



***Please note: at the end of this bulletin is a template. If you want information included in future bulletins please copy and use this template. Thank you.**

Scottish Council on Deafness Bulletin | Bi-Monthly Magazine for SCoD Members

SCoD Training

Understanding Integration Joint Boards



In 2016, 31 Integration Joint Boards (IJBs) were established. These new bodies, working in the same areas as Councils, are now responsible for the planning and provision of all adult health and social care services.

The boards will be responsible for spending £8.5bn of the £13bn spent on health and social care in Scotland

These new boards are responsible for the planning, commissioning and delivery of joint sensory impairment services including deaf services. In turn, they will have significant impact in the shaping of priorities. The new boards provide a real opportunity to raise the profile of deaf issues, and in particular, focus on a rights-based approach when engaging with IJBs.

In order to raise awareness and understanding of the new IJBs, Brian Cavanagh will deliver a masterclass on "Integration Joint Boards: How to influence; How to make an impact".

The masterclass will:

- Provide the policy context and objectives behind the new Integration Joint Boards [IJBs]
- Explain their powers, how they will operate and make decisions.
- Identify: the key decision makers on the day; the key roles/people to target; the right messages to deliver; and the correct positioning for SCoD members to adopt.
- Explore how SCoD members can engage effectively and build on existing experience and relationships

- Highlight where SCoD members can make the most impact and get most leverage.

On the day we will look at the opportunities and show you how to make them work. Outline how to focus on the human rights aspects for deaf people in relation to IJBs.

When: Friday 9th June 2017 at 12noon – 4.00 pm

Where: Scottish Council on Deafness, 93 Hope Street, G2 6LD

To book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-integration-joint-boards-tickets-33340555499>

For further information or if you require language communication support or have access requirements please indicate this at time of booking, or contact admin@scod.org.uk



Deaf Awareness Week beginning 17 May 2017, what are you doing for it? Let us know at admin@scod.org.uk

Our Manifesto is now available in both WORD and PDF format on our website, please visit: <http://www.scod.org.uk/information/local-government/>

Membership

It is time for you to pay your SCoD Membership! Invoices will be coming out in the next couple of weeks...If your organisation is an Associate, maybe now is the time to consider changing to Full membership.

If you are not an individual member of SCoD, maybe you would consider joining – only £20 a year.

We have three categories of membership:

- Full members. These are the organisations that make up the National Council and can put forward nominations to the SCoD Board.
- Associate members - organisations. These are organisations who cannot be full members or do not want the responsibility of full membership.
- Associate members - individuals. These are individuals, people who are deaf or have an interest in deafness and want to support our organisation.

We also want to recruit new members to support our work.

- On BSL language development
- Communication barriers and solutions
- General awareness

If you want to know more about joining SCoD and being part of the Deaf Sector, please contact us on admin@scod.org.uk or telephone [0141 248 2474](tel:01412482474).

If you are a BSL user, you can use [contactSCOTLAND-BSL](#) to contact us.

Consultations

The consultation on the draft first BSL National Plan has started. This consultation gives you the chance to give your views on whether or not the Scottish Government's National Advisory Group, government departments and national public bodies have got the right content in the plan – goals and how these will be achieved.

There is more about the consultation below on the **Deaf Sector Partnership** website: <http://deafsectorpartnership.net/>

SCoD's "Connect & Collaborate" Conference 2018

We are starting to work on the next conference which will take place on **8 March 2018**. The theme will be "**Connect and Collaborate**" and will be around the topic "**Integration, Inclusion and Well Being**". If you have any ideas or wish to help with sponsorship, please contact claire@scod.org.uk

Disclosure Protecting Vulnerable Adults

SCoD is registered as a counter signatory body with Disclosure Scotland. If you need staff to be members of the PVG Scheme but are not able to sign the forms yourself, why not get SCoD to do it for you! For more information about booking an appointment or general information, please visit our website: <http://www.scod.org.uk/disclosure-for-working-with-protected-groups/>

Best wishes
Janis & the SCoD Team

GENERAL NEWS



DSP / BSL National Plan Update

Scottish Government's Draft British Sign Language (BSL) National Plan is now open for consultation

The Scottish Government's consultation on the Draft British Sign Language (BSL) National Plan closes on **Wednesday 31 May 2017**.

The draft plan covers the Scottish Government and over 50 national public bodies that Scottish Ministers have responsibility for. This BSL National Plan will cover the next six years to 2023.

