



SCoD Bulletin

Mid May 2018

We want the bulletin to be accessible therefore we CANNOT use information in the form of posters, PDFs, or publisher in the bulletin.

***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. If information is not sent to us in the template, we will not include it. Thank you.**

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



SCoD Re-branding >>>>>> deafscotland emerges.....

We plan to begin the actual changes with a soft launch in Deaf Awareness Week (around 14th May). It will take some months to get all the changes in place so please be patient with our transformation. It will not disrupt our activities.

The new image is intended to convey a modern, inclusive approach focussing on “connections” (people, membership and partnership), joined up working with other networks and explain what we do. This reflects our “Connect and Thrive” programme. We thank all of you that sent messages of support and do hope you can **all** get behind the changes. Our power as a group is far greater than as individual people or organisations.

The rebranding process will take several months. We will start soon with information, new email addresses, begin to change the website, alert people through our social media and change our stationery. We are gradually developing our marketing and media campaign with advice and will keep you as informed as we progress.

We are very excited about the change.

End of an era – Mandy Reid

Mandy, who was until last June, our Policy and Research Officer has now left SCoD. Mandy worked at SCoD for over 10 years and is leaving a significant impact behind her.

“I am sad to be going although I have known it was a possibility since last July. I have worked with some wonderful people over the years and have enjoyed the challenges that I met almost every day in my work. I can honestly say I loved my policy and research work on behalf of deaf people in Scotland. I wish SCoD and all its members all the best for the future as **deafscotland** and am sure I will bump into many of you again.”

Mental Health and Wellbeing for all people affected by deafness: Past, Present and Future

SCoD started to campaign for inclusive mental health services for people with a hearing loss in Scotland in 1927, the year the organisation was set up. Today it continues to campaign for mental health and wellbeing services and information to be fully inclusive for everyone, including people across the four pillars of deafness.

It is 10 years since SCoD published the research paper “Making the Case for Specialist Mental Health Services in Scotland”. The current paper shows the developments that have been put in place for people with a hearing loss in Scotland who need support to maintain good mental health and wellbeing. It also shows what still needs to be done. To read the paper, go to www.scod.org.uk/briefings/

Health conditions question in the 2021 Census

SCoD has been involved in the consultations on the 2021 Census questions, especially the health questions.

Before the last Census in 2011, SCoD had lobbied for the "harmonised" health question to be changed to include the 4 pillars of deafness and we were told that this could not be done for a number of reasons.

As the See Hear strategy has been in place for five years and one of its "asks" is that more accurate data is collected on the number of people with a hearing loss in Scotland and the level of their deafness, our ask has become a need as the Census is an accurate method of collecting data on people in Scotland and their health conditions.

To read the paper, go to www.scod.org.uk/briefings/

Other

We have a baseline survey on **mental health** nearly ready to circulate. We will appreciate support to complete it over May/June. This work is growing a wider, collaborative partnership at the moment which will help coordinate development.

Please let us know what you plan for **deaf awareness week and beyond**. It helps us to keep the calendar on the website up to date and help avoid clashes of activity.

SCoD Membership & Conference

Annual Feedback Survey: Deadline for the survey is Monday 21 May:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JWCJDNB>

We have started to engage with our members for 2019 and invoices are out. Please continue to work with us.

We have two categories of membership:

- Full members. These are the organisations that have a major interest in deaf issues, make up the National Council, have voting rights and can put forward nominations to the SCoD Board.
- Associate members
 - organisations. These are organisations who are interested in deaf issues but it is not their main work, cannot have voting rights, be full members or do not want the responsibility of full membership.
 - individuals. These are individuals, people who are deaf or have an interest in deafness and want to support our work.

We are revising our membership offer and fees this year. Fees are held at the same price this year and have not increased for more than five years. In the future we want to be clearer on the content of the membership offer.

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

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

For more information, contact us on 0141 248 2474 or email at admin@scod.org.uk

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

Disclosure: Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG)

If you have staff who will be working with children and/or vulnerable adults they will need to be a member of the PVG Scheme.

Need your PVG forms signed off? Come to SCoD to get them done. Or make an appointment and we will come to you if you have several members of staff needing forms completed.

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/>

BSL version of our news

We have translated our news into BSL. Please use this [link](#) to our YouTube page to find the information.

Best wishes, Janis & the SCoD Team

Sponsored Material



The Signature Annual Awards are back for a 10th anniversary celebration

Signature has announced that this year it will host the 10th anniversary of the Signature Annual Awards.

