wscds@btconnect.com](mailto:wscds@btconnect.com)

or tel: 0141 243 2958

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## Nature Play Workshop – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 12.00 – 3.00

As our nature play workshops over the Summer were really popular and a lot of fun, we had to organise more! We have organised it for the October break when most schools are off but unfortunately it looks like West Lothian are off the following week (sorry!)

This will be open for all ages, parents are welcome to stay (but don't have to) and BSL interpreters will be present.



**Where:** TCV Scotland  
The Granary  
44 Mortonhall Gaste  
Mortonhall  
Edinburgh, EH16 6TJ

SMS: 07816938167

Telephone: 0131 652 3208

Email: [alexfurneaux@deafaction.org](mailto:alexfurneaux@deafaction.org)

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## Deaf History Scotland - AGM 2016

Saturday 24th October, 11am - 3pm

Braidwood Centre, 69 Dumbiedykes Road, Edinburgh, EH8 9UT

Deaf History Scotland invites all interested people to our next Annual General Meeting, including the following special event:

A plaque commemorating **Braidwood's Academy for the Deaf and Dumb** (est. 1760) will be unveiled on the site of the first deaf school.

A lunch reception will follow, and then presentations on the following topics:

- The history of the Deaf Mountaineering Club - by Irene Hall
- A review of the 9th Deaf History International Conference, Edinburgh - by Lilian Lawson and Ian Carmichael

Plus, after the AGM, John Hay will lead a Deaf Edinburgh heritage tour - 3.30pm from the Braidwood Centre.

**As lunch is included, please confirm your attendance!**

Email: [ellaleith@deafhistoryscotland.org.uk](mailto:ellaleith@deafhistoryscotland.org.uk)

SMS: 07455 350 035

Post: Ella Leith (Deaf History Scotland), , c/o Postgraduate Room 4.38, 50 George Square (LLC), University of Edinburgh, EH8 9LH

**Free** for DHS members

**£5** for non-members

All welcome!

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## Living well in Later Life and Living Well with Frailty



The Improvement Network for Integrated Care and Support, in collaboration with Living Well in Communities are delighted to announce two International learning events taking place in Edinburgh.

**'Living Well in Later Life'** – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015, 9am - 4pm, Heriot Watt Conference Centre - [REGISTER](#)

**'Living Well with Frailty'** - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2015, 9am - 4pm, Heriot Watt Conference Centre – [REGISTER](#)

Attached are the draft agendas along with the workshop session outlines that are currently available, these are subject to change. Please refer to the breakout session document when selecting your session on the registration page. If you would like to attend both events you will need to register separately for each.

These events are aimed at:

- practitioners and managers from NHS Boards
- integration authorities
- older people and their carers
- third sector
- housing sector
- independent sector

For updates you can follow us on twitter: **@NHS\_QIHub** and use **#LWLL** and **#Livingwithfrailty**

Places at these events are limited, so do register early to avoid disappointment. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Sara Turner**

**Healthcare Improvement Scotland**

T: 0131 314 1253 ext. 1253 | E: [sara.turner3@nhs.net](mailto:sara.turner3@nhs.net)

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## Academy Inaugural Lecture with First Minister Nicola Sturgeon MSP

The Health and Social Care Academy would like to invite you to our Inaugural Lecture

in partnership with the University of the West of Scotland.

27<sup>th</sup> October 2015, Edinburgh 6.30pm – 8.30pm

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon MSP will deliver the lecture on:

‘Creating wellbeing – what is needed to transform Scottish society so that all citizens are able to thrive?’

We would be delighted if you could join us.

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## Support Hearing Loop Awareness Week 2015

This November, Hearing Link is undertaking the largest survey of hearing loops in the UK.



Hearing Loop Awareness Week has been organised to run in tandem with our ‘Let’s Loop the UK’ campaign, which is striving to create greater awareness and access to hearing loops. The week runs from **Monday 2nd - Sunday 8th November 2015**.

We are looking for more people to get involved and help check the quality of hearing loops in shops, banks, churches, railway stations and more across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and each one takes only a few minutes.

If you would like to do something unique in your local community, which creates lasting change, then [register your interest today](#).

You can also visit our [Hearing Loop Awareness Week](#) web page to download our flyer for more information. Alternatively, contact our [Helpdesk](#).

