



deafscotland Bulletin November 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



Can you support us...?

Aviva Community Fund

We are delighted to have been nominated for funding by Aviva Community Fund for our Virtual Museum <http://ow.ly/ubOv30mrv8S>. We would very much appreciate if you can vote for us and share! The more votes we have, the better chance for us! You can use Facebook to register!

You can support us through our Crowdfunder

<http://ow.ly/LKlr30mrv9i>.

@AvivaUK

#AvivaCommunityFundUK

#alldeaf

#NotEqualYet

Three events confirmed...!

1.) National Council – Tuesday 6 November 2018

The next National Council (NC) meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 November 2018 in Edinburgh at the Scottish Sensory Centre (SSC). We will be covering topics such as Mindfulness seminar, See Hear Strategy update and British Sign Language (BSL) update. **12.45pm registration with tea / coffee before the meeting starts at 1.00pm.** The meeting will continue until 3.45pm. Further details will be shared via emails to our members.

Please let us know you are attending National Council meeting via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/deafscotland-national-council-meeting-tickets-51326199043>

2.) Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 5 December 2018

The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Wednesday 5 December 2018 in the morning at **10.00am-12.00pm**. It will be held in Edinburgh at the Scottish Sensory Centre (SSC). We will have a guest speaker from Volunteer Scotland to cover 'volunteering'. Please note this is the same day as the Cross Party Group on Deafness in the afternoon at 1.00pm. Further details will be shared via emails to our members.

Please let us know you are attending the AGM via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/deafscotland-annual-general-meeting-tickets-51326306364>

3.) Conference 2019 – Friday 15 March 2019

Early plans are starting to come together for 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.

Early bird offers will be announced shortly later this month (early November 2018). We will have different offers available for either conference or awards. Or you can buy a special (joint) two events ticket to attend both conference and awards! Watch out for the fantastic offers soon!

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

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 conference** 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. Our workshops are almost 66% confirmed. Hurry get in touch with us if you are interested in presenting a workshop.

Marketplace opportunity – we have had a lot of 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.

Award sponsorship opportunities – please let us know as soon as possible, if you are **interested in sponsoring an award or part of the award ceremony** by getting in touch with Janis McDonald, Chief Officer: chiefofficer@deafscotland.org.

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.

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/.

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/>.

Cross Party Group on Deafness (CPGD)

deafscotland provides secretariat support for the Cross Party Group on Deafness (CPGD) meetings. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5 December 2018 at The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh at 1.00pm-2.30pm. More information will follow soon.

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 sharing their final BSL Authority (Local) Plans and looking forward to engaging with members from BSL Communities over the six years from now until 2024. This is very important that Deaf and Deafblind BSL users support, engage, participate, communicate and collaborate with public bodies / authorities.

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with Derek Todd, BSL Consultant at deafscotland by email: bsl@deafscotland.org.

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>

Digital-first census for 2021

For the first time in 2021, people in Scotland will be encouraged to fill out their census questionnaire primarily online, with support and help available for those who need it.

‘Plans for Scotland’s Census 2021’, published by National Records of Scotland, lays out proposals for how the census will be conducted and the questions it will ask.

Under the proposals, the census will ask new questions, including whether the respondent is a veteran. It is also proposed that questions on sexual orientation and transgender status and history will be asked. As set out in 2018-19 Programme for Government, a Bill will be introduced this parliamentary session to allow sexual orientation and transgender questions to be asked on a voluntary basis.

The report also gives details of what consultation, tests and stakeholder engagement have been conducted to help shape the proposed questions so far. The final proposed questions will be laid before the Scottish Parliament for agreement before the census takes place.

Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop, said:

“For more than 200 years, Scotland has relied on the census to underpin national and local decision making. The census is the only complete source of whole population information about Scotland.

“By encouraging and assisting people to complete their census online, and asking questions which reflect a modern, inclusive Scotland, these proposals ensure the census will continue to be a vital source of information for decades to come.”

Anne Slater, Registrar General for Scotland, said:

“The publication today of ‘Plans for Scotland’s Census 2021’ is a major milestone in delivering a successful census. These proposals have been developed based on robust research and testing and we have consulted many people and organisations to take full account of Scotland’s diverse population.”

Background

- Plans for Scotland’s Census 2021 also include details on privacy and confidentiality, collecting and publishing information and the legislative process. It is being published now to allow sufficient time for discussion of proposed questions and topics.
 - A census is organised in Scotland every 10 years and collects information on households and individuals to inform public services, policy and research
 - It was possible to complete the census online in 2011, but printed questionnaires were still sent to every house in Scotland
 - Scotland’s Registrar Generals have taken responsibility for the country’s census since 1861
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Social Security Scotland – Communication Updates

As a recent attendee of our workshops, or request to us for future inclusion, the following links will take you to this week's documents that have been issued regarding the on-going development of Social Security Scotland, specifically Best Start Grant.