The Signature Annual Awards are a cornerstone of Signature's work to recognise people who are going above and beyond to improve access for deaf people. For the past nine years, these prestigious awards have been awarded to business leaders, community groups, volunteers, and teachers to name a few.

This year, the awards will be held at the iconic BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art on the stunning Newcastle Gateshead Quayside on Friday 9th November 2018, and nominations are now open.

Signature wants to know who is doing incredible work to inspire a brighter future for their community. For more information, and to nominate somebody, go to www.signatureannualawards.co.uk

GENERAL NEWS

Deaf Awareness Week beginning 14 May 2017, what are you doing for it? Let us know at admin@scod.org.uk

Personal Independence Payments Update

Following the UK Government's Secretary of State for Work and Pensions' decision not to appeal the recent High Court judgment in PIP, the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) is now working to implement the MH Upper Tribunal judgment in relation to how overwhelming psychological distress is considered when assessing claimants' ability to plan and follow a journey.

For more information, go to www.scod.org.uk/uk-government/

Scotrail - Communications about travel between Aberdeen and Inverness.

The ScotRail Alliance has published details of the latest upgrade works to be carried out between Aberdeen and Inverness. I am therefore sending you details of these works so you can let stakeholders know as we are keen to keep customers informed of the impending works. During the period of these works, we encourage any customers requiring assistance to pre book their travel using our Assisted Travel booking service to enable us to ensure that expectations are met.

Full details of the Assisted Travel service are on our website <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/accessible-travel>

As part of the multi-million-pound upgrade, a 14-week line closure between Aberdeen and Dyce will be in place from 12 May 2018, to allow major improvement works to take place. Bus replacement services will be in operation to keep customers moving between Aberdeen and Dyce during the upgrade work. Further details will be published closer to the time and will be available on the ScotRail website.

Preparation work will take place over the Easter weekend on Sunday 1 April 2018, and May bank holiday weekend from Friday 4 May until Monday 7 May 2018. This will include de-vegetation and ground investigations along the route. The line will be closed during these preparation works and replacement buses will be used over both weekends to get customers where they need to be.

The Aberdeen-Inverness Improvement Project is a Scottish Government-funded upgrade of the railway between the two cities.

By the end of 2019 the project will deliver:

- Hourly service between Inverness-Elgin, providing 1,300 additional seats each day
- Introduction of half hourly all-day service between Aberdeen and Inverurie, providing 3,000 additional seats each day
- Majority of Aberdeen to Inverness services formed of high speed trains, providing 1,400 additional seats each day
- Additional Elgin – Aberdeen early morning and late evening services
- New through services between Inverurie – Montrose, reducing the need to interchange at Aberdeen
- More through services between Inverness and the central belt via Aberdeen
- Extended platforms at Inch to accommodate longer high-speed trains

The upgrade work beginning in spring 2018 will double the track between Aberdeen and Dyce. There is currently only a single track between Aberdeen and Dyce, which causes delays as only one train at a time can pass through. Further upgrade work will be carried out between Dyce and Inverurie in 2019.

ScotRail Alliance Infrastructure Director David Dickson said:

“The investment we are making to upgrade the line between Aberdeen and Inverness is all part of our plan to build the best railway Scotland has ever had. This is a massive project, which will ultimately transform services in the north of Scotland.

“The work between Aberdeen and Dyce will double the track, so that we can improve the reliability of service our customers receive.

“We know lengthy line closures are a real inconvenience for customers, and we will do everything we can to keep people moving during the upgrade work. We will publish further information for customers closer to the time.”

Further information on the Aberdeen-Inverness upgrade work can be found here:

<http://bit.ly/2iSHMDT>

British Deaf Association Scotland

Message from BDA: Today I'm going to be talking about driving assessments. When people are first diagnosed with dementia, they often wonder whether they will be allowed to continue to drive, so I thought I would share this information from the hospital with you. The process of assessment and how it works.

<https://www.facebook.com/BritishDeafAssociation/videos/1992414504154194/>

For more information please contact below:

dementia.scot@bda.org.uk

07548217781

PRioRiT y II

PRioRiT y II is a research project that aims to identify the most important unanswered questions that we have about things that affect whether people stay involved in research trials. This is important because trial teams work out the number of participants they need for a trial to produce meaningful results. If lots of people drop-out of the trial early, then the trial results may become unreliable or unstable.

The project will start with a survey, which aims to collect information from people across the UK and Ireland who are, or have been, involved directly, in designing, running, analysing, or taking part and/or staying involved in randomised trials.