To keep up-to-date with all the latest developments of our Let’s Loop the UK campaign, read [Dave’s Blog Blast!](#)

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# SSC

## Introduction to Auditory Verbal/Play & 101 activities for babies (laying the listening foundations in babies)

This day will be of interest to teachers of the deaf, educational psychologists, speech & language therapists, and parents.

The whats, hows and whys of working with your babies through audition will be explored. Alongside an introduction to Auditory Verbal Therapy, the presenter will discuss what to do on your very first session with a family, the stages in building a listening brain in a young baby and how to guide and coach parents through the crucial first 18 months. There will be opportunity to get ‘hands on’ through toy and workshop sessions and observation of AV therapy in action on videos.

Participants should go away equipped to plan and deliver sessions to young babies, focussing on audition.

The sessions will be delivered by Rosie Quayle, Clinical Lead Auditory Verbal Therapist from Auditory Verbal<sup>UK</sup>

Course fee: £110

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/ddec15.html>

If you prefer a hard copy of the application form emailed to you please contact [ruth.simpson@ed.ac.uk](mailto:ruth.simpson@ed.ac.uk)

## Lipreading Classes, Sessions & Information



### Lip Service pays says North-east charity

An Aberdeen charity is calling upon people with hearing loss to take charge of their condition by learning to lip read as part of this year's Lip Reading Awareness Week (14-19 September).

North East Sensory Services (NESS), which has offices in Aberdeen, Dundee and Elgin, is highlighting the significant benefits that learning to lip read can give to those whose hearing is diminishing.

Lipreading is recognised as a vital communication skill for people who have a hearing loss, involving the ability to recognise lip shapes and patterns before filling in the gaps in conversation in order to maximise communication.

Lipreading classes explore a range of communication skills and show people how to use different listening devices that can also support communication.

NESS is holding a lipreading class for beginners class starting fortnightly on a Monday starting 5<sup>th</sup> October at John Street, Aberdeen from 2-4pm and there are still some spaces available. A class will also be held fortnightly in Inverurie at the St Mary Centre on a Tuesday at 11am-1pm. Classes will also be held in Elgin, with further classes planned in Tayside later this year. For more information email [info@nesensoryservices.org](mailto:info@nesensoryservices.org), or call 07593 102004 or 01224 625622.

## BSL (British Sign Language) Sessions for Learners in Scotland

### SSC Course 9: BSL Science Signs and Skills Update: Tuesday, 27th October 2015

# SSC

This course will be of interest to mainstream teachers, teachers of the deaf, communication support workers, parents and all those supporting deaf children in secondary schools.

Some scientific concepts are particularly hard for all children to understand. Dr Audrey Cameron and Gary Quinn, key members of the SSC BSL Glossary Project, will present material on the practicalities of teaching science as part of the curriculum for excellence. The course will discuss:

- how to offer effective support to a deaf student allowing them to access practical science activities within a mainstream setting;
- making use of ICT to support a deaf learner;
- National Assessment arrangements.

Participants will also be introduced to SSC's BSL Science Glossary project, its signs, definitions and development. In addition signs for Geography and Maths will be introduced. Practical activities will include scientific experiments demonstrated and explained.

Presenters:

Dr Audrey Cameron, Deaf chemist and secondary teacher, and Gary Quinn, Deaf linguist and lecturer based at Heriot-Watt University.

Restrictions: 20 places available.

Applications can be downloaded from the link below.

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/doct15.html>

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## 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](mailto: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



### Children in Scotland Conference

Children in Scotland's International Additional Support Needs conference on Inclusion and Empowerment of Children with Disabilities 2015 is taking place on 3 and 4 December 2015 in Edinburgh. We have exhibition space available on the second day of the conference.

We are expecting over 150 delegates from all over the UK and Europe to attend making it a unique opportunity for you to market and to network.

Spaces are limited and already filling up.

Contact Linsey Hunter for more information: [lhunter@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:lhunter@childreninscotland.org.uk)



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### SAVE THE DATE - 3RD DECEMBER 2015 - 1st Annual Disabled People's Summit

The 1<sup>st</sup> annual Disabled People's Summit will take place in Edinburgh on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015, International Day of Disabled People. **Please add this date to your diary.**

The goal of the Summit is to **make change happen** so that the rights disabled people hold are truly the same rights that we experience in throughout our lives.

