



deafscotland Bulletin Mid-September 2018

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

****PLEASE NOTE:** at the end of this bulletin is a template. If you want the information included in future bulletins, please copy and use this template. If the information is not sent to us in the template, we will not include it.**

Thank you.

deafscotland | Bi-Monthly Newsletter for deafscotland Members



Remember save the dates!

We have few events being planned...!

National Council – Tuesday 6 November 2018

The next National Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 November 2018 in Edinburgh. We will be covering topics such as See Hear Strategy, British Sign Language (BSL) and Mindfulness. We're looking to hold the meeting at 10.30am until 3.00pm.

Further details will follow.

Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 5 December 2018

The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday 5 December 2018 in the morning before the Cross Party Group on Deafness meeting takes place on the day same in the afternoon. It will be held in Edinburgh.

Further details will follow.

Conference 2019 – Friday 15 March 2019

We are starting to plan our 2019 conference which will take place on Friday 15 March 2019. It will be in Glasgow at DoubleTree By Hilton Hotel Glasgow Central. The theme will be “communication4all”.

Further details will follow.

Our Conference is coordinated by deafscotland in partnership with Disability Equality Scotland (DES) and Scottish Council on Visual Impairment (SCOVI).

We will also be hosting an Award Ceremony on the same day after the Conference in the evening.

Sponsorship opportunities – please let us know as soon as possible, if you are **interested in sponsoring a part of the event** by getting in touch with Janis McDonald, Chief Officer: chiefofficer@deafscotland.org.

Presenting a workshop – please let us know as soon as possible, if you are **interested in presenting a workshop** by getting in touch with the organiser: admin@deafscotland.org.

Marketplace opportunity – we have had interest from organisations in hosting their stalls at our conference. If you would like to be a part of our event, we have a variety of stalls with electrics or without electrics. If you are **interested in hosting a stall**, please get in touch with the organiser: admin@deafscotland.org.

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

deafscotland (formerly Scottish Council on Deafness) 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 – Deaf / Deaf Sign Language users; Deafblind; Deafened and Hard of Hearing.

It is 10 years since deafscotland 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/.

deafscotland Membership

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 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 deafscotland 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 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 us at: admin@deafscotland.org. 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 deafscotland 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/>.

Participation Consultation and Communication

Please use the link or check out the website www.scod.org.uk to see our latest briefing. If you have any comments or feedback please send them to chiefofficer@deafscotland.org or bsl@deafscotland.org.

We are interested in your opinion.

To read the paper, go to: <http://www.scod.org.uk/briefing-participation-consultation-and-communication/>.

BSL translation

We have translated our news / information into BSL (British Sign Language). Please use this link below to our YouTube page to find the information:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7TPJkTbihG8fAHWa7S6YA-juVH_n_vvG

Best wishes, Janis & deafscotland Team

Sponsored Material



Get Deaf Aware is the leading provider of deaf awareness training...

Whether you are an organisation looking to train your employees, a team looking to increase your communication skills, or an individual looking to increase your understanding of deafness, we have a solution for you.

How does it benefit me and my organisation?

Get Deaf Aware can help you take your commitment to providing excellent customer service further; creating a personable customer experience which demonstrates your proactive approach to becoming deaf aware and more considerate of each person's individual journey. Increasing your level of customer service can increase both footfall and income; deaf awareness training can integrate strategically into your development programmes and significantly differentiate your organisation from competitors.

Creating a world without barriers is something that we all want. Becoming deaf aware is bigger than just improving your customer service, it builds your brand and places you at the forefront of inclusivity and what is right and wrong in business. Behaving responsibly and ethically as a business is both complex and challenging; becoming deaf aware is a huge step in the right direction; allow us to guide you on your journey.

Why Get Deaf Aware?

The Get Deaf Aware brand continues to grow. Upon completion of the training, your business can take advantage of Get Deaf Aware branded material, including window stickers, pin badges for your employees and the logo on your website. Showcase your commitment and embrace positive change in your workplace.

Created in partnership with, and endorsed by Signature, the quality of our training is unparalleled and promises to produce the results your business requires. You can trust us.

How do we do it?

We have a number of solutions to support you. We can offer a short 45 minute online training course – introduce it as part of your induction programme; we can run training days for your employees; we can train your own academy trainers to deliver training to your own teams. Alternatively, if you have other ideas or if your business has specific needs, we're more than happy to discuss our bespoke training options with you.

Get Deaf Aware online is CPD Accredited

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accredited is an assurance in terms of the training standard and the level of learning offered. Get Deaf Aware is proud to exceed the standards and benchmarks required to receive such a prestigious accreditation.

To find out more information about Get Deaf Aware and to request an information pack, please visit getdeafaware.org.uk. If you would like to speak to us directly about our available options, please don't hesitate to send us an email at info@getdeafaware.org.uk or call us on **0191 383 1155**.

BSL version – please use this link below to our YouTube page to find the information:

<https://youtu.be/WPYP44UQ75U>

Sponsored Material



Study with Signature

Signature is the leading awarding body for deaf communication qualifications in the UK.

We're dedicated to improving communication between deaf, deafblind and hearing people, and creating better communities in the process. Since we began our work to promote and teach British Sign Language in 1982, we've supported more than 400,000 people to learn British Sign Language (BSL). We employ highly skilled people and experts as staff, consultants and suppliers to make sure that our centres and learners gain the strongest qualifications on the market and receive the best service.

We are proud of the challenges our qualifications provide, and we constantly exceed what is expected from us to always be fair and consistent. It's because of this that our candidates go on to become the most confident communicators and highly-skilled professional interpreters, translators, lipspeakers, and CSWs.

Alongside our qualifications, we're also helping employers and schoolchildren learn more about BSL and deaf awareness so that everyone has the opportunity to become a better communicator at every stage of life.

British Sign Language (BSL)

We offer qualifications in British Sign Language from Level 1 to Level 6.

Irish Sign Language (ISL)

We offer qualifications in Irish Sign Language from Level 1 to Level 6.

Deafblind

We offer qualifications in Deafblind Communication from Level 2 to Level 3.

Deaf and Deafblind Awareness

If you are looking for a basic knowledge of communication issues affecting deaf and deafblind people, then Level 1 Award in Deaf Awareness and Communication is for you.

Lipspeaking

We offer a qualification in Lipspeaking for Level 3.

Communication Support

We offer a Level 3 qualifications in Communication Support for Deaf Learners and Modifying Written English Texts for Deaf People.

To discover some more information regarding our qualifications, and to view the specifications regarding each individual course, you can visit our website at www.signature.org.uk.

You can also use our search facility to find your nearest Signature Centre and view the courses they offer. Once you have found your desired course, you can contact the centre directly to discuss availability and pricing.

We know that starting a course in deaf communication is a huge commitment, so if you would like to speak to someone directly at Signature about your options, you can contact our Customer Support team at communications@signature.org.uk or call 0191 383 7901.