The dates and venues have now been confirmed for the Consultations. Also the link to book your place for your chosen event is shown below, please book to secure your place on Eventbrite:

BSL National Plan Consultation on Mental Health

Wednesday 10 May 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Deaf Action, 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QY

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-national-plan-consultation-on-mental-health-tickets-34027680709>

BSL National Plan Consultation on Health

Wednesday 24 May 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Deaf Links / Tayside Deaf Hub, The Old Mill, 23 Brown Street, Dundee DD1 5EF

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-national-plan-consultation-on-health-tickets-34028074888>

BSL National Plan Consultation on Employment

Thursday 18 May 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Woodhill Evangelical Church, 30 Westercleddens Road, Bishopbriggs, G64 2NH

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-national-plan-consultation-on-employment-tickets-34027873285>

BSL National Plan Consultation on Justice

Friday 12 May 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Forth Valley Sensory Centre, Redbrae Road, Camelon FK1 4DD

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-national-plan-consultation-on-justice-tickets-34027837177>

BSL National Plan Consultation on Transport

Thursday 25 May 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Mercure Hotel Inverness, Church Street, Inverness IV1 1DX

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-national-plan-consultation-on-transport-tickets-34028128047>

BSL National Plan Consultation on Sports

Friday 19 May 6.00pm – 8.00pm

GCVS Albany Learning Centre, 44 Ashley Street, Glasgow G3 6DS

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-national-plan-consultation-on-sports-tickets-34027927447>

BSL National Plan Consultation on Language Service Professionals

Saturday 20 May 10.30am – 1.00pm

Dewars Centre Glover St, Perth PH2 0TH

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-national-plan-consultation-with-language-service-professionals-tickets-34028192239>

To find out more, please go to the Scottish Government consultation website:

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/equality-unit/bsl-national-plan/>

Scottish Government Consultation Facebook:

<http://fb.me/bslnationalplan>

Deaf Sector Partnership Website:

www.deafsectorpartnership.net

Deaf Sector Partnership Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/1470165406637765/

This is a public consultation and anyone can respond to it.

The Scottish Government will accept responses in BSL or in English.

If you have any questions about the BSL NAG or the DSP, please get in touch with Derek Todd, DSP Coordinator by email at admin@deafsectorpartnership.net.



How Community Development Happens

CDAS is publishing a new booklet 'How Community Development Happens: Why stronger communities matter and what it takes to develop them' which invites people to think about what it takes to develop and support stronger communities. We believe that it may be useful as an introductory guide in a wide variety of settings.

I am attaching a PDF copy, and the booklet can also be found at:

[https://www.communitydevelopmentalliancescotland.org/wp-](https://www.communitydevelopmentalliancescotland.org/wp-content/uploads/HowCDHappens.pdf)

[content/uploads/HowCDHappens.pdf](https://www.communitydevelopmentalliancescotland.org/wp-content/uploads/HowCDHappens.pdf). Printed copies will be available for members soon.



Scottish Government Community Eye Care Review Launched

Please find web links to the following Scottish Government Reports, which have been published today: Eyecare Review and Low Vision Services Review.

Included is a link to the associated press release.

Eyecare Review:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/04/7983>

Low vision services review:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/04/7124>

Press release:

<https://news.gov.scot/news/eyecare-in-focus>

If you require any further information, please get in touch at Clair.Henderson@alliance-scotland.org.uk

Hearing Link – Section 10 Funding



A huge congratulations to Hearing Link Scotland, the only Deaf organisation in Scotland got the Section 10 funding from the Scottish Government. They got around £46K.

Here is a copy of the link: <https://www.wired-gov.net/wg/news.nsf/articles/Funding+for+social+and+community+care+10042017120500?open>



More than 2 Million now on BT's Free Service to crack down on nuisance calls BT wants even more customers to register for BT Call Protect

BT has had a massive response from customers to the launch of BT Call Protect, its new free service to crack down on nuisance calls, with more than two million households using the new service in a just under three months.

BT Call Protect, the first service of its kind in the UK, enables home phone customers to divert unwanted calls that regularly pester them, such as personal accident claims and PPI, to a junk voicemail box.

BT estimates that since its launch in January, BT Call Protect has drastically reduced the number of nuisance calls reaching customers by diverting 65 per cent of those calls into its junk voicemail box. Additionally, customers are making more than 80,000 calls a week to BT Call Protect’s 1572 number to add numbers to their personal blacklist or to change their settings or check their voicemail.

BT is encouraging even more customers to sign up for the free service to help it find and prevent more nuisance callers in the future.

John Petter, chief executive of BT Consumer, said: “This is great news for our customers, but bad news for the nuisance calls industry, like personal accident claims and PPI. The response to BT Call Protect has been massive. Having more than two million customers already using the service is a fantastic achievement in our fight against the companies that pester our customers with millions of nuisance calls.”

BT estimates that if all of its customers signed up to BT Call Protect it could divert 1.6 billion nuisance calls a year. It is thought that PPI and accident claims companies alone are responsible for 800 million of these calls.

Luigi Gallo, from Leicester, said: “Since the service was installed on my line I’ve seen a massive difference in the calls that I didn’t want. I used to get at least six or seven calls a week where I was told I have a computer virus – even though I don’t own a computer. The service has made a real difference. I still get the odd one or two, but the fact I can quickly add them to my personal blacklist and I won’t hear from them again is comforting. Although I do miss winding them up by playing along with them about switching on my computer only to tell them I don’t own one.”