- Best Start Grant SG Response to the Consultation:
<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/early-years-assistance-scottish-government-response-consultation-best-start-grant/pages/1/>. This is a helpful document that will explain the benefit in normal language not legal-speak!
- Best Start Grant Regulations (final version):
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2018/9780111039694/contents>. This is the legal version of the regulations.
- Best Start Grant Analysis of Consultation Responses:
<https://beta.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/consultation-responses/2018/09/early-years-assistance-analysis-consultation-responses-best-start-grant-regulations/documents/00540167-pdf/00540167-pdf/govscot:document/>. Just in case you have anyone wanting a greater level of detail!
- Tribunals Analysis of Consultation Responses:
<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scottish-government-response-consultation-draft-regulations-making-provision-relation-social/>
- Tribunals Regulations (final version):
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2018/273/contents/made>;
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2018/274/contents/made>;
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2018/275/contents/made>;
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2018/276/contents/made>

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

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>

ScotAppCon Communication to Equality Stakeholders

Subject: **Equality Action Plan and #ScotAppCon 2018**

I wanted to take this opportunity to share the progress report of our Equality Action Plan. You can view it [here](#).

This latest update of our five-year plan (2015-2020) sets out SDS's approach to encourage individuals to consider taking the apprenticeship route and apprentice employers to be more inclusive.

It highlights partnership work and outlines progress alongside priorities for the future.

This includes the completion of the 3-year [Improving Gender Balance](#) project, funded by SDS, and delivered by the Institute of Physics in partnership with Education Scotland. Now being mainstreamed by Education Scotland, it aims to challenge and change perceptions of gender from Early Years up within schools.

Other SDS work includes the creation of an [Employer Guide to Inclusive Recruitment](#) on apprenticeships.scot, which provides information on practical and often free or low-cost measures to source, attract and retain a more diverse group of apprentices.

Please share this report with your colleagues and stakeholders, to ensure visibility of the work taking place to help improve inclusiveness within Scotland's workforce.

In other news, I wanted to ensure you knew that SDS is hosting Scotland's first Apprentice Convention on Thursday, 8 November at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

The Convention is a free, full day CPD event. Attendees will hear from inspiring speakers, gain invaluable new skills through training workshops and connect with other apprentices from all over the country.

It is exclusively for Foundation, Modern and Graduate Apprentices and we are very keen that the opportunity reaches those from under-represented groups, to demonstrate diversity of uptake across apprenticeships.

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.

Forth Valley Sensory Centre – Awareness Cards Launched!

Emergency services and local authorities, alongside Forth Valley Sensory Centre, have launched awareness cards to further support people with hidden disabilities when accessing public services.

Awareness cards are now available for free at a number of public sector premises and enable people to put their name and detail any extra support they may require.

The cards were created through a joint partnership initiative between Forth Valley Sensory Centre, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS Forth Valley and the three local authorities.

Superintendent Mark Lundie, lead for partnerships in Forth Valley Division, said: "Knowing how we can fully support someone who needs our help is key to providing the best service possible and we're delighted to fund thirty thousand cards to support this scheme.

"We want people within our communities with hidden disabilities to have confidence in knowing that any additional needs they have can be quickly identified, should they require the assistance of emergency services."

Lynn Waddell, NHS Forth Valley Equality and Diversity Manager, said: “This card will help people to easily explain their support needs should they require assistance in everyday situations. It focuses on the type of help required, rather than the details of the individual’s condition.”

Jacquie Winning, Forth Valley Sensory Centre Manager said: “These cards are a great initiative. Our Centre Users have really appreciated the way their concerns are being addressed by this card.

“The Deaf community in particular who may struggle to make themselves understood if they suddenly need assistance.

“Not all disabilities are obvious and this card is a simple and discreet way for someone to get the help and support they need without embarrassment or difficulty.”

Scottish Parliament BSL Facebook Group

The Scottish Parliament have launched their [Scottish Parliament BSL Facebook Group](#). Please do share / mention this to your colleagues and help them to improve their communication with BSL users in Scotland.

EVENTS

West Scotland Deaf Children’s Society

It’s that time of year again....our annual Family Fun Day and AGM!

This year it will be held in St Mirin’s Cathedral Church Hall (Incle Street, Paisley, PA1 1HR) and we would love our families and friends to come along. There will be entertainment, a buffet, a raffle and the presentation of our Endeavour Award and the deafscotland Sportsmanship Award! Lots of fun for all the family!