BSL version – please use this link below to our YouTube page to find the information:

<https://youtu.be/IJYswLx-qAo>

BSL (SCOTLAND) ACT 2015 PARTNERS' NEWS

BSL Authority (Local) Plans

Public bodies / authorities have already started working on their BSL Authority (Local) Plans and looking to engage with members from BSL Communities. This is very important that Deaf and Deafblind BSL users engage, communicate, contribute and work with public bodies / authorities. They are looking for local BSL users who use their services. There's a number of BSL Engagement events happening at the moment, check out the information below.

BSL Engagement events

Please note that we have kept all the details for events, including past events for your information.

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Tuesday 14 August 2018 at 10.30am-12.30pm at Tarbet Academy, School Road, Tarbert

Tuesday 14 August 2018 at 2.00pm-4.00pm at Lochgilphead Community Centre, Manse Road, Lochgilphead

AYRSHIRE SHARED BSL LOCAL CONSULTATION

Saturday 16 June 2018 at 11.30am-1.30pm and 4.30pm-5.30pm at Grange Academy (The Street), Kilmarnock

Wednesday 20 June 2018 at 6.00pm-8.30pm at Irvine Townhouse, Irvine

Sunday 1 July 2018 at 2.00pm-5.00pm at Gaiety Theatre, Ayr

AYRSHIRE SHARED BSL LOCAL CONSULTATION

Saturday 16 June 2018 at 11.30am-1.30pm and 4.30pm-5.30pm at Grange Academy (The Street), Kilmarnock

Wednesday 20 June 2018 at 6.00pm-8.30pm at Irvine Townhouse, Irvine

Sunday 1 July 2018 at 2.00pm-5.00pm at Gaiety Theatre, Ayr

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Wednesday 29 August 2018 at 1.00pm-3.00pm or 6.00pm-8.00pm at Ceremony Room, Speirs Centre, Alloa

Looking for BSL users to support the council in shaping their plan, or would like to find out more, please contact: equalities@clacks.gov.uk

DUNDEE & ANGUS COUNCILS SHARED BSL LOCAL CONSULTATION

Wednesday 30 May 2018 at 4.00pm-7.00pm at The Steeple, Dundee

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Wednesday 19 September 2018 at 6.00pm-8.00pm at Dumfries and Galloway College, Dumfries Campus, Bankend Road

Wednesday 26 September 2018 at 6.00pm-8.00pm at Stranraer Campus, Lewis Street, Stranraer

EDINBURGH BSL CONSULTATION REFERENCE GROUP

Wednesday 27 June 2018 at 6.00pm-7.30pm at South Bridge Resource Centre, Edinburgh

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Thursday 30 August 2018 at 7.00pm-10.00pm in Lesser Hall at Kirkintilloch Town Hall, Kirkintilloch

Saturday 1 September 2018 at 1.00pm-4.00pm in Raeburn Room at Kilmardinny House, Bearsden

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL AND NHS GREATER GLASGOW & CLYDE SHARED BSL LOCAL PLAN

Wednesday 22 August 2018 at 6.30pm-9.00pm at Thorntree Hall, 35 Main Street, Thornliebank

FIFE COUNCIL BSL PLAN MEETING

Thursday 13 September 2018 at 2.00pm-4.00pm and 5.30pm-7.30pm Chamber House, Kirkcaldy

FIFE HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP BSL LOCAL CONSULTATION

Thursday 28 June 2018 at 10.00am-12.00pm, 2.00pm-4.00pm and 5.30pm-7.30pm at Town House, Kirkcaldy

FORTH VALLEY SHARED BSL LOCAL PLAN (NHS Forth Valley & Falkirk Council)

Wednesday 27 June 2018 at 5.30pm-7.30pm at Forth Valley Sensory Centre, Camelon

GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Wednesday 19 September 2018 at 6.30pm-8.30pm at City Chambers, George Square, Glasgow.

Refreshments from 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start.

**GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL AND NHS GREATER GLASGOW & CLYDE
SHARED BSL LOCAL PLAN**

Wednesday 11 July 2018 at 6.30pm-9.00pm at Glasgow City Chambers,
George Square, Glasgow

HIGHLAND COUNCIL BSL DROP-IN EVENT

Wednesday 14 July 2018 at 3.00pm-5.00pm at Cameron Youth Centre,
Inverness

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Tuesday 7 August 2018 at 4.00pm-7.00pm at The Beacons Art Centre,
Greenock (Lindsay Wood Room)

MORAY COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Wednesday 4 July 2018 at 7.00pm-9.00pm

Saturday 28 July 2018 at 7.00pm-9.00pm

Both will be held at NESS Elgin office, Elizabeth House, 10 Victoria Crescent,
Elgin

**NHS GREATER GLASGOW & CLYDE BSL LOCAL PLAN FOR GLASGOW
BSL RESIDENTS ONLY**

Monday 20 August 2018 at 6.30pm-9.00pm at Scottish Youth Theatre, 105
Brunswick Street, Glasgow

**NHS GREATER GLASGOW & CLYDE BSL LOCAL PLAN FOR EAST
DUNBARTONSHIRE BSL RESIDENTS ONLY**

Thursday 30 August 2018 at 6.00pm-9.00pm at Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre,
Kirkintilloch

NHS Lothian LIVE-STREAMING BSL DISCUSSION

Thursday 23 August 2018 at 7.00pm via Deaf Action Facebook page

NORTH & SOUTH LANARKSHIRE SHARED BSL LOCAL CONSULTATION

Friday 15 June 2018 at 2.00pm-4.00pm and 4.00pm-6.00pm at Deaf Services
Lanarkshire, Coatbridge ML5 3AA

Tuesday 19 June 2018 at 10.00am-12.00pm at Hamilton Deaf Club, Hamilton

Saturday 30 June 2018 at 1.00pm-3.30pm at Bellshill Cultural Centre, Bellshill

ORKNEY ISLANDS COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Saturday 25 August 2018 at the Deaf Awareness event hosted by Orkney Deaf
Children's Society

PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL BSL LOCAL CONSULTATION

Monday 11 June 2018 at 4.00pm-6.00pm at VisionPK, Perth

**RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL AND NHS GREATER GLASGOW & CLYDE
SHARED BSL LOCAL PLAN**

Thursday 16 August 2018 at 6.00pm-8.30pm at University of West of Scotland (UWS), Paisley High Street

SCOTTISH BORDERS SHARED BSL LOCAL ENGAGEMENT EVENT

Saturday 21 July 2018 at 10.30am-12.00pm or 12.30pm-2.00pm at Borders College, Galashiels

TAYSIDE BSL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT EVENT

Saturday 27 June 2018 at 4.00pm-7.00pm at The Marryat Hall, City Square, Dundee

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL BSL DRAFT PLAN

Wednesday 5 September 2018

Looking for BSL users to support the council in shaping their plan, or would like to find out more, please contact: Ricardo.Rea@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL BSL LOCAL CONSULTATION

Tuesday 5 June 2018 at 5.00pm-8.00pm at Ability Centre, Livingston

HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY BSL LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

Thursday 25 June 2018 at 10.30am-12.00pm at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh (Mary Burton Building)

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH BSL PLAN MEETING

Wednesday 22 August 2018 at 1.30pm-4.00pm in Paterson's Land, Holyrood Campus, Edinburgh

UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES FROM GLASGOW AREA BSL PLAN

Saturday 25 August 2018 at 10.00am-12.00pm at Deaf Connections, Glasgow

**UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING AND FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE BSL
CONSULTATION EVENT**

Wednesday 27 June 2018 at 5.30pm-7.30pm at University of Stirling, Airthrey Road, Stirling

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT SHARED BSL EVENT (WITH OTHER PUBLIC BODIES)

Friday 18 May 2018 at 2.00pm-5.00pm at The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh
Saturday 19 May 2018 at 10.00am-1.00pm at The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh

There's many more events organised, keep checking out various partners' or public bodies' websites, Facebook and Twitter for further updates / information. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with Derek Todd, BSL Consultant at deafscotland by email: bsl@deafscotland.org.