Claire Mawdesley from Bradford, said: “Since we added BT Call Protect for Mum and Dad they haven’t had one single call claiming to be from Microsoft, they say they feel so much more relaxed. I don’t have to worry about them receiving scam calls.”

BT Call Protect is the first of its kind in the UK because it combines network intelligence with the ability for customers to control the calls they receive, either from their home phone or online.

It harnesses huge computing power to analyse large amounts of live data. This enables experts at BT’s centre in Oswestry, Shropshire, to identify rogue numbers that make enormous quantities of calls and add them to the BT blacklist. It proactively diverts nuisance calls before they even reach customers, unlike reactive blocking where the calls reach the customer and the numbers are changed frequently to avoid detection.

The top offending nuisance callers are diverted to the BT blacklist, but customers can add calls that are not captured by the technology to their personal blacklist by simply dialling 1572 or going online after receiving a call.

When large numbers of customers identify troublesome numbers they wish to divert, they are also added to the BT blacklist. Customers can also set BT Call Protect to divert whole categories of calls, such as international calls or those from withheld numbers into the junk voicemail.

BT has published the Top five worst nuisance callers for 4 to 11 March this year.

Top five worst nuisance callers (4-11 March 2017)			
	Categories	Volume	proportion
1	Accident claims	12,211,599	41%
2	Personal details (Scam)	5,439,781	18.5%
3	PPI	1,892,479	6.4%

4	Computer scam	3,593,103	12.6%
5	Debt collection	2,212,713	7.5%
	Other	4,131,102	14%
	Total	29,480,477	

BT has previously helped prevent nuisance calls by developing the BT8500 Advanced Call Blocker phone which blocks up to 100 per cent of unwanted calls.



Police Scotland

Police Scotland would like to hear the views of Deaf, Deaf/Blind, deafened and hard of hearing individuals and organisations. I actively encourage you to take part in the consultation both as an individual and if appropriate, on behalf of your organisation. On a personal level I am extremely keen that Deaf and Deaf/Blind people get an opportunity to have their say so anything you could do to circulate this to your members, friends and family would be fantastic.

As you will be aware, following feedback from the Deaf community we have translated numerous information into BSL but this is the first time we have actually translated a consultation so any feedback you have would be gratefully received. Depending on the response rate and feedback following the consultation, I am hopeful this could become standard practice as it will provide evidence that the Deaf community will get involved if we provide the information in their language.

Our consultation closes on the 8th of May so please have your say and contribute at <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/consultation/2026/> to let us know your views about the future of Policing as we look ahead to 2026

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me:
Grant.Robertson@scotland.pnn.police.uk

EVENTS



Getting to Grips with Value for Money Wednesday 24 May and Wednesday 15 June 2017

TPAS Scotland and HouseMark Scotland are delighted to announce the new VFM sessions for 2017 for tenants and housing staff which will take place in **Glasgow on Wednesday 24 May** and **Inverness on Wednesday 15 June**. Both sessions will be 2pm-5pm

'Value for Money' means different things to different people. There are a number of questions to ask about how we measure and define VFM in the social housing sector: During this session we will:

- Ensure delegates understand the concept of VFM and how it applies to the social housing sector
- Enable tenants to ask the right questions to offer effective challenge
- Ensure tenants debate rent affordability and how this relates to the value their landlord is providing both to individual households and the wider community
- Enable delegates understand performance based on current performance, ARC, benchmarking with peers and the expectations of the Scottish Social Housing Charter
- Confirm organisations can drive VFM improvements and engage with tenants and other service users in line with the expectations of the Scottish Social Housing Regulator

If you'd like to debate these issues and learn more, then come along to this session and voice your views and opinions!

Delegate Rates

Member rates apply to TPAS Scotland and HouseMark Scotland members:

Member organisations

Tenant Delegate £99 + VAT
Staff delegate £119 + VAT

Non-member organisations

Tenant delegate £109 + VAT
Staff delegate £139 + VAT

More information and bookings

If you have any questions about this event and to book your place please contact Elaine Scoular: elaine.scoular@tpasscotland.org.uk



Integrated Health and Social Care services – aligned budgets and strategic commissioning”

Friday 09 June 2017, The Academy, Ingram Street, Glasgow

Held as Integrated Joint Boards begin preparations for their new strategic commissioning plans for 2019, this one-day training conference will explore:

- integrated health and social care budgets – looking at the finances, resource pressures and key challenges facing IJBs in developing integrated budgets
- the next steps for strategic commissioning – what does successful strategic commissioning look like?
- the importance of effective engagement with service providers in the private and third sectors to help design and commission services based around user needs

- removing the barriers between commissioners and providers and other opportunities to improve the commissioning process

Speakers confirmed so far...