Saturday 3 November 2018
12 pm to 4 pm

For more information contact wsdcs@btconnect.com

Royal Collection Trust

Join Deaf Historian John Hay for a free BSL tour celebrating Scottish history, at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. This tour is part of our St Andrew's Day celebrations and will use the paintings of past Kings and Queens, in the Great Gallery, to explore Scotland's and the Palace's past.

When: Saturday 1 December 2018

Time: 12:00-13:30

Price: Free

To book: <https://www.rct.uk/whatson/event/911778/Palace-of-Holyroodhouse:-BSL-tour>

Join Deaf presenter Trudi Collier for a BSL tour of our Charles II exhibition at The Queen's Gallery. The tour will explore the magnificent works of art that tell the story of Charles II's restoration to the throne.

When: Monday 11 February 2019

Time: 18:30-20:30

Price: £3.60

To book: <https://www.rct.uk/whatson/event/911774/Charles-II-Art-&-Power:-BSL-tour>

Members Event – Engaging the Parliament

Due to the popularity of the Parliament Outreach event we have secured a further date. The ALLIANCE has teamed up with the Community Outreach Team at the Scottish Parliament to offer our members an opportunity to attend an exciting learning and engagement session about how to get involved in the work of your Scottish Parliament.

The Outreach Team deliver services that both educate and engage the people of Scotland in the business of the Scottish Parliament. The key role of the Community Outreach Team is to support the work of the Parliament's seventeen committees in engaging with people in communities across Scotland. Enabling the public to share their lived experience with the committee members adds value to committee enquiries and the scrutiny of legislation.

This is your opportunity to find out more about how to get involved. Please be aware the session is not party political.

As a result of attending this session attendees will:

- Have a thorough understanding of the distinct roles of the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government.
- Learn about a range of practical ways to engage meaningfully and with impact with their MSPs, parliamentary committees and the Scottish Parliament.
- Be better placed to advise peers about how to engage with the Scottish Parliament.
- Have developed a thorough understanding of the role of the Scottish Parliament and its impact on our lives in terms of policy development and law-making.
- Be better equipped to decide which engagement route best suits them and their own issue.
- Be made aware of the range of resources and opportunities available to learn more about MSPs, the Parliament, its business, and decisions.
- Have the opportunity to ask parliamentary officials for advice on how best to take a local issue forward to gain the support of MSPs.

There are 20 spaces available at this event and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

The event will be held on Tuesday 6 November 2018 in the ALLIANCE Office, 349 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4AA from 9.45 am until 12.30 pm, followed by a networking lunch.

To register your place, please email Membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk or contact Kerry on 0141 404 0231. Please include any dietary or accessibility requirements.

Falkirk Community Trust – Ray Bradshaw – Deaf Comedy Fam

Sunday 18 November 2018, 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

New appointment vacancies

We have few new vacancies this week, details can be found below.

The Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) is looking for a new Chair

‘The Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) is the independent regulator and registrar for over 24,000 Scottish charities including community groups, religious charities, schools, universities, grant giving charities and major care providers. OSCR’s work as regulator ultimately supports public confidence in charities and their work.’

Full details: <http://bit.ly/2SjkJPG>

Public Health Scotland Chair

Scottish Ministers and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) are looking to appoint a Chair to Public Health Scotland.

‘Public Health Scotland will be a new health body, established in statute as a national Special Health Board under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978. The desired outcome is to create a more integrated, consistent system for protecting public health, driving population health improvement and tackling health inequalities. The Board will be jointly accountable to the Scottish Ministers and to COSLA.’

Full details: <http://bit.ly/2zfs0Yi>

The Care Inspectorate would like to recruit new Board Members

‘The Care Inspectorate regulates and inspects care services in Scotland to make sure that they meet the right standards. They also jointly inspect with other regulators to check how well different organisations in local areas work to support adults and children. Set up by Scottish Government, and accountable to ministers, it is their job to assure and protect everyone that uses these services. They work to make sure everyone gets safe, high quality care that meets their needs. Their 600 staff work across Scotland, inspecting thousands of services each year.’

Full details: <http://bit.ly/2O8lk3i>

The Scottish Housing Regulator are also looking to recruit new Board Members

‘The Board sets the Regulator’s strategic direction and ensures it is focuses on key priorities to meet its statutory objective. SHR is an independent regulator that reports directly to the Scottish Parliament. You will help SHR implement its new Regulatory Framework and corporate plan priorities.’

Full details: <http://bit.ly/2EOXtX5>

Children’s Hearings Scotland are looking for two members

Would you like to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people in Scotland who may be at risk?

The role of Children’s Hearings Scotland is to do just that and they are looking to recruit two non-executive Board members, one with substantial governance experience and one with personal care experience.