Draft BSL Plans: consultations are live

The **Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)** have launched their Draft BSL Plan for consultation. You can view this on the link below:

OSCR: <https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/have-your-say-on-oscr-s-bsl-plan>

The **Scottish Housing Regulator (SHR)** has also launched their consultation, which can be viewed on the link below:

SHR: <https://www.scottishhousingregulator.gov.uk/news/housing-regulator-launches-consultation-british-sign-language-plan>

We would be grateful if you could share these links as widely as possible among your stakeholders.

Thank you for being a part of our reference group and for showing an interest in helping OSCR and the SHR with our draft BSL Plans for consultation.

GENERAL NEWS

Access to Sign Language Interpreting Video Relay Service for Deafblind Sign Language Users

contactSCOTLAND-BSL, Scotland's only nationally funded online British Sign Language/English interpreting video relay service (VRS), delivered by Sign Language Interactions on behalf of the Scottish Government, is proud to announce the service can now be accessed by deafblind BSL users.

Deaf BSL users have been using contactSCOTLAND-BSL to contact any of the 140+ public bodies or any of the 1,000's of Scotland's third sector organisations by calling through a mobile device such as a smartphone or tablet or desktop computer, signing via the camera to the online BSL/English interpreter, who in turn calls (phones) the public body or third sector organisation and relays the call between the two.

Deafblind people have been unable to access this ground-breaking and at times life changing service due to the simple fact that they cannot see the interpreter on screen!

Now with advances in technology and specifically software, deafblind BSL users whose first language is BSL, can now access the video relay service by signing to the online interpreter using BSL and rather than seeing the signed response, they receive the responses via a braille display attached to the computer with responses being typed by the online interpreter. This is a first for Scotland and a first in the UK.

Debra Wherrett – Deafblind BSL User (the first ever user!) said:

“At the time when technology advanced with video I missed this opportunity because of my sight loss, a real missed opportunity which was really disappointing. Thought I wouldn't have the chance to use video relay. Now I have that opportunity! Never say 'impossible', there is always possibilities, I thought I wouldn't have this chance. Thank you.”

Andrew Dewey, Director, Sign Language Interactions said:

“Advances in video technology has meant that deafblind people have been excluded from accessing services that many people take for granted. Now deafblind BSL users can have access to all of Scotland's public bodies and third sector organisations and able to make phone calls where previously had to rely on others to make. This can be from the mundane such as ordering food for their guide dog (albeit pretty important to the dog!) to contacting council services or making appointments at their GP surgery whenever they

need to. The key is being able to express themselves in their language of choice – BSL.

“We are extremely honoured to be delivering this truly ground breaking and potentially life changing service on behalf of the Scottish Government and feel proud and privileged to be at the forefront of these developments.”

Video of Debra Wherrett using contactSCOTLAND-BSL can be seen here:
<https://contactscotland-bsl.org/deafblind-access>

Scottish Information Commissioner

The Scottish Information Commissioner is the independent public official responsible for promoting and enforcing Scotland's freedom of information (FOI) law. Through this work we support the openness, transparency and accountability of public bodies.

You have a right to ask any public authority for information too.

The Scottish Information Commissioner has published a draft BSL plan for consultation. This plan brings us in line with the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015 and sets out the 14 actions which we will take over the period 2018-2023 to improve access to information and services for BSL users.

The Draft Plan (and BSL translation) can be seen at
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/home/News/Consultations/BritishSignLanguagePlan.aspx>

We are keen to hear the experiences of BSL users to help us inform the commitments we are making. Please let us know your views by 1 October 2018.

Video clips or written responses should be sent to
enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info.

A final version of the plan will be published by 24 October 2018.

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 2017 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 27 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.

Scottish Government consultation on the Culture Strategy

Following a Scottish Government commitment to develop A Culture Strategy for Scotland, early engagement with individuals, artists and creative producers, communities and organisations during 2017 asked what matters most to people about culture in Scotland and what they thought the priorities for supporting culture are over the next decade.

BSL Version of consultation – <https://vimeo.com/280530772/a67902c36c>

The consultation runs until Wednesday 19 September 2018.

Scottish Ambulance Service – Are you interested in helping us to improve healthcare in Scotland?

The Scottish Ambulance Service wants to hear from the public we serve.

We want to ensure that we are giving our patients the best possible care and that we are meeting their needs and expectations. This is where you can help.

We want volunteers from all over Scotland for our Engagement Steering Group, which meets for three hours, four times a year at our National HQ in Edinburgh. During the meeting members are presented with the latest, and proposed, developments in the service and we are keen to hear feedback from the public on their views, whilst providing a fresh pair of eyes.

Whether or not you've used the Scottish Ambulance Service before – emergency services or Patient Transport – you can help us shape what we do in the future.

Our next meeting will be October 2nd from 2.00pm – 5.00pm. We cannot pay for attendance, but we do pay agreed expenses. We do have further meetings scheduled, so don't worry if you can't make that one!

We pride ourselves on being a caring and proactive service and we need your help.

Please email scotamb.communications@nhs.net with a bit about yourself and what interests you in a role with us.

National Deaf Children's Society Scotland (NDCS Scotland)

New research released by the National Deaf Children's Society in Scotland and the Consortium for Research into Deaf Education (CRIDE) shows steep drop in the number of specialist Teachers of the Deaf.

The findings of the report show **a quarter** of specialist Teachers of the Deaf in Scotland have been lost over the last seven years. This drop has occurred at the same time as a 26% increase in the number of deaf children being identified across Scotland.

This is compounded by 48% of Teachers of the Deaf being due to retire in the next 10 to 15 years.

The National Deaf Children's Society is calling for investment in specialist services for deaf children, including the training up of professionals working with deaf pupils in the classroom.

To download the full report visit:

http://www.ndcs.org.uk/professional_support/national_data/cride.html

Update: Stirling Station access improvements

Platform 6/9 footbridge

The planning application proposing to convert the existing lattice footbridge on platforms 6/9 into a fully accessible structure has been approved by Stirling Council, subject to conditions which include the reuse of sandstone and handrails on the platform 9/10 stairs reconstruction.