- Jillian Matthew, Audit Manager, Audit Scotland
- Neil Findlay MSP, Convenor of the Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee
- Diana Hekerem, Head of Strategic Commissioning Support, Improvement Hub, Healthcare Improvement Scotland

Chaired by...

- Alex Davidson, Chair of the Scottish Adult Protection Convenors Committee & Independent Chair, Perth and Kinross Adult Protection Committee

More information on the event – including the background to the conference, rates to attend and directions to the venue – can be found here...

www.policyhubscotland.co.uk/events/integrated-budgets-and-commissioning-conference/

Book early...

Enjoy 20% off standard delegate rates if you complete your booking by Friday 12 May 2017.

Attend with colleagues...

Book two delegates and get a third place at half-price. Offer valid until Tuesday 06 June 2017.

If you are interested in attending, have any queries or would like more information, please do get in touch. We'd love to hear from you: brian@coppseminarsscotland.co.uk



British Association of Teachers of the Deaf Scotland Conference

Saturday 13 May 2017

Promoting Positive Wellbeing

Keynote Speakers:

Katherine Rogers - Why Promoting Positive Well-being in d/Deaf Young People Matters

Tina Hendry - See the Child NOT the Behaviour

Venue: Jurys Inn, Union Square, Guild Street, Aberdeen AB11 5RG

0930 – 0950 Registration, Refreshments and Networking
0950 – 1000 Welcome and Introductions
1000 – 1200 Katherine Rogers
1200 – 1230 Sponsors Updates
1230 – 1330 Lunch and Networking
1330 – 1530 Tina Hendry
1445 – 1515 Plenary and Conference Close

Cost: £60 per member/£70 non-members/£50 classroom assistants

To book a place, please contact:

myra.orr@googlemail.com

or Elaine Harris, Treasurer, BATOD Scotland, 10 Wishaw High Road, Cleland, ML1 5QS



**Invitation to Vision and Stroke Open Day
Friday 12 May 2017**

NMAHP and GCU are organising a Life after Stroke event focussing this year on Vision and Stroke.

The event is free and open to all, and has an interesting mix of talks, practical activities that people can take part in and tea and cake! It is focussed on vision, but there will be stands, information and demos on other aspects of stroke rehabilitation.

For more information please contact Christine Hazelton on 0141 331 8181



**Spotlight On: The Scottish Life Archive
Saturday 6 May 2017**

It is a free event and will have live subtitles and British Sign Language interpretation.

This will be the first event that NMS have provided alternative interpretation and we are very keen to attract as many people as possible who are Deaf, including people who are Deaf BSL users, deafened, deafblind and hard of hearing.

We will be conducting evaluation to get feedback on whether this is something people would like to regularly attend at the National Museum of Scotland.

For further information, please contact Christine McLean at C.McLean@nms.ac.uk

Relaxation and Stress Management



Introducing a new relaxation group aimed at helping people with tinnitus and those who have a hearing loss to explore self-management techniques to reduce stress and anxiety.

This can help to minimise the adverse physical effects that these conditions can have on tinnitus and other similar conditions.

The group will run fortnightly starting from the 18 May 2017 until the 24 August 2017, 2-4pm at the Deaf Club, 23 Brown Street, Dundee, DD1 5EF.

For further information please contact Tricia or Michelle Tel: 01382 201077 or email: tricia@deaflinks.org.uk or michelle@deaflinks.org.uk

SSC

Outcomes for Children who are Deaf or Hearing Impaired Friday, 23rd June, 2017

This day is a great opportunity to hear from a leading international expert, Professor Greg Leigh.

Greg is active in research and has published widely on aspects of education of deaf children and related areas. He is a member of the Editorial Boards of The Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education, Deafness and Education International, and Phonetics and Speech Sciences and is Deputy Director of The Centre for Special Education and Disability Studies at the University of Newcastle. He has served on several Australian Government consultative committees including the New South Wales Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing and the National Neonatal Hearing Screening Working Party. He is currently Chairman of the Australasian Newborn Hearing Screening Committee. He is a former National President of the Education Commission for the World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf and is Chair of the International Steering Committees of both the

Asia-Pacific Congress on Deafness (APCD) and the International Congress on Education of the Deaf (ICED).

This day will cover aspects from Greg's research interests:

- Newborn Hearing Screening - implementation and standards for delivery.
- The impact of earlier identification of hearing loss on infant development.
- Early psychosocial development of deaf and hard of hearing children.
- Communications access by deaf and hearing impaired children and adults (captions and related media accessibility).
- Teachers' use of simultaneous communication.
- Literacy development in deaf children and adults.

Presenter:

Professor Greg Leigh, AO, PhD, FACE, Conjoint Professor and Director, RIDBC Renwick Centre, Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, NSW Australia.

