

Inform

# Scottish Disability Equality Forum

## Leading Disability Equality in Scotland

September 2015

### SDEF Voice 27

We are delighted to bring you our latest email newsletter packed with updates from Scottish Disability Equality Forum (SDEF).

September is a busy month for staff at SDEF. We recently held a very successful and engaging Disability Roadshow in Dundee. We carried out a consultation on the latest Scottish Government's Draft Delivery Plan. Read on for more information about the delivery plan. We also have our 2015 Annual General Meeting coming up on the 24 September at the Beardmore Hotel in Clydebank. If you would like to attend it is not too late to register, further details below.

Don't forget, you can share this newsletter with friends, family and colleagues.

Best Wishes

SDEF Team!

Psssst! This newsletter is available in alternative formats from <http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-newsletter/sdef-voice>



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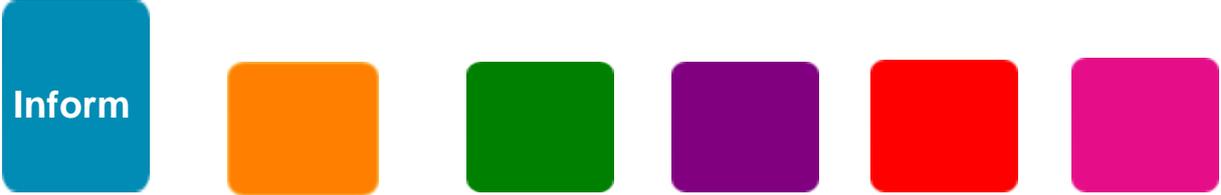
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T: 01259 272064 E: [info@sdef.org.uk](mailto:info@sdef.org.uk) W: [www.sdef.org.uk](http://www.sdef.org.uk)  
Office 1/7, The e-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa, FK10 3LP





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## **Annual General Meeting - final opportunity to register!**

Our Annual General Meeting will be on Thursday 24 September 2015 at The Beardmore Hotel in Clydebank.

Papers and registration forms have been sent to all members at the end of July.

If you haven't registered to attend yet, it's not too late. Please email [Maeve Bain](mailto:maeve.bain@sdef.org.uk) [maeve.bain@sdef.org.uk](mailto:maeve.bain@sdef.org.uk) T: 01259 272064

### **Emails from us!**

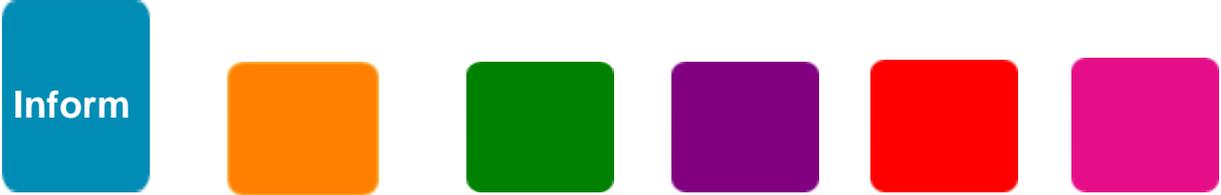
Our preferred method of communication is email, and this is for the following reasons:

- We can communicate more for less cost
- We can send you information in the format you require, for example, plain text, audio, word doc or PDF
- We can make sure our communication is timely and that you our members are the first to know

However, if you do prefer communication by post, please let us know and we will happily do this for you.

It has recently come to our attention that maybe not all members are receiving our emails. We do prefer to send emails with attached documents in various formats through Outlook. We also send our monthly newsletter through an online tool called 'Mailchimp' (this is how this e-newsletter is sent to you).





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## **Add Our Address to Your Email Safe Senders List, Address Book or Contact List**

Emails can be blocked and you may be unable to read certain email communications even if you have subscribed to receive them.

To avoid this, please add our email addresses to your Safe Senders List We've put together a list of the email addresses we send from.

<mailto:info@sdef.org.uk>

<mailto:morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk>

<mailto:vicky.innes@sdef.org.uk>

<mailto:susan.grasekamp@sdef.org.uk>

<mailto:katrina.watson@sdef.org.uk>

<mailto:bill.logan@sdef.org.uk>

<mailto:maeve.bain@sdef.org.uk>

The following website provides instructions on how to add email addresses to your safe senders list.