The footbridge will be closed from mid-August 2018 while engineers prepare the structure for removal and a temporary footbridge will be in use for passengers from this time.

The lattice footbridge will be removed for refurbishment and then reinstalled higher above the rails to enable the line underneath to be electrified. It will also be converted into a fully accessible structure with the installation of a new lift on platform nine.

The overall project will include:

- Refurbishing and raising the footbridge for overhead wires to be installed
- Alterations to the roof canopy
- Installation of a lift on platform nine to provide step-free access
- Reconstruction of the staircase on platform nine
- Alterations to the internal landing areas between the footbridge and the existing lift on platform three.

The temporary, stepped footbridge – which is higher than the existing bridge so overhead power lines can be strung underneath – will be in use for around six months while the repairs and modifications take place. A crane will be required to lift the existing bridge out and to lift the new bridge in.

The exact dates of the closure of the bridge are currently being finalised. Details on the dates and timings of the bridge reinstatement will be communicated to nearby residents and station users closer to the time.

Platform 2/3 footbridge

The internal and external repainting is progressing. Following completion, a scaffold access will be installed to the roof to make the permanent connections at each end of the footbridge to the station building. Once this is complete, the permanent steps and ramps to the lifts will be installed.

Access and mobility meeting

We are keen to host another access and mobility meeting to provide you with further details of the planned works. We will be in touch in due course with a date and time for the meeting.

British Deaf Association

Please click the links below and see the video about Respite Care both in English and BSL.

BDA Advocacy Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/BDAAdvocacyService/videos/2238162299758616/>

BDA Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/BritishDeafAssociation/posts/2189888077740168?_xts__\[0\]=68.ARAMmBODr4f9LjLoRE78dn1U6urmHanQ0fKkBuVcwIcV3rvBA8n4abmGnleksMqkULAH075JI_nD3cTJqMj5CjJOBUZCPbOtpR1V1LcqEZaiTeiFIKP4SEVcM3oHzGPhprHrJbE&_tn_=-R](https://www.facebook.com/BritishDeafAssociation/posts/2189888077740168?_xts__[0]=68.ARAMmBODr4f9LjLoRE78dn1U6urmHanQ0fKkBuVcwIcV3rvBA8n4abmGnleksMqkULAH075JI_nD3cTJqMj5CjJOBUZCPbOtpR1V1LcqEZaiTeiFIKP4SEVcM3oHzGPhprHrJbE&_tn_=-R)

Please share this information with your family and friends.

Any more information, please contact dementia.scot@bda.org.uk

Community transport survey

Through our work in the North West, it's been brought to our attention that lack of affordable, appropriate transport links, within communities and between is having a real affect on people's ability to travel. This issue is preventing people going to appointments, attend groups and meet friends etc. which can exacerbate social isolation and loneliness.

As a group we are looking at potential solutions to this, the 1st step is this survey where we want to find out what community transport is in the North West. We would be grateful if you would fill out the survey and if not relevant to you pass on to any contacts who are involved i community transport.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Shogufta at Shogufta@Haq@gcc.scot.nhs.uk

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JPRJ6RW>

Social landlords continue to show strong performance against the Scottish Social Housing Charter

Scottish social landlords continue to show strong performance across most of the standards and outcomes of the Scottish Social Housing Charter. This is the main finding of a new report published today by the Scottish Housing Regulator.

The Regulator's report gives the headline findings of its fifth, national analysis of landlords' performance against the Charter standards and outcomes. It shows that overall, landlords continue to perform well in the service areas that matter most to tenants. Tenant satisfaction remains high, with nine out of ten social housing tenants satisfied with their landlord's overall service.

The Regulator published its report today alongside a suite of easy-to-access performance information. This includes a landlord report for each landlord, an online comparison tool, live data tables, and the full information landlords provide under the Charter.

The landlord reports and comparison tool let tenants find out about their landlord's performance in the areas tenants said matter most: homes and rents, quality and maintenance, neighbourhoods, tenant satisfaction, and value for money.

The Regulator first published its live data tables last year, making more information available than ever before. The data tables show how landlords performed against each Charter standard and outcome. Landlords can use them to benchmark their performance.

George Walker, the Chair of the Scottish Housing Regulator, said: "Overall, Scotland's social landlords are continuing to perform well. They've maintained a strong performance across the majority of the Charter standards and outcomes. They continue to do well when it comes to the things tenants told us matter most to them. This good news is reflected in the high levels of tenant satisfaction which now sits at over 90%.

"Tenants have told us that our landlord reports and comparison tool are a useful and simple way to find out about their landlord's performance. We want to make it even easier for tenants to access the information they need to have meaningful discussions with their landlord about their homes and services. We will outline proposals to enhance the information we make available when we consult on our new regulatory framework in October."

The Regulator's national analysis, landlord reports and comparison tool, live data tables, and all of the information from landlords about their performance are all available on its website. www.scottishhousingregulator.gov.uk

Social Security – Best Start Grant Announcement

We wanted to make you aware that earlier today the First Minister announced that the first payments of the Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Birth Grant will be made before Christmas 2018.

We've set out the extract from the Scottish Government's [Programme for Government](#), published 4 September 2018 for your information:

“We want to accelerate the help we can give to new families so that every child has the best start in life. Therefore we will start making payments of our Best Start Grant by this Christmas – more than six months early. This will put more money into the pockets of families on lower incomes – by providing £600 on the birth of a first child and £300 on the birth of any later children, more than the current UK Government arrangements. By paying families on lower incomes more money more quickly we will support thousands of children across Scotland. This is the first step in our delivery of the Best Start Grant which will also – by summer 2019 – see families get a further £250 for each of their children at key points in their early years such as starting nursery and school.”

The Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Grant will replace the UK Sure Start Maternity Grant. It will improve on the Sure Start Maternity Grant by:

- paying £600 rather than £500 for the first child, and introducing £300 payments for second and subsequent children
- extending eligibility to anyone on tax credits or housing benefit and all under 18s.
- not placing a limit on the number of children who can qualify
- extending the application window to 24 weeks pregnant to 6 months after birth, giving applicants longer to apply
- taking applications on the phone and on-line as well as on a paper form, to give a choice depending on the needs of the applicant

Additionally, before Summer 2019

- a further 2 separate Best Start Grant payments of £250, per child, will be introduced to help with the costs of early learning at the age of 2 or 3 and when they start primary school
- Best Start Foods smartcards, will replace Healthy Start Vouchers to support low income families with young children to access affordable nutritious food

Further details on how Best Start Grant will operate will be available soon when the Scottish Government publishes the response to the consultation Early Years Assistance, Consultation on Best Start Grant Regulations. We'll be back in touch at this stage to discuss further how we can work together to ensure our services are ready for the new benefit. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

EVENTS

Outdoor Activity Weekend

An exciting outdoor activity weekend for deaf young people aged 14-18 from Friday 12 to Sunday 14 October 2018. Activities will include raft building, archery and high ropes. The event is FREE. For more information, visit http://www.ndcs.org.uk/whats_on/events/events_for_children_and_young_people/adventure_weekend.html.