Course fee:
£110

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/djun17a.html>

If you wish to pay by card please use the link below:

http://www.epay.ed.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=1&prodid=2355



**Healing Voices screening and panel-led discussion
Thursday 4 May 2017**

Scottish Recovery Network, Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival and Glasgow University Institute of Health and Wellbeing invite you to join them for a global screening of Healing Voices: changing the conversation about mental health.

This feature-length documentary, explores the experiences commonly labelled as “psychosis” or “mental illness” through the real life stories of individuals working to overcome extreme mental states, and integrate these experiences into their lives in meaningful ways.

CCA, Glasgow

4 May 2017, 7pm

£2.50 (+£1 booking fee)

14+ accompanied by an adult

This screening will be subtitled. The post-screening discussions will be presented by 2 BSL interpreters.

You can [book online](#) or call the CCA on 0141 352 4900.

Deaf People & Mental Health: Making it Better
Wednesday 17 May 2017



NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde is hosting an event to explore mental issues in the Deaf community.

Being held during national Deaf Awareness Week, the event will give Deaf people the opportunity to discuss their experiences of mental health services and explore how they can work better for the Deaf community.

The event, entitled ‘Deaf People & Mental Health: Making it Better’, includes a powerful drama performance from Deaf BSL actors. There will also be discussions around mental health resources, BSL signs for mental health terms and reducing the stigma of mental health in the Deaf community.

‘Deaf People & Mental Health: Making it Better’ will be held at the Teacher’s Building, St Enoch Square, Glasgow at 7pm on 17th May.

For further information, contact paul.hull@ggc.scot.nhs.uk



Mirrors - A short play about mental health, performed in BSL and English
Monday 15 May 2017

Since summer 2016, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have been working with some students from the BA Drama Course in BSL and English at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and some volunteers from the Deaf community to put together some performance

scenes in our NHS hospitals. The purpose of the drama sketches is to improve awareness amongst our NHS staff and patients of BSL as a language and as a culture.

The students and volunteers would like to invite you to attend the premiere performance of our new drama.

"Mirrors" is a short piece about the experiences of a Deaf BSL woman, exploring issues of mental health and stigma and of her first steps towards recovery.

Mental health is an issue that affects Deaf BSL people significantly. The continued experience of patients suggests that 48% of Deaf people will have a mental health issue during their life compared with 25% in the hearing population.

If you are interested in seeing our performance then you might want to put this date in your diaries:

15th May from 7.30 - 9pm

The venue will be:
Scottish Youth Theatre
105 Brunswick Street
Glasgow, G1 1TF

The performance will be followed by a short Q and A.
Tea and coffee will be provided.

Scottish Sensory Centre / Adept

Adept is the Association of Deaf Education Professionals and Trainees



International Conference at the University of Edinburgh

Aiming higher for deaf students - What works? What could work?

Date: June 24th 2017, 10 am – 5 pm

Paterson's Land, University of Edinburgh,

EH8 8AQ

Delegate fee £50

Key note speakers:

Professor Greg Leigh, University of Newcastle, Australia, will explore issues of deaf children and young people's attainment and factors in their school success.

Dr. Audrey Cameron, University of Edinburgh, will examine the effects and implications of the British Sign Language Glossary of curriculum terms in the policy context of the BSL (Scotland) Act.

This conference marks the end of a 10-year period in Scottish deaf education which has included the passing of an historic piece of legislation in 2015, the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act, the introduction of a new school curriculum, and the growth of a curriculum resource for signing deaf students, the BSL Glossary of technical terms, hosted at the Scottish Sensory Centre. These developments run concurrently with very early identification of deafness through newborn screening, early cochlear implantation, and much better spoken language outcomes for many deaf children in the early years. The potential for improvements in outcomes for deaf children has never been clearer.

However, other research from Scotland in this period has shown the very variable outcomes of all deaf children, regardless of the level of deafness.

On this one-day conference we will explore the theme of raising achievement for deaf students, not focusing exclusively on academic achievements. We welcome papers which consider ways in which deaf students could gain better access to the curriculum and assessment, how they could be more involved in decision making, and how creativity in school and beyond can contribute to their success.

The conference is for anyone interested in deaf education. We expect that it will be attended by teachers, support staff, interpreters, members of d/Deaf communities, parents of deaf children, third sector professionals and academics. The conference fee is £50.

The conference will be fully accessible to a deaf and hearing audience with BSL/English interpreters and speech to text reporters.

There will be stalls from organisations, posters about projects and a lunch included in the conference price of £50 per delegate. Cheques to be made payable to the University of Edinburgh. See booking form downloadable from conference website.

Contact for conference bookings:

Ruth Simpson: sscworkshops@ed.ac.uk

Contact for booking a stall for your organisation:

Kellie Mote

kellie.mote@gmail.com

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

Booking form can be downloaded from here: @Scottishsensory

**Deaf Links their Tartan Glamour Ball
Saturday 26th August 2017**



Join us in sparkling reception, 3 course meal, dancing, music & raffle, while raising vital funds for Deaf Links advocacy service.