[http://help.verticalresponse.com/how-to/tutorial/add\\_our\\_address\\_to\\_your\\_safe\\_sender\\_list/](http://help.verticalresponse.com/how-to/tutorial/add_our_address_to_your_safe_sender_list/)

If you require any support please contact Morven T: 01259 272063 and she will be more than happy to help you.

### **Information explosion**

Disability information pop up event

Venue: Eden Court Theatre, Bishop's Road, Inverness, IV3 5SA

Date: Wednesday 28 October 2015

Time: 1:00pm to 4:30pm

T: 01259 272064 E: [info@sdef.org.uk](mailto:info@sdef.org.uk) W: [www.sdef.org.uk](http://www.sdef.org.uk)  
Office 1/7, The e-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa, FK10 3LP



## Event description

The Scottish Accessible Information Forum (SAIF) and Disability Information Scotland would like to invite you to lunch and an informal afternoon of:

- Discovering more about accessible information and why it's important.
- Networking with others to share ideas and experiences about information and how it's provided.
- Learning about the support available from SAIF and Disability Information Scotland.
- Exploring stalls and information available from a range of organisations.

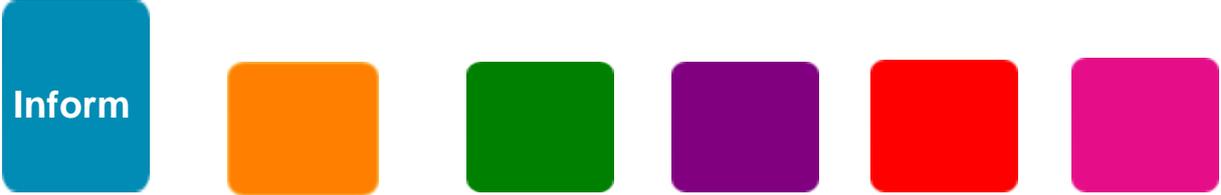
## Who should attend?

- Anyone interested in finding out more about accessible information.
- Anyone whose work involves raising awareness and understanding of the information needs of the people they support.
- Anyone interested in networking with other organisations, particularly if you are working in, or would like to develop work in, the field of disability.

## How can I register for this event?

To register for this event, complete the online registration form or email <mailto:mairi.whannel@scvo.org.uk> or telephone 0141 559 5021.

If you would like to host a stall please indicate this on your registration and we will get in touch with you.



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## National Rail Passenger Survey Consultation

Transport Focus proposes to make changes to the National Rail Passenger Survey (NRPS) over the next two to three years. Details on NRPS, the consultation and the reason for the changes can be found in the main Consultation Document.

The consultation documents can be downloaded from Transport Focus website - <http://www.transportfocus.org.uk/research/national-passenger-survey-introduction/national-rail-passenger-survey-consultation>

The survey can be completed here - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRPSconsultation>

## Creating a Fairer Scotland: Employability Consultation Event

Scottish Consortium for Learning Disability (SCLD) invites you to: a free half day employability consultation event

Date: Tuesday 29th September 2015

Time: 1pm - 4.30pm

Venue: Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Services, The Gateway, North Methven Street, Perth, PH1 5PP

Date: Wednesday 30th September 2015

Time: 1pm - 4.30pm

Venue: Scottish Trade Union Congress Conference Centre, 333 Woodlands Road, Glasgow, G3 6NG

SCLD is holding these half day consultation events to hear from people with learning disabilities, their families and carers about their experience of employment support. Your views will help us respond to the Scottish Government's consultation on the future of employability services in Scotland. On the day, our key discussions will be:

T: 01259 272064 E: [info@sdef.org.uk](mailto:info@sdef.org.uk) W: [www.sdef.org.uk](http://www.sdef.org.uk)  
Office 1/7, The e-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa, FK10 3LP



- What support works best and what doesn't?
- What's the current offer for people with learning disabilities, is it appropriate?
- How we can make sure employability support is meeting the needs of people with a learning disability and what adjustments need to be made?
- What should assessments look like, and how should the information be shared with other services?
- What are the biggest barriers that people with learning disabilities face getting a job?
- Do wage incentives work?
- Do sanctions work?

There is no fee to attend this event, however places are limited so early booking is advised. Priority will be given to people with learning disabilities, their families and carers.