Contact: Siobhan Murray 0141 354 7850 or Mobile: 07484 039 997
Email: siobhan.murray@ndcs.org.uk

Hearing Link Scotland

Hearing Link Scotland is to host a LinkUp group later this year for people living with hearing loss and their partners or family members.

The group programme will take place from Friday 26 to Sunday 28 October 2018 in Edinburgh.

If you are struggling to manage your hearing and would find it helpful to share your experiences with like-minded people, then please get in touch.

LinkUps are led by experienced volunteers who have a sensitive understanding of what it means to live with hearing loss, many of whom also have personal experience. These courses aim to give you, a partner, family member or friend the information to help you each better manage the changes hearing loss can bring.

Communication support will be made available including hearing loops and Speech-To-Text-Reporting (STTR) where you can follow what is being said on a screen. Accommodation and meals are provided. All you need to cover is your own travel costs.

We'll be delivering our highly-regarded LinkUps on a regular basis across the UK, offering an opportunity for you to work with others over two days to find ways to live better with your hearing.

To find out more about these LinkUp in Edinburgh and whether it is right for you, visit our website at www.hearinglink.org/services/linkups.

Alternatively email helpdesk@hearinglink.org for further information and details of how to apply.

Solar Bear – The Arrival

The Arrival is a new theatre production from Solar Bear based on a graphic novel by Shaun Tan.

The theatre production will be touring Scotland in these locations: Glasgow, Dundee, Inverness, Carlops, Livingston.

The story is about a man that travels to a mysterious and strange new land in search of a safe life for his family.

Half the actors are D/deaf and half the actors are hearing.

The play embraces visual and physical storytelling, music and puppetry, with some scenes in British Sign Language (BSL) and English.

Glasgow, Scottish Youth Theatre
Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th September, 7.30pm

Glasgow, Eastwood Park Theatre
Friday 28th September, 7.30pm

Dundee, Tayside Deaf Hub
Friday 5th October, 7.30pm

Inverness, Spectrum Centre
Friday 12th October, 7.30pm

Carlops, Carlops Village Hall
Thursday 18th October, 7.30pm

Livingston, Howden Park Centre
Friday 26th October, 7.30pm

Full information here – <https://thearrival2018.wordpress.com/>

Please watch this BSL information video for more details:

<https://youtu.be/Tg6MwqvOjTo>

To book tickets please visit <https://thearrival2018.wordpress.com/>

If you have any questions about the production please email, Felix – felix@solarbear.org.uk

We hope to see you there!

Official Trailer Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/solar.bear/videos/319388765479434/>

Official Trailer Youtube: <https://youtu.be/yd459qdV8Rs>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TheSolarBear>

Healthy Eyes Training

A new training pack called 'Healthy Eyes' for adults with learning disabilities has been designed to help raise awareness of the importance of eye health. It has been developed by RNIB, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Glasgow Caledonian University and The Good Life Group and supported by the Scottish Government. This training pack aims to help adults with learning disabilities recognise possible signs of sight loss in family, friends and themselves, which they may not have been aware of before. It will also explain what to do if an individual thinks their sight is getting worse or they have a problem with their eyes. It has been developed to help increase the individual's confidence when attending an eye examination and to be aware of what is good and bad for eye health.

The training pack can be used within a group setting for adults with learning disabilities and would require a facilitator of the group to lead the training session. It includes video clips of scenes acted by The Good Life Group who are a group of adults with learning disabilities. The training pack will be available on a USB. This USB will include the training guide for the trainer and the video clips of the scenes.

RNIB UK Adult Social Care Practice and Development Team look forward to the training pack being distributed and used within group settings. We hope this will be something new and exciting for adults with learning disabilities to learn more about sight loss and the importance of eye health.

If you facilitate a group and would like more information about the 'Healthy Eyes' training pack and how to receive one, please contact RNIB UK Adult Social Care Practice and Development Team by emailing UKPDT.Training@rnib.org.uk or phoning 0141 772 5588.

Royal Collection Trust

Are you a D/deaf BSL user, interested in becoming a guide in arts, heritage and culture?

Join us at the Palace of Holyroodhouse on the 2 October for a Q&A afternoon. Deaf presenters John Wilson and John Hay will be on hand to answer questions about being a D/deaf guide.

The afternoon starts at 14:00 and places are limited. To book your free place, or for more information, please email amy.stocker@rct.uk

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE REPLACEMENT OR REFURBISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL MONKLANDS

NHS Lanarkshire is continuing to seek views on the replacement or refurbishment of University Hospital Monklands through its public consultation, which was launched on 16 July and runs until 15 October.

The consultation document has been distributed to locations throughout Lanarkshire, including hospitals, pharmacies and libraries, and includes a questionnaire for consultation responses. The questionnaire can also be completed online at www.monklands.scot.nhs.uk.

In addition, people can hear more about the proposals and share their feedback at a series of public meetings. The following meetings are being held – doors open 6.30pm:

19 September – Lecture Theatre, Ronald Miller Centre, Ground Floor, University Hospital Wishaw, 50 Netherton Street, Wishaw;
25 September – Banqueting Suite, South Lanarkshire Council, Almada St, Hamilton.

The meetings will feature a presentation outlining the clinical case for change, the challenges of building on the existing Monklands site compared to a new site and why an alternative location for the hospital at Gartcosh has emerged from option appraisal as the highest scoring option following comparison with the current site and another alternative location at Glenmavis.

Following the presentation the audience will take part in facilitated group discussions to share their views on the proposal and discuss what else the NHS Lanarkshire Board should consider before making its decision on a preferred option at its meeting in November.

After the discussion groups, there will be a chance to put questions to members of the project team.

The meetings start at 6.30pm and will finish at 8.30pm.

For information on the how to take part in the consultation, meeting dates, videos, frequently asked questions and more, please visit www.monklands.scot.nhs.uk.

If you would like to submit a question to be raised at a meeting, please send it to monklands.consultation@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk.

Falkirk Community Trust – Ray Bradshaw – Deaf Comedy Fam

Sunday 18th November, FTH Theatre, Falkirk, 8pm £12/£10 students

1 in 6 people suffer from hearing loss.

2 of those people are Ray's parents.

Full of hilarious, revealing tales about growing up with deaf parents, Deaf Comedy Fam presents a very first for comedy, as each show will be performed by Ray simultaneously in both spoken English and British Sign Language – which just so happens to be Ray's first language.

There were only 6 BSL-interpreted Comedy shows when Ray debuted at the Fringe in 2015, and he has since made it his personal mission to make comedy more accessible for deaf people – if only to take the pressure off himself when it comes to making his parents laugh.

Bradshaw has quickly established himself as one of the brightest and most exciting acts on the UK comedy circuit. A two-time Scottish Comedian of the Year finalist, in the past year alone, Ray has performed at Adelaide Fringe, Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Singapore Fringe and the Kuala Lumpur Comedy Carnival, amongst others. Ray has numerous radio credits under his belt with BBC Scotland and Radio 4, supported Ardal O'Hanlon on his recent tour, and is a regular guest on *Frankie Boyle and Friends*. *Deaf Comedy Fam* debuted at Glasgow International Comedy Festival and completely sold out, before moving to the Edinburgh Fringe for a critically acclaimed, fully sold out run – so don't miss out on the first ever comedy set at to be spoken and signed by the stand-up themselves!