This will take place at West Park Conference Centre, Perth Road, Dundee.

Ticket prices: early special before 30th June - £36 or table of 10 £350

After 30th June - tickets £40 or table of 10 £390

For any more information please contact Vikki@deaflinks.org.uk



**Spotlight On: The Scottish Life Archive
Saturday 6 May 2017**

Time: 14:00-15:00

Where: The National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street Edinburgh

The event is FREE of charge

Live subtitles and British Sign Language interpretation at this event.

Senior Curator Dorothy Kidd introduces this The Scottish Life Archive and shows how it can be used for personal research.

This event is free but ticketed: book in person at any of our museums, call 0300 123 6789 or book online www.nms.ac.uk



Bilingualism Matters Annual Event Friday 12 May 2017

The event will begin at 15:30-18:30 in the Informatics Forum, University of Edinburgh. Please let us know if you think this is something that would interest members of the deaf community, and we will be pleased to make arrangements for BSL interpreters to be present if required.

The Centre is celebrating its 8th year of working With & For families, professionals, and businesses in Edinburgh, Scotland, Europe and beyond. Meet our team and other professionals from education, policy, health, research and local communities who share our passion for languages across the lifespan. The event is an opportunity to learn about what Bilingualism Matters Centre does in the areas of research, knowledge exchange and public engagement. It is also an invitation for you to share your views with us on what Bilingualism Matters Centre and its wider network should focus on in the future.

Wine reception with linguistically themed music & theatre will follow a series of short, interactive presentations from Bilingualism Matters experts and collaborators.

Please register to the event on [Eventbrite](#) or by responding to this email.

If you have any questions about the event or the programme, please get in touch with Christy at christy.brewster@ed.ac.uk

TRAINING



Pre NVQ Level 6 Diploma in Sign Language Interpreting Development Course

“Pre-Interpreter Development Course”

2017 Intake (11 weekends, approx. one per month, 132 hours contact time)

This course is suitable for people who are currently actively engaged in a communicating or interpreting role and who wish to consolidate and enhance their learning to an accredited level.

Please note that this is a vocational (NVQ) course. Therefore, people who are not actively engaged in any BSL/English exchange may find some of the aims challenging.

The course works to National Occupational Standards in Interpreting and is delivered over 11 weekends (approximately one per month) from 10.00 – 4.30 on both Saturday and Sunday, and therefore totals 132 hours contact teaching time (excluding breaks)

In addition to attending the teaching weekends, applicants should note they will be required to commit to a significant amount of additional self-study in order to complete the course to a satisfactory level. Potential candidates are advised to download and peruse full specifications which can be found at

http://www.signature.org.uk/docs/qualification_specifications2016-17/INT6-v1.00.pdf

Candidates completing the Pre-Interpreter Development Course to a satisfactory level will be notified as to whether or not they are ready for endorsement, and to be able to apply for NRCPD Trainee Sign Language Interpreter (TSLI) status. **Please note that neither the cost for endorsement, nor the endorsement-assessment process is included in this course, or course fee.**

If endorsed as a TSLI, candidates will then be able to commence Portfolio Building (or 'Year 2') to attain their NVQ Level 6 Diploma in Sign language Interpreting certificate, which will allow them to register as a Registered Sign Language Interpreter with NRCPD and/or SASLI (please see SASLI's own website for any additional requirements).

A separate Deaf Perspective course for Portfolio Building will follow the completion of the Pre-Interpreter Development Course.

Please note – Deaf Perspective is supportive of NRCPD's and SASLI's aims to endorse good quality BSL/English Interpreting in Scotland, and will **not** recommend candidates for Portfolio Building unless they feel that the candidate is suitable, eligible, and has the appropriate skills and qualities to develop into a professional practitioner.

The course will be led by Linda Thomson, an active BSL/English Interpreter with over 18 years professional experience and who is also an Assessor & Internal Verifier, and is fully registered with NRCPD, ITI and CioL.

A Unique Opportunity for Freelance Interpreters The Effective Freelancer & What Are You Worth 2017?



A two-day workshop to develop freelance interpreters' business, professional and personal skills in providing interpreting in an ever changing world. Both workshops have been refreshed for 2017. They are delivered by experienced interpreter practitioners in a positive, frank manner and include presentations, discussions, practical exercises, resources and business tools, and Q&A sessions.

Whether you are new to the profession or an experienced freelance interpreter the workshops are a '101' back to basics programme dealing with aspects of establishing, promoting and growing your interpreting business for the long term.

9th September 2017, we return five months later for our second workshop, "What Are You Worth?"

Having had five months to put into practice your learning from "The Effective Freelancer", this workshop explores your business skills in greater depth, and sets it in the context of your collective business development.

First run in 2010, WAYW has already been attended by a large percentage of the UK's freelance interpreters.