Further details can be found on the following links:

Care Experienced Member: <http://bit.ly/2MIEqwu>

General Governance Board Member: <http://bit.ly/2pjjnHe>

Forth Valley NHS Board are looking for two members

NHS Forth Valley is looking for two new members to join its Board. As a non-executive member of the Board, you will be expected to play a central role in guiding the strategies which address the health and social care priorities and care needs of the resident population and monitor the performance of the Board in delivering these. You will be offered the training you need to make a strong contribution.

NHS Forth Valley is responsible for meeting the health needs of around 300,000 people living in Forth Valley, and provides a comprehensive range of primary, community-based and acute hospital services for populations covering a geographic area from Killin and Tyndrum in the North and Strathblane and Bo’ness in the South.

Further details can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2xALKFN>

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:

jacquiewinning@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



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 'Planning to meet your child's wellbeing needs – Workshop aimed at families affected by deafness' – will be taking place in Edinburgh at the Edinburgh Training and Conference Venue on **Saturday 17 November 2018 from 10.00am-1.00pm**.

Details of the event can be found here: <https://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/blog/events/workshop-covering-the-getting-it-right-approach-aimed-at-people-affected-by-deafness-edinburgh/>

Keen to reach as many parents, carers and families as possible so if you could share with your networks / contacts would greatly appreciate it!

Poverty Awareness Training and the Get Heard Scotland Programme

Date: Monday 12 November 2018

Time: 9:30am – 4:00pm (Registration starts at 9:15am. Refreshment & lunch will be provided)

Venue: Children in Scotland Level 1, Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5EZ

Facilitator: Poverty Alliance

Cost: FREE (usually with a fee)

Who is this for? Management and operational staff who wish to have a better understanding of poverty issues and would like to identify ways in which they could engage more effectively with individuals and communities facing poverty and social exclusion.

Booking via eventbrite (max 2 per organisation):

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/poverty-awareness-training-and-the-get-heard-scotland-programme-tickets-51868143012?ref=estw>

The [National Third Sector GIRFEC \(NTSG\) Project](#) is pleased to offer, at no cost to participants, a training session on Monday 12th November 2018: *Poverty Awareness and the Get Heard Scotland Programme*. The training will be delivered by experienced fieldwork staff from [Poverty Alliance](#). Tackling child poverty is core to the work of the children's third sector in Scotland, through a range of approaches including family support, income maximisation and advice work, and campaigning.

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 and the government's Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2018-22 '*Every Child Every Chance*', provide national policy context for this training. As the National Third Sector GIRFEC Project, we aim to build trusted relationships across the third sector and beyond. We support children's services organisations to strengthen their collective identity and impact to help get right for every child. In sponsoring this training, we hope that it will support our children's services colleagues with up to date information on poverty in Scotland and its impacts, as well as generating ideas for action and engagement.

Following Poverty Awareness training in the morning, the afternoon session will focus on *Get Heard Scotland*, part of the government's Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan. *Get Heard Scotland* aims to engage with people living on low incomes and those working on the issues in communities, in turn allowing more direct contributions to inform the development of anti - poverty policy. In summary, it aims to find out, from the perspective of those most closely affected, about what is working, what is not and what they would like to see changed.

Poverty Alliance has a key role in *Get Heard Scotland* and in the training session they will explain this in more detail. This includes supporting participants to be able to utilise a newly-developed toolkit to engage in discussions with individuals and families around their experiences of poverty. We hope that the training will be of interest to a wide range of organisations working with children and families across Scotland.

Spaces are limited. Book early to avoid disappointment. Look forward to seeing you on 12th November.

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 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.

Please see below for details of the upcoming D/deaf and Hard of Hearing friendly event at GFT happening **Tuesday 28 November (17.55)** along with some social media copy. If you can share the info with your groups and channels that would be hugely appreciated!

Visible Cinema: RCS Curates – Widows - Tuesday 28 November (17.55)
Visible Cinema is a D/deaf and Hard of Hearing friendly film programme: a captioned or subtitled screening is followed by a post-film discussion with integrated BSL and Speech To Text Service. [Read FAQs here](#). This event is being taken over by a new cohort of artists! Join us for the first of 4 events co-programmed by GFT and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's BA Performance in BSL and English students. From Academy Award-winning director Steve McQueen (*12 Years a Slave*) and co-writer and bestselling author Gillian Flynn (*Gone Girl*) comes a blistering, modern-day thriller set against the backdrop of crime, passion and corruption. **All tickets £6.00.** <https://glasgowfilm.org/shows/visible-cinema-rcs-curates-widows-15>

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS, MOTIONS AND DEBATES



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

No details available at time of writing.

UK Government Scottish Affairs Committee **The future of working practices in Scotland Inquiry**



www.parliament.uk

No details available at time of writing.



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)

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