'*Deaf Comedy Fam* takes stand-up comedy into a new realm... a show I'll remember for years – take a bow, Ray Bradshaw' ★★★★★ **Short Com**

Contact bookings@falkirkcommunitytrust.org to arrange your tickets.

VACANCIES

North Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership - Vacancy: Learning & Development Adviser

North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership are currently advertising for a **Learning & Development Adviser**. If you are interested please click on the below link.

<https://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/north-ayrshire-council/jobs/learning-development-adviser-130040?from=org>

West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society (WSDCS) seeking a new Family Support Officer

The West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society (WSDCS) is an affiliated charity of the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS). We are committed to creating a world without barriers for deaf children and young people. We are based in and work in the West of Scotland.

Family Support Officer
West Scotland
25 Hours Per Week
Based in central Glasgow
(£19,240)

WSDCS is an established Scottish Charity committed to providing support to families with a deaf child in the West of Scotland. We have a long tradition of working in a positive way with families, keeping them at the centre of everything we do. We are an organisation led by a group of dedicated volunteers with direct experience of having a deaf child and committed to providing excellent support and services to families.

We are looking for an exceptional Family Support Officer who can make a big difference to the lives of deaf children and their families in West Scotland. The focus of the role will be to provide information and support to families and carers of deaf children and young people and support our wider programme of activities for local families with our dedicated team.

WSDCS works closely with NDCS and other professionals and organisations across sectors to provide the best possible support for families who have a

deaf child. We work closely with NDCS to ensure a consistent and high quality support and information is available and our family officer works to the same child centred principles and practice.

For an application pack please contact Carol Campbell on 0141 243 2958 or email Carol on wsdcs@btconnect.com and we will send you an application pack.

If you would like an informal discussion about the role, please contact Carol or Iain on 0141 243 2958.

The closing date for applications is 9.00am on Tuesday 25 September 2018.
We expect interviews to be held in Glasgow mid October 2018.

WSDCS is aiming to be an equal opportunities employer and is committed to promoting work-life balance amongst its staff.

WSDCS is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and expects staff and volunteers to share that commitment.

WSDCS is a Scottish Registered Charity (SC012285).

Action on Hearing Loss Scotland (AoHL Scotland) looking to employ two staff to join them!

Hearing Forces Project Officer (MAT cover)

Salary: £23,000

Salary info: Fixed-term (end date 28th June 2019), 35 hours per week

Status: Full time

Closing: 28th September 2018

Ref: S1289

Location: Glasgow

Website: www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk

Role and responsibilities

- Provide up to date, comprehensive and tailored information and support , reactively and proactively to aged veterans with hearing loss or tinnitus to enable them to have fulfilled lives and make informed choices
- Maintain and develop an outreach service to provide access to pre-fit support of hearing aids, information, post support and advice

- Develop tinnitus peer support groups to provide information and guidance on managing the condition
- Provide information to aged veterans, carers and other professionals by phone, email and face to face
- Recruit and develop volunteers, including veterans to extend the reach of the service.
- Work with other members of the Scotland team to identify opportunities for expanding the provision and profile raising
- Give presentations, organise talks and attend local groups
- Maintain a strong knowledge of equipment products and arrange demonstrations on key pieces of equipment
- Support implementation of the project monitoring and evaluation methodology, including maintaining accurate records of all enquiries and supporting reports on successes and outcomes as required
- Support the marketing and communications work with the wider team including developing resources and materials to promote the project
- Attend team meetings and other Action on Hearing Loss events
- Ensure that all monitoring, evaluation and related records are accurate and kept up to date and funder requirements and reporting is carried out timeously
- Carry out the duties and responsibilities of the post at all times in compliance with all relevant law and codes or practice and with Action on Hearing Loss's policies, but especially Equal Opportunities and Health & Safety.

This post is subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS/ANI/Disclosure Scotland check.

For more information on this post and to apply online please visit our website at jobs.actiononhearingloss.org.uk/Vacancy.aspx

Closing Date: 28th September 2018

Interview date: 18th October 2018

Hearing Forces Project Assistant

Salary: £19,000 pro-rata

Salary info: Fixed-term (end date: 27th September 2019), 21 hours per week

Status: Part time

Closing: 11th September 2018

Ref: S1288

Location: Glasgow

Website: www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk

Role and responsibilities:

- Provide up to date, comprehensive and tailored information and support , reactively and proactively to aged veterans with hearing loss or tinnitus to enable them to have fulfilled lives and make informed choices
- Provide information to aged veterans, carers and other professionals by phone, email and face to face
- Provide administrative support to the Project Manager and other team members
- Recruit and develop volunteers, including veterans to extend the reach of the service
- Maintain relationships with key external volunteer organisations and groups to identify opportunities to increase our volunteer numbers.
- Work with other members of the Scotland team to identify opportunities for expanding the provision and profile raising
- Maintaining accurate records of all enquiries and supporting reports on successes and outcomes as required
- Attend team meetings and other Action on Hearing Loss events
- Ensure that all monitoring, evaluation and related records are accurate and kept up to date
- To complete any other duties and responsibilities when requested which are commensurate with this role
- Carry out the duties and responsibilities of the post at all times in compliance with all relevant law and codes or practice and with Action on Hearing Loss's policies, but especially Equal Opportunities and Health & Safety.

This post is subject to a satisfactory Disclosure Scotland check.

For more information on this post and to apply online please visit our website at jobs.actiononhearingloss.org.uk/Vacancy.aspx

Closing Date: 11th September 2018

Interview date: 9th October 2018

Scottish Commission on Social Security

Do you want to help make sure that the new Scottish social security system is based on dignity, fairness and respect? Then consider an appointment to the Scottish Commission on Social Security.

Why?

The Scottish Commission on Social Security (SCoSS) is a brand new public body that is being set up to scrutinise the Scottish social security system (including benefit regulations) and hold Scottish Ministers to account. It will be comparable to – but have key differences from – the existing UK Social Security Advisory Committee.

Who?

You! Scottish Ministers are looking to appoint the Chair and up to three Members of the very first SCoSS board. The range of skills, experience and personal qualities they are looking for are set out in the Applicant Pack (such as knowledge of the social security system or experience of a disability), and if you feel you meet any of these, do consider applying!

What's involved?

This is a challenging and rewarding opportunity! You will:

- help shape the SCoSS from the very beginning;
- need to spend a minimum of 5 days per month on SCoSS business, some of which may be in the evenings or weekends;
- have some flexibility for additional SCoSS work, particularly in the early months;
- be appointed for up to four years, and may be re-appointed beyond this for up to eight years in total.

Where?

Anywhere! The SCoSS will likely have a 'home base' in either Edinburgh, Glasgow or Dundee (to be decided), but space to meet can be found across Scotland if needed.