We would like to invite you to complete the survey to provide your opinions about what the most important question relating to trial retention are. The survey can be accessed here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2GBVMHV>

Caring about Outcomes: exploring carers' quality of life and wellbeing

This seminar aims to educate, encourage and empower all those with an interest in or responsibility for supporting carers. The new Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 which has recently come into effect, promises to 'promote, defend and extend the rights' of adult and young carers across Scotland. It confers new rights and entitlements for carers. It places a duty on local authorities and health boards to 'ensure better and more consistent support for carers'.

You will hear about:

- Research which explored the unexpected careers and experiences of family carers.
- Gaps in policy at both the beginning and end of carers' journeys and what needs to be done to promote carers' wellbeing.

- The main changes introduced by the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 including the new eligibility criteria and Carers Support Plans.
- Some of the tools which will be used by service providers to develop the new Carers Support Plans.
- What outcomes could look like for carers and the people they look after?
- What carers can do to identify the skills they have gained from their experiences, and how they can build on these to have a life alongside their caring role.

We are pleased to welcome the following speakers:

- Joyce Cavaye, The Open University
- Claire Cairns, Coalition of Carers
- Don Williamson, Shared Care Scotland
- Emma Miller, Strathclyde University
- Gill Ryan, The Open University

Are you an individual or organisation that has responsibility for supporting carers? Then join us on Wednesday 30th May for an engaging and thought provoking seminar sponsored by the Open University in Scotland, planned and delivered in partnership with Shared Care Scotland and Strathclyde University.

Here is the link to the Eventbrite page to Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/caring-about-outcomes-exploring-carers-quality-of-life-and-wellbeing-tickets-44595759116>

EVENTS

West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society

PLEASE SUPPORT WSDCS!!!

We are delighted to announce that West Scotland Deaf Children's Society has been chosen for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding round began on 12 November and will run for 11 months until the 27 October 2018.

Every time a Co-op member shops and chooses selected Co-op branded products both the member and the community benefit!

5% for the Co-op member: paid into membership account which can be spent next time you shop; or saved to spend whenever you want.

AND

1% for your community - 1% of what members spend goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund and you can choose where this money goes from a number of local causes. Members will be able to choose and give their 1% as of **now until the 27th October 2018**. The more you shop, the more raised for the charity. We will also receive, along with the other causes in our community, an equal share of the money raised from sales of carrier bags.

British Sign Language Plans under spotlight at the Scottish Parliament

The Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh is holding an open event for BSL users on Friday 18 May (2 – 5pm) and Saturday 19 May (10am – 1pm).

The purpose of the event is to get the views of BSL users on the BSL plans the Parliament and a number of public office holders have produced. Other bodies at the open day include:

- the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman,
- the Scottish Information Commissioner,
- the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland,
- the Standards Commission,
- the Children and Young People's Commissioner for Scotland,
- and the Scottish Human Rights Commission.

BSL plans must be produced by all public bodies in Scotland, outlining the steps they are taking to help the BSL community engage with them and access their services.

BSL interpreting will be provided at the event (including hands-on interpreting for Deafblind visitors), and BSL tours of the Parliament will be arranged on both days. However, tour numbers will be limited. Please let the Parliament know in advance if you would like to book you a place. You can get in touch either through info@parliament.scot or **0800 092 7500** (Calls welcome through Text Relay or in BSL through www.contactscotland-bsl.org).

A video about the event is available [here](#) (which can be embedded), and more info is online at this page: <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/help/108210.aspx>

Any further queries to Greg Black (greg.black@parliament.scot)

The Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland are currently looking for two legal Members (Solicitor and Advocate) and one Lay Member

The Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland (JABS) is an advisory body that plays a key role in ensuring an open and transparent selection process based on merit for specific judicial appointments.

The Board's functions are:

- * to recommend to Scottish Ministers individuals for appointment to judicial offices within the Board's remit, and
- * to provide advice to Scottish Ministers in connection with such appointments.

For further information please see: <http://bit.ly/2HI5aeE>

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) are looking for a new Chair!

SDS are looking for a Chair to lead on the next phase of development of this already high performing and innovative organisation.

SDS plays a central role in the short, medium and long-term economic and social success of Scotland. From providing direct support to young people at risk of disengaging with education through to developing and using high quality skills planning data, the organisation drives forward on a diverse range of activities. These put SDS in a leadership position across the economy, the labour market and the Scottish education system.

