

Inform

Scottish Disability Equality Forum

Leading Disability Equality in Scotland

October 2014

SDEF Voice 18

We are delighted to bring to you our latest news and developments from Scottish Disability Equality Forum.

Connect with us on Twitter and Facebook, you can join in on our online topical discussions.

Don't forget alternative formats of this email newsletter can now be downloaded from our website, [click here to view](#).

If you have a story or news item you would like to share with members, then please get in touch with me by email at morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk or call 01259 272063.

Until next time,

Until next time,

SDEF Team!



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Inform

Your Say on Disability Survey

It's vital that disabled people in Scotland have a voice and the survey below gives the opportunity.

Please share this survey with your friends, colleagues and members. We have published a range of resources to tell you what the survey is about [please go to our website for further information](#).

Here is the link to the survey:

[Your Say on Disability Survey](#)

Drop-in Sessions

We now have our doors open for members to come along to our office once a month. This is an opportunity for members to drop-in, discuss and share experiences on:

- Access
- Housing
- Transport
- Employment
- Hate Crime

Our next drop-in session is Thursday 6 November.

For more details please go to our website - www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/drop-in



Join your local Access Panel!

Panels are groups of volunteers who work together to improve physical access and wider social inclusion in their local communities. There are 50 Access Panels across Scotland - around 1000 volunteers, each working with local and national bodies to address access issues and to promote the principles of Independent Living

[Find out more about how you could assist your local Access Panel.](#)

Annual Report 2014

Our 2014 Annual Report is now available and can be downloaded from our website. We held our Annual General Meeting on 24 September 2014 at the Beardmore Hotel, Glasgow. This was a great event and key staff had an opportunity to inform members about the work they are doing. A copy of presentations can also be downloaded from our website www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/what-we-do

Policy Consultations

Our members are the voice of SDEF. We regularly send out consultation documents to members.

Our recent consultation responses including Easy Read can be downloaded from our website:

- [National Care Standards](#)
- [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Bill](#)
- [Mental Health \(Scotland\) Bill](#)
- [Welfare Funds \(Scotland\) Bill](#)

There are many ways in which you can have your say:

- Email us with your comments
- Complete the questionnaire in the link above
- Call us - Tel: 01259 272063
- Send a video blog





Inform

The Great Teddy Bear Jump

12th October 2014

11am – 3pm

Sunday 12 October will witness an event of great 'daring do', when around 100 intrepid and specially trained stunt teddy bears launch themselves from the top of the Falkirk Wheel in a mass parachute jump to raise money for Falkirk Area Disability Access Panel (FADAP).

FADAP have been leading the way in making Falkirk and the surrounds a more accessible and equitable place to live, work and play for people with a disability / impairment, Established in 2012, we have grown from strength to strength and developed a series of activities and projects that help us to get out and about, socialize and meet new friends, we are always looking for new members and will be launching disability awareness week in December 2014.

This year we are also celebrating our 2nd birthday in style with the Living it up in Falkirk open day at the Falkirk Wheel. Everyone is invited to attend the event and find out what is on offer as activities and projects in the Falkirk Area.

SDEF will be there, come along to our stand!

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Toolkit for Access Panels

SDEF have developed a Toolkit for Access Panels to help the panels operate more effectively. The toolkit not only contains information about SDEF and how they support the Panels but also useful templates to help record income and expenditure effectively.

The Toolkit includes information and guidance on:

- SDEF, Independent Living and The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People (UNCRPD)
- The new Access Panel Grant Fund, how to apply for funds and why we require evidence on spending to support applications
- Templates to help record members expenses including personal mileage tracking forms, personal expenses claim forms and petty cash logs
- How to record evidence on the Expenditure Evaluation form with help on reporting and evaluation of activities
- The Access Panel Network (Facebook and Twitter) and the PanelTown website template
- A standard New Members Welcome Pack which can be customised to a Panels needs

The Toolkit was issued to all Panels in September and we aim to add to it with regular updates, information and new tools.



Inform

Benefits of SDEF Membership

As a member of SDEF you have access to:

- Quarterly issues of our newsletter [Open Door](#)
- Monthly email newsletter updates from SDEF Voice
- Opportunity to have your say with the latest Scottish Government Consultations, about issues affecting you
- Latest news and events

We would like to hear from you and what you would like from your FREE membership with SDEF. Drop Morven Brooks an email today with your suggestions and comments and we will work hard in improving our membership service.

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