Remuneration?

Yes! The Chair will receive a gross daily rate of £306, with the Members receiving £225*. Allowances will also be paid for any travel and subsistence costs, as well as reasonable childcare or carer expenses incurred while you are carrying out SCoSS business.

Can I apply?

Of course! We want to hear from people with a diverse range of skills, backgrounds and knowledge. You do not need have previous board experience for these posts. Appointments are based on merit and meeting the skills required for the roles as described in the Applicant Pack.

Scottish Ministers particularly welcome applications from groups currently under-represented on Scotland's public bodies, such as women, ethnic minorities and people aged under 50. They would also encourage applications from those with personal experience of having a disability arising from a physical or mental impairment.

When?

Applications can be submitted until midnight on 28th September. Interviews will take place on 19th, 22nd and 25th October in Edinburgh. Scottish Ministers aim to have the appointees take up post in January 2019.

How do I find out more?

More information on these roles can be found at the public appointments website: www.appointed-for-scotland.org or by calling 0300 244 1898 (Freephone). Completed applications must be received on or before **28 September 2018**.

Scottish Public Bodies Vacancies

The State Hospitals Board for Scotland are looking for one new member to join their board!

The State Hospital is one of four high secure hospitals in the UK. Located in South Lanarkshire in central Scotland, it is a national service for Scotland and Northern Ireland and one part of the pathway of care that should be available for those with secure care needs. The principal aim is to rehabilitate patients, ensuring safe transfer to appropriate lower levels of security.

As a non-executive member of the Board, you will be expected to play a central role in ensuring equitable provision of high quality, secure and clinically effective services to meet the mental health and social care needs of all patients.

For more information on the role and how to apply please see: <http://bit.ly/2MfSQEP>

The Highlands and Islands Airports Limited are looking for a new Chair.

Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL) is a public body wholly owned by Scottish Ministers. The Company operates and manages 11 airports in the Highlands and Islands (Barra, Benbecula, Campbeltown, Inverness, Islay, Kirkwall, Stornoway, Sumburgh, Tiree and Wick) and Dundee. These airports are vital to the social and economic welfare of the areas they serve and enable the communities to stay connected.

None of HIAL's airports operates on a solely commercial basis and the Scottish Government provides subsidy to HIAL to close the gap between commercial revenue and operating costs to allow services to be maintained.

For more information on this exciting opportunity and how to apply please see: <http://bit.ly/2vFkXGp>

Please don't forget that the Scottish Fiscal Commission are looking to appoint two new commissioners to their board.

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

Interested in Public Appointments, but looking to discover how the appointment process works? Come along to the Discovery Point on the 19 September, by booking your place [here](#) .

You will hear personal experience's from Paul Edie, Board Chair of the Care Inspectorate, James Stuart, Convenor Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority, Beth-Anne Logan, Board member of Children's Hearings Scotland, Luan Grugeon, Board member of NHS Grampian and Simon Little, Board member of the Scottish Housing Regulator.

Student Awards Agency Scotland(SAAS) are recruiting for a Non-Executive Board Member.

For more information, visit: https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job_search_view.aspx?jobId=1503&JobIndex=1&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=6

Forth Valley Sensory Centre – Seeking new Chair & Vice-Chair

Forth Valley Sensory Centre (FVSC) provides a wide range of high quality services for children, adults and older people living with either a hearing or sight impairment.

FVSC is looking to appoint a Director to take on the role of Chair. The Trustee will join the organisation at an exciting and challenging time with the opportunity to help transform services and extend our reach.

Chair – Person Specification and Role Description

The ideal criteria for the voluntary post of Chair are:

- An interest and empathy with the needs of people living with a sensory impairment
- Leadership skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- The ability to become an ambassador and to raise the profile of the centre as well as contributing at a strategic level
- Proven influencing and negotiating skills
- Willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- Impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences
- Experience and understanding of fundraising campaigns, bid applications, procurement, strategic planning and contract management
- Experience of private/public/third party partnership working
- Good, independent judgement
- Ability to think creatively
- Understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- Ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- Tact and diplomacy
- IT and administration skills

The Role of the Chair

The Chair provides leadership to the Board helps to safeguard the good name and values of FVSC. The Chair ensures that the organisation complies with its governing documents. The Chair is required to plan and conduct meetings effectively and to ensure all Directors get involved in the work of the Board.

It is the responsibility of the Chair to ensure the Board focusses on its key tasks and regularly assesses and reviews its performance.

The Chair contributes towards firm strategic organisational direction.

The Chair oversees the induction and development of Directors and takes responsibility for the Board's composition and development.

The Chair leads the appraisal process for the Centre Manager and ensures that the Board provides support for the Centre Manager.

Additional duties of the Chair:

- Giving direction to board policy-making
- Monitoring that decisions taken at meetings are implemented
- Representing the organisation at functions, meetings
- Acting as a spokesperson as appropriate
- Bringing impartiality and objectivity to decision-making
- Facilitating change and addressing conflict within the board and within the organisation, liaising with the Centre Manager to achieve this.

Vice-Chair Person Specification and Role Description

The ideal criteria for the voluntary post of Vice-Chair are:

- An interest and empathy with the needs of people living with a sensory impairment
- Leadership skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- The ability to become an ambassador and to raise the profile of the centre as well as contributing at a strategic level
- Willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- Impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences
- Good, independent judgement
- Ability to think creatively
- Understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- Ability to work effectively as a member of a team

The Role of the Vice-Chair

The Vice Chair supports the Chair to safeguard the good name and values of FVSC. The Vice Chair is required to plan and conduct meetings effectively when the Chair is unavailable. The Vice Chair contributes towards firm strategic organisational direction in liaison with the Chair.

The Vice Chair provides support to the Chair in the following areas:

- Giving direction to board policy-making
- Monitoring that decisions taken at meetings are implemented
- Representing the organisation at functions, meetings
- Acting as a spokesperson as appropriate
- Bringing impartiality and objectivity to decision-making
- Facilitating change and addressing conflict within the board and within the organisation, liaising with the Centre Manager to achieve this

For more information on the vacancies please contact:

jacquewinning@forthvalleysensorycentre.org

Poverty and Inequality Commission

This is an exciting opportunity to lead a new public body and influence policy to reduce poverty and inequality in Scotland, working closely with a range of stakeholders, including Scottish Ministers, to do so.

The Commission will be formally set up from July 2019 as a new public body, as required by the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017.

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act sets out a number of tasks that the Commission must take on as part of its standard workplan. Beyond this, the Commission can set its own work programme in discussion with Ministers and can gather evidence, commission research and prepare reports as it sees fit.

For more information on this exciting opportunity and how to apply please see:

<http://bit.ly/2x1pAv5>

TRAINING



AWARENESSbites online Deaf Awareness course

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

deafscotland 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@deafscotland.org.

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

GIRFEC Training

Workshops covering the Getting it Right approach aimed at people affected by deafness

Getting to Know Getting it Right for Every Child Team is holding several training sessions aimed at practitioners and parents, families and carers affected by deafness* (Deaf, Deafblind, Deafened and Hard of Hearing) in partnership with deafscotland and NDCS Scotland.