In this workshop we explore the psychology of negotiation, review your business models to understand the actual costs involved in delivering sign language interpreting services, Building on the effective freelancer workshop in April we take an in depth review to understand the actual costs involved in delivering sign language interpreting services, develop your realistic business model in the context of the evolving political and economic scene, explore advanced strategies and professional skills needed to build into our businesses for the long term, and throughout the day set this in the context of collegiate and collective action.

This workshop is run by Ben Phillips & Darren Townsend-Handscomb

For more information, contact Deaf Perspective on

Email: info@deafperspective.co.uk

Tel: 0141 314 0032

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SMS: 07979 748694

VACANCIES



**Deafblind Scotland Learning and Development Centre
Development Officer
Salary Scale point 25-31 £21,680 - £26,471**

Deafblind Scotland is a charitable organisation serving adults across Scotland who have lost or are losing both their sight and hearing

Core objective

The Development Officer's role will be to develop activities and learning opportunities within and from the centre and to maximise the centre's use as a local, regional and national resource for deafblind people.

For more information, go to <http://www.deafblindscotland.org.uk/get-involved/careers-and-vacancies/>

Message on behalf of Dr Andy Park, Senior Economist, Communities Analysis Division, Scottish Government

Dear colleague

We are now five weeks into our recruitment drive for the [Experience Panels](#), and are delighted to report that over 1000 people have registered already. Your support in promoting the opportunity across your networks, and supporting your members to register, has been invaluable.

As you know we are committed to making the Panels accessible, and hope that our efforts to make the registration process simple, straightforward and supported have demonstrated that we have:

- followed accessibility guidance and the advice of inclusive communications experts;
- developed and tested materials with people with direct experience of the benefits system;
- made sure it's free to register;
- promoted the BSL line, textphone, SMS and translation services, and committed to making alternative formats available on request (Easy Read versions of the recruitment material will be available soon).

Recruitment is, of course, only the first step. Alongside securing the diversity and numbers of volunteers, a focus of our early efforts is around the communication and support needs of our panel members to make sure they stay engaged and can participate fully. As part of the 'About You' phase of the research which follows next, we will learn more about the

volunteers, their experiences, what they want to work on and what will enable that. This is an area where we must learn from you: your organisations have been doing this for longer than we have, and we need to work with you to tap into your expertise.

The Experience Panels are just one of the ways that we will secure expert input in shaping the nature and structure of the new social security Agency. There is an ongoing critical role for stakeholder organisations. We have set up a series of benefit-specific advisory groups, involving stakeholders, to support policy development, for example an Expert Advisory Group on Disability and Carers' Benefits that will provide Ministers with independent, expert guidance. What else do we need to think about?

When registration closes on 12 May, we will be back in touch to arrange to meet those who are interested, to explore how we work together and discuss the best route for your organisation to contribute to and complement the work of the Experience Panels.

We will of course keep you informed as the recruitment continues.

CINEMA/THEATRE



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PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS, MOTIONS AND DEBATES



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband Programme

S50-00872 Lewis Macdonald (North East Scotland) (Lab):

To ask the Scottish Government for what reason the digital Scotland superfast broadband programme has replaced old copper wire networks in some rural areas but not in others.

The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity (Fergus Ewing):

The digital Scotland superfast broadband programme is currently deploying fibre broadband networks across the country, in many cases replacing copper networks. Fibre is being deployed in two ways: fibre to the cabinet, which replaces part of the copper network, and fibre to the premise, which replaces all of the copper network. Fibre to the cabinet has been deployed most widely through the digital Scotland superfast broadband programme because a high number of premises can be connected to fibre infrastructure via a single cabinet. It is a more cost-effective solution, as it utilises part of the existing copper network.

Lewis Macdonald:

Fibre to the cabinet may indeed be more cost effective, but the cabinet secretary will be aware that it is not effective in achieving its purpose. A recent survey in Kintore, which he may be aware of, found that broadband speeds outwith the town centre were up to 140 times slower than those within a mile of the exchange, and residents of New Leeds in Buchan also have no access to superfast broadband, for the same reason of being too far from the exchange and being reliant on old copper-wire networks. Given the clear relationship between what the cabinet secretary has said is a cost-saving measure and the impact on homes and businesses, what does he intend to do to address that digital disadvantage in so many rural communities?

The Presiding Officer:

Please answer as briefly as possible.

Fergus Ewing:

In the north-east of Scotland, 114,727 premises are capable of accessing fibre broadband, and 99,321 are capable of receiving superfast speeds. That has taken place because of the investment by the Scottish Government of around £400 million despite the fact that, under schedule 5 to the Scotland Act 1998, responsibility for providing internet and mobile rests with the UK Government. We were not prepared to wait for the time when the UK Government would get around to a programme—we acted. Furthermore, by the end of this session of the Scottish Parliament in 2021, our further programme R100, which is directed towards the individuals Lewis Macdonald referred to, aims to provide universal access to all businesses and premises in Scotland.