The Summit will use the focus of the Scottish Government's draft Delivery Plan for progression of rights of disabled people's in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and will contribute to the national conversation on a Fairer Scotland. The Summit is being organised by the Independent Living in Scotland project (ILiS) in partnership with DPOs.

Email: [summit2015@ilis.co.uk](mailto:summit2015@ilis.co.uk)

Website: [www.ilis.co.uk](http://www.ilis.co.uk)

[@independentlivinginscotland](#) [@ilisproject](#)

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## SCoD's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference – 'CONNECT & COMMUNICATE'

### SAVE THE DATE!

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2016**  
**Royal Concert Hall**  
**Glasgow**

If you are interested in contributing to the Connect and Communicate Conference or wish to find out more information on how to get involved, please contact our Office Manager Kellas on [Kellas@scod.org.uk](mailto:Kellas@scod.org.uk) or 0141 248 2474

More information on tickets, prices, speakers, workshops, stalls etc will be issued in the autumn. Watch this space!



## Accessible Theatre, Cinema & Television

### Edinburgh's Subtitle and Captions Club

Edinburgh's Subtitle and Caption club will be running a new programme starting on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September, as part of Edinburgh City's Adult Education programme. This collaboration between Hearing Link, Artlink, Wester Hailes Education Centre (WHEC) and the Edinburgh Filmhouse aims to create better access to the Arts and education for those with a hearing loss.

This ongoing group will continue with a film and theatre programme selected by members, with the dates and times of screenings still to be confirmed. To sign up as a member, or find out further information, please visit [www.joininedinburgh.org](http://www.joininedinburgh.org) or contact Beryl on 0131 621 8316.



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## SOLAR BEAR

### Tribes

17 September – 22 October

Tribes is a poignant yet biting drama about love, family and finding one's voice.

Billy is a young man born deaf and raised in a loud, opinionated family and yet his parents and siblings never bothered to learn sign language, meaning Billy had to adapt to a hearing world.

When he meets Sylvia, a young woman from a deaf family who introduces him to Deaf



culture, Billy suddenly feels confidence and a sense of belonging to a 'tribe' he's never known before.

Tribes was first performed at the Royal Court Theatre, London in 2010.

By Nina Raine

Directed by Gerry Ramage

Design by Jessica Brettle

Cast: **Richard Addison, Ben Clifford, Janette Foggo, Kirsty McDuff, Stephanie McGregor & Alex Nowak as Billy.**

Accessible to deaf and hearing audiences. Every performance will be captioned.

Recommended age 14+ contains strong language

Touring to Platform, Cumbernauld Theatre, Byre Theatre, Carnegie Hall, Paisley Arts Centre, Assembly Roxy, Lemon Tree, Beacon Arts Centre, Dundee rep Theatre, Eden Court.

## SOLAR BEAR

### **Progression 2015 –**

An international celebration of deaf arts at the Citizens Theatre run by Solar Bear.  
**24 & 25 September 2015**

**Solar Bear take over the Citizens Theatre for two days to celebrate theatre and performance that is accessible to deaf and hearing participants and audiences.**

There are workshops and talks from **Jenny Sealey** (Graeae Theatre), **Jennifer Bates** (The Deaf & Hearing Ensemble), Sign Song Diva **Caroline Parker**, composer **Dr. Oliver Searle**, **Josette Bushell-Mingo** (Tyst Teater), **Claire Lamont** (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland).

Two international theatre companies join them: **ANO Nedoslov** from Russia with a performance double bill on Thursday 24 September and **Tyst Teater** from Sweden performing a devised piece based on Alice in Wonderland on Friday 25 September. There will also be a screening of **A Love Divided**, a short film by Solar Bear Deaf Youth Theatre, and a performance of **Kind of Silence**.

Workshops are **FREE**.

**For more information on how to book for all of these events go to**  
[www.solarbear.org.uk](http://www.solarbear.org.uk)



### **Copy Deadline for the Next Issue**

As we are now sending out two e-bulletins a month, we will accept items for inclusion at any time throughout the month.

Please forward your contributions for the next bulletin to: [admin@scod.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:admin@scod.org.uk) before you send us the text as there may be an admin charge.

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