For further information and to apply, please see: <http://bit.ly/2rBzyAG>

The appointments below are closing on 18th May:

Creative Scotland are looking for two Members with film and/or television experience. Apply here: <http://bit.ly/2vMR8a0>

Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland are looking for Solicitor Member, Advocate Member and a Lay Member. Apply here: <http://bit.ly/2HI5aeE>

Training



AWARENESSbites on-line Deaf Awareness course

<http://www.scod.org.uk/scod-training/awarenessbites/>

SCoD has teamed up with **AWARENESSbites** to provide quality online learning and development to front-line and public facing staff who may not be able to attend face-to-face training courses

We are offering two packages:

Learn at your own speed – login and logout when suits and restart where you left off

The Package Contents:

Green package – £15 per user

– aimed at those who require to know the basics and may come across a deaf or deafblind person occasionally. This package can easily be completed in under 2 hours.

Purple package – £28 per user

– aimed at those who would require a little more detail and understanding and meet deaf or deafblind people more frequently within their day to day service provision. This package can take between 2.5 – 3.5 hours depending on activities taken.

If you would like to purchase packages, please contact us directly at admin@scod.org.uk

We would consider an organisational discount that offers value for money for large numbers of users.

Practical Rights Training Event – Thursday 14 June 2018

An interactive and informed training session geared to help people understand how Human Rights can be practically effective and enforced. With particular reference to Inclusive Communication, the training is for everyone who wants to understand how to adopt a rights-based approach to their work to enable positive action for all.

Attendees will gain:

- A better understanding of the legal foundation of Human Rights and how they relate with Equality Rights.

- Examples of how human rights are observed (or not observed) in day to day practice
- Insight on how rights-based Inclusive Communication principles affect their practices.

Who is this training for? - This training is suitable for anyone who works to enable, empower and enrich the lives of those in their community. Whether directly engaged within the care sector, Third Sector or Public Sector, the training suits those who are seeking to ensure that their every-day practice takes proper account of the opportunities and challenges that taking a rights based approach really means.

Facilitators:

Heart In Mouth is a communications training and consultancy firm that works exclusively with individuals and organisations across the Third Sector. We believe everyone can be enabled to speak for their cause effectively, confidently and informedly. Founded by Ishbel Smith, a former lawyer who practiced and advised on civil rights in the Scottish and UK courts for 20 years, we deliver training that is practical and personal.

deafscotland is the lead organisation for deaf issues in Scotland. We aim to ensure that deaf people in Scotland can access services and information across all sectors of society from their local communities to what comes from government departments. We represent organisations working with and on behalf of: Deaf sign language users, Deafblind, Deafened and Hard of Hearing people.

For more information, please contact admin@scod.org.uk

**Acoustics and Assistive Listening Devices Information Day: Thursday,
7th June 2018**

This day will be of interest to all professionals working with deaf children and young people either in mainstream or specialist provision.

This information day will provide you with the opportunity to hear up-to-date information on equipment and resources to support deaf pupils. The day will include presentations from the following organisations and speakers.

Presenters will have an individual presentation time and exhibition stands set up to provide examples.

Richard Vaughan, Connevens

Richard will present and demonstrate a new product called “Babble Guard” and the Aurical HIT hearing aid test box.

Gareth Challis, Frontrow

Gareth will present and demonstrate the Juno Classroom Soundfield System.

Tim Simmons, The Woolly Shepherd - natural acoustic solutions: these products enhance classroom environments by reducing background noise and improving speech intelligibility.

Tony Murphy, Phonak

Tony will provide an update from Phonak and demonstrate the Roger Touchscreen.

Refreshments will be provided; please bring own packed lunch.

Course fee: Free

Closing date: 17th May 2018

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/djun18.html>

CINEMA/THEATRE



This spring: Visible Cinema screens Oscar-winning short [The Silent Child](#), part of London Short Film Festival touring shorts programme [Lives in Sign Languages](#), hosted by deaf programmer, Zoe McWhinney; GFT celebrates [World Autism Awareness Week](#) with Access Film Club, screening the Oscar-winning chilean film starring trans actress Daniela Vega, [A Fantastic Woman](#) and GFT's dementia friendly programme presents a second chance to see the Oscar-winning short [The Silent Child](#) as part of Movie Memories. Major new releases [Isle of Dogs](#), [Wonderstruck](#) and [Early Man](#) screen with Audio Description, and with Captions on selected screenings.