The next event are up on ALLIANCE Website – please see below:

Parents (Edinburgh – Saturday 3 November 2018): <https://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/blog/events/workshop-covering-the-getting-it-right-approach-aimed-at-people-affected-by-deafness-edinburgh/#expanded>

Deafblind Scotland offers various BSL courses...

Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA): BSL Level 1 Certificate (H3PA10) Intensive course

Designed specifically for people who have limited time/opportunity for vocational training.

Duration; 5 days over 2 week period 9am till 5pm

Dates: September 3rd, 4th & 5th (Week 1) 10th and 12th exam on final day (Week 2)

Venue: Deafblind Scotland, Training and Learning Centre, 1 Neasham Drive, Kirkintilloch, G66 3FA.

Cost: Upon Request

Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA): BSL Level 1 Certificate (H3PA10) Condensed evening course

Designed specifically for people who have limited time/opportunity for vocational training.

Duration; 2 evenings 6.30 - 9pm over 8 weeks (Monday and Thursday)

Dates: commencing September 3rd through to October 25th

Venue: Deafblind Scotland, Training and Learning Centre, 1 Neasham Drive, Kirkintilloch, G66 3FA.

Cost: Upon Request

**Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA): BSL Level 2 (H3PA11)
Intensive**

This intensive day-time course is suitable for students who have achieved BSL level 1.

Duration; 11 days over 4 week period 9am till 5pm (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)

Dates: Commencing October 1st through to October 24th.

Venue: Deafblind Scotland, Training and Learning Centre, 1 Neasham Drive, Kirkintilloch, G66 3FA.

Cost: Upon Request

**Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA): BSL Level 2 (H3PA11)
Condensed evening course**

Designed specifically for people who have limited time/opportunity for vocational training.

Duration; 3 evenings 6.00 - 9pm over 9 weeks (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)

Dates: commencing October 29th through to January 16th

Venue: Deafblind Scotland, Training and Learning Centre, 1 Neasham Drive, Kirkintilloch, G66 3FA.

Cost: Upon Request

Contact: **John Whitfield**, Participation Officer

Email: JWParticipation@dbscotland.org.uk

Deafblind Scotland

1 Neasham Drive

Kirkintilloch, G66 3FA

Tel/Text: 0141 777 6111

Fax: 0141 775 3311

Exploring Creativity through Performance

(Workshop for D/deaf and hard of hearing secondary pupils)

Run by the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland:

Monday 8 October 2018

The Scottish Sensory Centre, with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, is pleased to be hosting in Edinburgh the above free drama workshop for pupils with a hearing impairment; the workshops are open to deaf oral and signing pupils from S1–S6.

The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland offers a BA Performance in British Sign Language and English course, the only course of its kind in the UK, offering degree education in the performing arts for D/deaf and hard of hearing students. Students develop skills in acting, movement, devising, text, film, improvisation and visual theatre as well as exploring highly visual and physical performance styles and are taught the skills to prepare them for a career in film, television, theatre and more.

If your pupils enjoy drama and would like to get involved, then come along to this fun, informal workshop where you and your pupils can explore creativity a little further, working alongside recent graduates from the BA Performance in British Sign Language and English course.

Two sessions will be running with a maximum of 15 pupils per session - places will be allocated on a first come first served basis:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------|
| Workshop times: | S1–S3 | 10 am - 12 noon |
| | S4–S6 | 1 pm - 3 pm |

Venue: Scottish Sensory Centre, Moray House School of Education, Edinburgh

Closing Date: 24th September 2018

Please note this event may be photographed and staff should ensure that there is permission in place for this to happen. Permission Proforma attached - please forward approvals given or bring on the day.

To book a place for your pupils please use the link below.

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/doct18.html>

Theory of Mind in Deaf Children

Monday 22 October 2018

This course will be of interest to teachers of the deaf, teachers working in mainstream settings with deaf pupils, speech and language therapists, educational psychologists, support staff, social workers.

Theory of Mind (ToM) involves understanding another person's knowledge, beliefs, emotions and intentions and how this information is used in social settings. The foundations for ToM emerge early in children but take several years to fully mature.

Research highlights how deaf infants/young children from hearing families struggle to attain age appropriate understanding of ToM concepts especially beliefs of others. Reasons for this have been proposed from early interaction with parents to later language development. This workshop will focus on:

- Review of research on the development of theory of mind in deaf children.
- A continuum of developments.
- A focus on early interaction.
- Understanding how conversations and environment helps or hinders theory of mind development.
- Impacts of theory of mind difficulties on wider skills especially in the school setting.

Presenter: Professor Gary Morgan, Dept of Language & Communication Science, City University London

Course fee: £110

Closing Date: 1st October 2018

Course Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/doct18a.html>

See Hear Sensory Champion Training Project 2018

Do you work with people with complex support needs, including learning disabilities, dementia, stroke and diabetes?

- Sensory Champion training is for health and social care workers
- Helps to recognise and respond appropriately to potential hidden sensory loss related behaviours
- Promotes and enables effective hidden sensory loss support, to improve outcomes for individuals living with potential hidden sensory loss and complex support needs.

Dates: Day 1 Wednesday 26th September & Day 2 Thursday 27th September

Venue: The Training Room, Campbeltown Hospital.

To find out more about booking a place and becoming a Sensory Champion contact Chris Armitage at Sensory Impairment Team, Argyll and Bute:

Email: chris.armitage@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Telephone: 01369 708484

EMPLOYABILITY DROP IN SESSIONS

Unemployed and looking for a job?

Deaf Action Employability Service will be holding monthly drop ins at our charity shop, 245-247 High Street, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1JF

We support Deaf, deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing and deafened adults over 25 years old.

The times will be 10am until 12noon then 1pm – 3pm

These appointments require to be booked. To book a slot or for more information please email employability@deafaction.org or text 07795 338 231

The drop ins will be held on the following dates: -

- Wednesday 3rd October 2018
- Wednesday 7th November 2018
- Wednesday 5th December 2018

CINEMA / THEATRE



This summer: Visible Cinema screens the inaugural [Film Showcase](#) featuring short films created by students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Access Film Club screens darkly comic [Thoroughbreds](#) and sweet scenes in [Hearts Beat Loud](#) plus Take 2 Access screens action-comedy animation [The Little Vampire](#) and animation classic, [Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit](#). Major new releases *Sicario 2: Soldado* and *Mary Shelley* screen with Audio Description, and with Captions on selected screenings.

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS, MOTIONS AND DEBATES



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

[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>

UK Government Scottish Affairs Committee

The future of working practices in Scotland Inquiry



www.parliament.uk

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/cmsscota/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>



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@deafscotland.org.

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

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

deafscotland Disclaimer

Where appropriate, information sources for the bulletin are noted in each article. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of deafscotland. 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 deafscotland Bulletin

We appreciate the time that you take to send us your training information, events, and news articles for the deafscotland 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) |

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