For more information and / or to book a place, please contact Megan at: [megan.d@sclد.co.uk](mailto:megan.d@sclد.co.uk) or alternatively use our online booking form:

<http://www.sclد.org.uk/training-events/training-booking-form/>

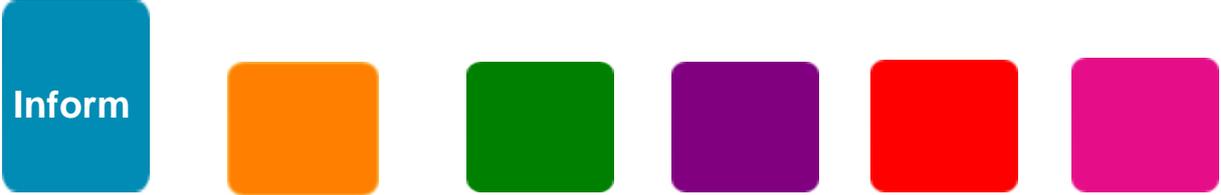
## **Independent Living Scotland**

Independent Living Scotland, which will take place in Hall 3 of Glasgow's SECC on the 7 and 8 October, will bring together people with disabilities, their families and carers along with healthcare professionals to test and compare the latest products on the market, network, gain advice on what is new and identify which product is best suited for each individual need.

Admittance is free of charge for all visitors providing they have registered their details in advance at

<http://www.independentlivingscotland.org>





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## ScotRail Passenger Assistance

Requests for assistance can be made by calling ScotRail Assisted Travel before you travel.

Assisted Travel Helpline: 0800 912 2901

Textphone (for the hard of hearing): 18001 0800 912 2901

You can:

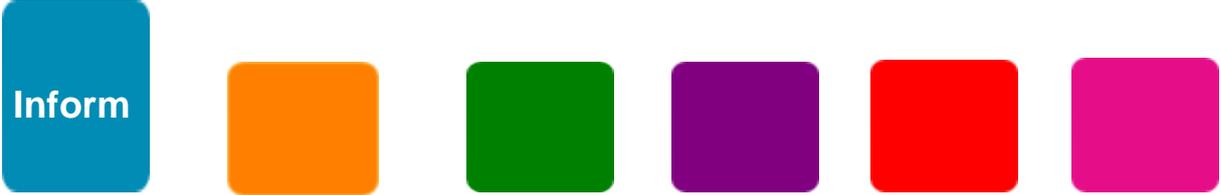
- arrange assistance to board / alight the train
- reserve seats / dedicated wheelchair space
- arrange onward travel / connecting services
- arrange alternative transport
- purchase travel tickets
- check train times
- check accessibility at stations / facilities on-board trains

Further information is available from - <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/accessible-travel>

## Participants needed for new research on disability disclosure!

Lead Scotland are carrying out research on behalf of Skills Development Scotland to find out why disabled people doing a Modern Apprenticeship are not always disclosing they are disabled.

A recent report from Skills Development Scotland found that there was a much lower number of people currently doing a Modern Apprenticeship who had disclosed as being disabled than expected.



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If you are currently doing a Modern Apprenticeship and would like to help with Lead Scotland's research then please go to this short survey which will take no longer than ten minutes to complete.

If you are not currently doing a Modern Apprenticeship but would like to contribute to the research by answering some questions about disability disclosure then please go to this short survey which will take about five minutes to complete

Survey Link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/lead\\_SDS\\_potential](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/lead_SDS_potential)

## Policy Consultations

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

Current consultations:

- 2015 UNCRPD Consultations by Scottish Government and CoSLA
- Health Facilities Scotland
- Scottish Ambulance Service

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

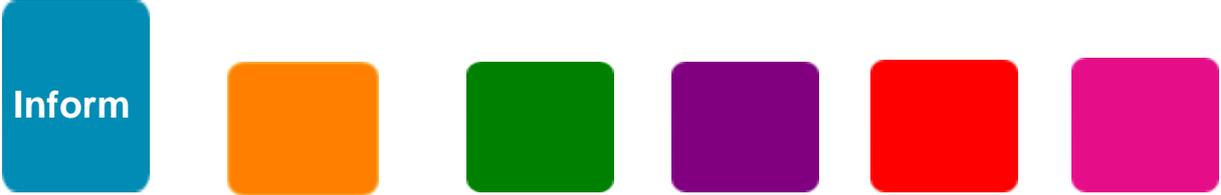
E: <mailto:morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk>

T: 01259 272063

Post to: Office 1/7, The e-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa FK10 3LP

Complete the questionnaire in the links above

If you require a paper copy, please request this and we can send a copy to you.