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS, MOTIONS AND DEBATES



UK Government Scottish Affairs Committee

The future of working practices in Scotland Inquiry

Technological developments, new business models and changes in consumer behaviour are bringing about huge changes to the ways in which people work, and their relationships with their employers. Many businesses now meet their labour needs in different ways—such as through flexible contracts and digital platforms which rely on self-employed workers. This has created new opportunities in Scotland and across the UK, but there are concerns that it has also led to an increase in low paid and insecure employment and has shifted the relationship between many businesses and their labour force.

In recognition of the challenges arising from changes to business models and the ways in which people work, the Government commissioned Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Arts, to consider how employment practices needed to adapt to keep pace with modern business models. Following publication of the Taylor review's report, *Good work: the Taylor review of modern working practices*, the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Work and Pensions Committees considered its findings and produced a joint Report, *A framework for modern employment*, which looked in detail at the issues considered, and recommendations put forward, by the review. The Government has since published its own response to the Taylor review, which committed to implementing several of Matthew Taylor's recommendations, and launched consultations looking at how other recommendations could most effectively be taken forward.

This Report seeks to build on that work, and examines the particular needs of Scotland and how the devolution settlement affects the way in which the UK and Scottish Governments respond to these challenges; recognising that—while employment law is reserved to the UK Government—both the UK and Scottish Governments have powers which affect the availability and quality of employment opportunities in Scotland, as shown below.

To read the report, go to

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmsscotaf/449/44902.htm>

Universal Credit: Disabled People

903738 Thelma Walker (Colne Valley) (Lab):

What assessment she has made of the effect of the roll-out of universal credit on the number of disabled people living in poverty.

The Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work (Sarah Newton)

I do not want to see anyone living in poverty, and no Conservative Member of Parliament wants people living in poverty. Disabled people are some of the biggest beneficiaries of universal credit, with around 1 million disabled households having on average around £110 a month more on universal credit than they would have had on the legacy benefits.

Thelma Walker

As disability charity Leonard Cheshire has pointed out, many disabled people do not have internet access, assistive technology or the necessary support to fill in the online form to apply for universal credit. Does the Minister agree that the application process needs to be more accessible, so that disabled people can easily apply for these benefits?

Sarah Newton

The hon. Lady raises a very important point about accessibility of the benefits system for everyone, which is something we all take very seriously. I am grateful for the support that the Leonard Cheshire foundation and a whole range of stakeholders give us in designing the process, to make sure that it is as accessible as possible.

Mr Simon Clarke (Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland) (Con)

Does the Minister agree that it is important that we are absolutely scrupulous in our presentation of the facts about universal credit? As the Secretary of State referred to earlier, I wrote to the UK Statistics Authority to query the shadow Secretary of State's claim that "40,000 children will wake up in poverty on Christmas Day because the Tories refuse to pause"

the roll-out of universal credit. On Friday, Sir David Norgrove told me:

"It is clearly important that statements by a political party should be fully supported by the statistics and sources on which they rely. We do not believe"

To read the rest of the debate, go to <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-02-05/debates/53D4B605-789B-42A0-B7AE-A45CD61EC01D/UniversalCreditDisabledPeople>

[Question S5W-15102: Alex Cole-Hamilton, Edinburgh Western, Scottish Liberal Democrats, Date Lodged: 06/03/2018](#)

To ask the Scottish Government what guidance the NHS issues on the font size and typeface that should be used in communications with people with sight issues.

The link to the question and the response on the Scottish Parliament website is here:

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-15102&ResultsPerPage=10>





Copy Deadline for the Next Issue

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

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

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

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

SCoD Disclaimer

Where appropriate, information sources for the bulletin are noted in each article. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of SCoD. We cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of information. No endorsement of services, events or products is intended or implied.

Information for Inclusion in the SCoD Bulletin

We appreciate the time that you take to send us your training information, events, and news articles for the SCoD bulletin. Sometimes we are not getting enough information, sometimes the information is not clear, and at other times, we have a great article, but no contact details.

In order that we get the information we need to put in the bulletin and you reach your intended audiences, we have put together a template that we would appreciate it if you use to send us information/articles.

We cannot use posters, but we are willing to “share” your posts on our Facebook and re-tweet your “tweets” on our Twitter account. You might have information on your website or YouTube or Vimeo in BSL – please share the links, so that we can.

Organisation Name	
Article/News Item/	Maximum 400 words

Important date (s)	
Contact details for the bulletin	
Link(s) in social media – Facebook, Twitter, YouTube	
Organisation's Logo (if you want it included)	