Police Stations (Support for People with Mental Health Problems)

S50-00890 Tom Arthur (Renfrewshire South) (SNP):

I remind members that I am the parliamentary liaison officer for the Cabinet Secretary for Justice.

To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to ensure that police stations are resourced to support people with mental health problems.

The Cabinet Secretary for Justice (Michael Matheson):

There is increasing recognition of the key role that the police play in supporting people who are vulnerable or in distress, including people with mental health conditions. The draft "Policing 2026" strategy, which was recently published for consultation by Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority, emphasises the importance of a partnership approach in providing effective support to people with mental health conditions. There are already very good examples of collaboration between Police Scotland and national health service partners to improve the response and service to people who are in distress or suffering from mental health difficulties. For example, community triage services, which provide officers with out-of-hours access to community psychiatric nurses, are operating in the Glasgow area and in Edinburgh, and several other areas across Scotland are developing similar services.

The Scottish Government's mental health strategy contains an action to increase the mental health workforce to give access to dedicated mental health professionals in a number of key settings, including the police service. To meet that commitment, the Scottish Government will increase the additional investment to £35 million over the next five years, which will pay for 800 additional mental health workers in those settings.

Tom Arthur:

Given that as many as 80 per cent of incidents that are attended by Police Scotland are non-criminal call-outs, including responding to vulnerable individuals and individuals with mental health conditions, does the cabinet secretary agree that the provision of dedicated mental health professionals in police stations across Scotland will be an invaluable addition to local policing?

Michael Matheson:

It is important that vulnerable individuals, particularly those who are in distress or experiencing mental ill health, get the right support at the appropriate time when they contact one of our emergency services, including the police service. The additional investment that we are putting into the mental health workforce will help to increase capacity to assist the police in addressing issues relating to mental ill-health.

It is worth noting the significant work that Police Scotland is taking forward. Last week, I had the privilege of visiting Police Scotland's Fife divisional headquarters in Glenrothes, where I saw at first hand the excellent work that is being undertaken to equip officers and staff with the skills required to support people who have mental ill-health or who are experiencing distress. Police Scotland is leading the way on the issue, with the training of all its officers up to the rank of inspector. That training of around 17,500 officers will be completed by May this year, when they will all have been trained and equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to work with individuals who are experiencing mental ill-health and distress and to respond to that appropriately and effectively.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10908>

Welfare Support Advice

S5O-00910 Anas Sarwar (Glasgow) (Lab):

To ask the Scottish Government how it is assisting local authorities to provide welfare support advice.

The Minister for Social Security (Jeane Freeman):

Local authorities have statutory duties to fulfil in the provision of advice support in a number of areas. In total, the Scottish Government will spend about £21 million on advice-related projects in 2017-18. Of that, £660,000 will be provided to local authorities through the Scottish Legal Aid Board funding programmes to support advice provision for people who are affected by debt and the United Kingdom Government's welfare cuts.

Since 2013, the Scottish Government has provided some £6.85 million to Citizens Advice Scotland for the provision of welfare advice across its network of 61 bureaux in 30 local authority areas. Additionally, we estimate that about £5.6 million of funding for local authority financial inclusion-related projects will be provided between April 2015 and June 2019 through the European social fund, to support people who are affected by poverty and social isolation.

In 2017-18, we are providing local government with a total funding package that amounts to more than £10 billion and, in addition to what I have mentioned, many councils are using that to fulfil a range of statutory duties to provide advice and additional welfare support.

Anas Sarwar:

Like the minister, I oppose Tory welfare cuts. However, it appears that the Scottish Government is happier to court grievance, foment anger and wave flags than to get on with the job of governing. We know that the Government's recent benefits uptake campaign lasted just one week and had a budget of just £6,000. Now, the minister has shamefully decided to cut £600,000 of funding for welfare support and advice services in Glasgow alone—a decision that the Tories would be proud of. How can she justify that shameful attack on the most vulnerable in our communities?

Jeane Freeman:

Well, Presiding Officer, I think we knew that that one was coming. It is a matter of some regret—[Interruption.] Members should not shout at me, but let me speak. It is a matter of some regret that political point scoring is yet again at the forefront of Labour's minds, rather than looking at the detail of what the Government is doing to support individuals across Scotland who are facing the damaging austerity cuts imposed by the UK Government.

Misinformation and misrepresentation of the facts serve our constituents and the people of Scotland poorly, and I counsel Labour to think again about that. We have prioritised our use of the available funding to the areas that are most in need, including those that are most affected by the roll-out of universal credit. It is wrong to suggest that the Government is not funding advice and support services in Glasgow, because we are, as we are in constituencies across Scotland.

If the member had done me the courtesy of listening to what I have said previously in the chamber about the benefit take-up campaign, he would understand that, along with citizens advice bureaux, we jointly agreed on the first stage, and more of that work will come forward

over the next four years. That is a great deal more than Labour ever did when it formed the Scottish Government.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=10910>



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