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## **Guide Dogs Scotland End problem pavement parking!**

The Scottish Parliament is currently looking at Sandra White MSP's Footway Parking and Double Parking (Scotland) Bill. Guide Dogs Scotland have created an on-line petition which gives you an opportunity to tell the Parliament why you support the bill and your experiences of pavement parking and how it affects you.

The Local Government and Regeneration Committee, which is considering the Bill, is calling for evidence by 6 November, so our petition will be presented to them before then as part of our contribution.

We would encourage you, your friends and family to sign the petition and share your stories of pavement parking. This link <http://bit.ly/1Yc47qT> will take you to the page on the Guide Dogs Scotland website.

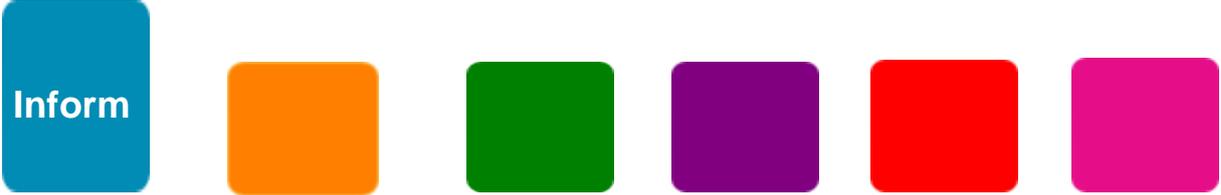
## **2015 UNCRPD Consultations by Scottish Government and CoSLA**

The Scottish Government and CoSLA (the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities which represents many of Scotland's local councils) launched consultations on their plans for action on the United Nations Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

They want you to tell them what you think of their plans. These plans set out what actions they will take to ensure that disabled people enjoy their human rights under the UNCRPD. They launched their plans for consultation on 8 September 2015.

Easy Read versions and alternative formats of the delivery plans can be downloaded from below:





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## COSLA Delivery Plan:

- COSLA Delivery Plan Word:  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/consultations/323-cosla-delivery-plan-word>
- COSLA Delivery Plan Plain Text:  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/consultations/322-cosla-delivery-plan-plain-text>
- COSLA Delivery Plan Audio:  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/consultations/324-cosla-delivery-plan-audio>

## Scottish Government's Draft Delivery Plan

- Draft Delivery Plan Word <http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/consultations/325-scottish-governments-draft-delivery-plan-word>
- Draft Delivery Plan Plain Text  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/consultations/326-scottish-governments-draft-delivery-plan-plain-text>
- Draft Delivery Plan Audio <http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/consultations/327-scottish-governments-draft-delivery-plan-audio>

You can submit your responses back to SDEF:

E: <mailto:morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk>

T: 01259 272063

Post: Office 1/7, The e-Centre, Cooperage Way, Alloa FK10 3LP

You can also download the full consultations from:

- Scottish Government (consultation ends 4 January, 2016): <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/09/6979>

T: 01259 272064 E: [info@sdef.org.uk](mailto:info@sdef.org.uk) W: [www.sdef.org.uk](http://www.sdef.org.uk)  
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- CoSLA (consultation ends 8 November, 2015):  
<http://www.cosla.gov.uk/news/2015/09/sg-and-cosla-launch-disability-plans-consultation>

Independent Living in Scotland (ILiS) has produced a resource pack for disabled people, their organisations and others to help them respond to the consultations. It will be useful for organisations who want to stage engagement events with their disabled people members. You will find lots of background information about the UNCRPD and about what disabled people say Scottish Government and CoSLA need to do to make our rights the reality.

The Resource Pack can be downloaded from: <http://www.ilis.co.uk/get-active/2015-uncrpd-consultations-by-scottish-government-and-cosla>

## Drop-in Sessions

Come along to our monthly drop-in sessions. This is an opportunity for disabled people to pop in for a chat and find out more about:

- Access
- Housing
- Transport
- Employment
- Hate Crime
- and much more...

This is also an opportunity for you to tell us your views on any matters relating to disability.

To find out when our drop-in sessions are open, go along to our website - [www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/drop-in](http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/drop-in)



## Bill's Blog

Bill Logan our Disability Access Officer is writing regular blogs on the work he doing, read his latest blog here -

<http://accesspanelnetwork.org.uk/category/bill/>

There are a number of ways to keep connected with the Access Panel Network:

- Go to Access Panel Network website
- Follow the Access Panel Network on Twitter @AccessPanelNet
- Like the Access Panel Network on Facebook AccessPanelNetwork
- Join your local Access Panel

<http://accesspanelnetwork.org.uk/directory-panels/>

## Disability Equality Internship Opportunities

SCVO is working in partnership with Inclusion Scotland and Scottish Disability Equality Forum to create paid Internships within third sector organisations for disabled graduates.

All Disability Equality Internship opportunities are open to graduates who:-

- define as disabled under the Equality Act 2010 which defines disability as: someone who has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities
- are unemployed or under employed
- are aged 18 +
- hold an HND (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 8) or above

Latest vacancies can be viewed from

<http://www.scvo.net/Home/EQJOBS.aspx>

## Benefits for SDEF Members

We are working hard to improve the membership you receive from SDEF. As a result we have secured benefits just for SDEF Members:

- 5% Discount on product sales from Albion Mobility  
[www.albionmobility.co.uk](http://www.albionmobility.co.uk)
- 10% Discount on printing from CGL Printers  
<http://www.cg-ltd.co.uk/>

As a member you also receive:

- Quarterly Magazine 'Open Door'
- Monthly e-bulletin 'SDEF Voice'
- Opportunity to have your voice heard with policy consultations
- Invitation to member events

Watch this space for future benefits to come in 2015...

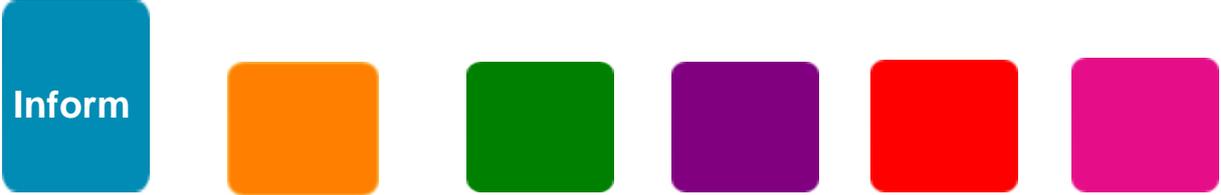
## Your Membership Matters

Below is a reminder of what we offer our members.

Please contact us if you would like to find out more.

## Support and Signposting

We answer many member enquiries and signpost them to the appropriate organisation, individual or information source.



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## **Networking Opportunities**

We make introductions to key decision makers and contacts and make sure members have frequent opportunities to meet and network with relevant audiences. We help members make the right connections.

## **Your views, experiences and expertise**

All our policy is formulated directly from our member's views, experiences and expertise. We believe that our members are the experts.

We respond to all relevant Scottish Government, parliamentary, think tank and other consultations.

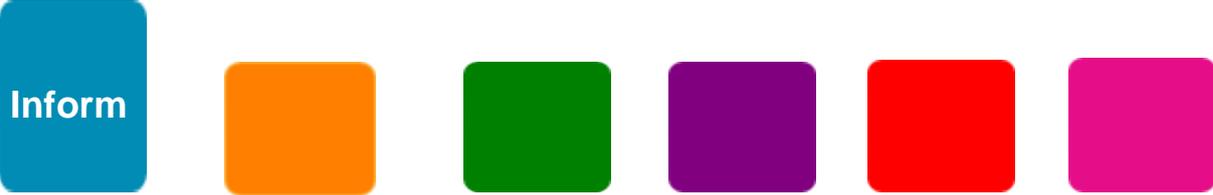
We regularly ask our members for their views on many diverse policy issues – which then directly feeds in to our policy work and government consultation responses.

## **Annual General Meeting**

Our AGM is an opportunity for members to participate in the governance and representation of SDEF. Members will be offered the opportunity to attend members meetings, and where eligible, vote in elections and to stand as candidates themselves. Support will be offered to members to enable them to fulfill their democratic responsibilities.

Currently only Full and Associate members have voting rights.





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An AGM will cover:

- A report to members on the activities of SDEF over the past year
- Provide an opportunity to discuss issues arising from the report
- Endorsement of the annual report and accounts
- Reporting to members the results of the election of the board
  
- The appointment of the auditors for the following year
- Approval of the previous year's minutes of the AGM
- Suggested areas of SDEF work from members

We also use the AGM as an opportunity to inform members about the work that SDEF is doing from key staff members.

### Information Leaflets

We provide information leaflets on the projects we are working on. You will receive a copy of our leaflets in your Members Welcome Pack. If you require any additional copies, please call the office to request this or alternatively they can be downloaded from our website. See <http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/information-leaflets>

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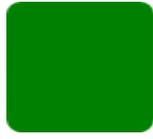
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