



Inform

# Scottish Disability Equality Forum

## Leading Disability Equality in Scotland

November 2015

### SDEF Voice 28

We are delighted to bring you our latest email newsletter packed with information we think you will be interested in.

We recently held our latest Disability Roadshow in Edinburgh. What a fantastic turnout, thank you to those who attended. Discussions were on the current Scottish Government's Draft Delivery Plan. We are currently collating all the feedback and this report will be available towards the end of January 2016.

Our Communications Manager is working on our next issue of Open Door. If you have a story or article you would like submitted, please contact Morven on T: 01259 272063 or E: [morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk](mailto:morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk)

Don't forget to 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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## Thank You!

We held our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Glasgow on 24 September 2015.

We would like to thank all members who attended and supported SDEF on the recent approval of our Articles of Association.

There are great changes on the way for SDEF, and more importantly disabled people in Scotland. The changes mean:

### One Member, One Vote

- 100% of members can vote
- More representative of disabled people's views and wishes in Scotland

### Membership

Change of Membership Categories:

- Individual
- Access Panels (previously as Full Members)
- Corporate (previously Associate)

All will have full voting rights, with one vote per individual/panel or organisation

## Access Panel Directors

- Strengthening support to panels through removal of Access Panel Director Tier
- Board-wide accountability for Access Panels
- Better route to practical support
- Disability Access Officer is the main point of contact and will raise Access Panel issues to the full Board
- Progress reports will be made available to panels for shared information and learning

## Board Members

Minimum of six Directors on the Board

- Quorum will remain as four members

Maximum of eleven Directors

- Space for co-opted Directors
- Broader skill set and expertise

## Disability Roadshows

We held our latest roadshow event in Edinburgh on 11 November 2015. This was a very well attended event. We discussed the Scottish Governments' Draft Delivery Plan. A full consultation report will be produced soon and will be sent to all members.

We have the following events coming up:

- Aberdeen, December (Date and Venue TBC)
- Stirling, 27 January 2016, Mayfield Centre
- Dumfries, 9 March 2016, North West Resource Centre

Booking will open shortly for these events.

## New Inclusive Design Website

James Davidson our Online Research and Development Intern has started a 6 month internship with the Scottish Disability Equality Forum. James' internship involves researching and producing content for a new Inclusive Design Website. The website aims to improve awareness and implementation of best practice in accessible design for planners, architects, and other building professionals.

There will be two core elements to the website:

- The first element will focus on providing links to existing European and Scottish Building Standards, regulations, policies and legislation. However, existing standards and regulations often only deliver the bare minimum when it comes to creating an inclusive environment.
- Therefore, the second element is to create a resource that will promote best practice in accessible design; this resource will consist of:
  - Articles that highlight best practice both nationally and internationally.



- Case studies that provide examples of best practice (e.g. housing, public and commercial buildings, tourist attractions, Commonwealth Games venues).
- Interviews with professionals who have a track record of implementing best practice. The interviews will be recorded and published to the website as a podcast.

To ensure the website reaches its maximum potential, it is vital to gain input from as many people as possible. If you have any suggestions on the content that you would like to be published on the website, please contact James. This may relate to an idea you have for a case study or if you would be interested in being interviewed for a podcast.

All comments and suggestions are greatly appreciated!

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Online Research and Development Intern  
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Mobile: 07535 245323  
Email: [james.davidson@sdef.org.uk](mailto:james.davidson@sdef.org.uk)

## Getting to know GIRFEC BSL Series

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (The ALLIANCE) Getting To Know GIRFEC Project in partnership with Scottish Council on Deafness (SCoD), Solar Bear Limited, Facilat-46 (Fac46) and Scottish Government last week launched a unique five part film series aims to explain Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) and what it means for children and young people in Scotland.



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Using British Sign Language (BSL) as the primary language with speech overlay and subtitles, this project aims to be accessible to as many children, young people and their families / carers as possible throughout Scotland.

The five parts are:

1. Overview of GIRFEC
2. Wellbeing as defined by the Scottish Government in the Children and Young People Act 2014
3. The Named Person
4. The Lead Professional
5. The Child's Plan

It can be accessible on The ALLIANCE's GIRFEC page, see link below:

<http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/getting-to-know-girfec-film-series/>

Or on DVD, should anyone like a copy / copies, please visit SCoD to collect them or get in touch with Derek Todd by email:

[derek@scod.org.uk](mailto:derek@scod.org.uk)

About Getting To Know GIRFEC Project:

<http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/children-and-young-people/getting-to-know-girfec/>

## Consultation Responses

Thank you to members who have taken the time to submit their comments to recent consultations. Your comments strengthen the voice of disabled people in Scotland.

We have now uploaded our recent consultation responses to our website; you can download by clicking on the links below:

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



- Footway Parking and Double Parking (Scotland) Bill  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/consultations/consultation-responses/377-footway-parking-and-double-parking-scotland-bill>
- Equality Act 2010 and Disability  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/consultations/consultation-responses/375-equality-act-2010-and-disability>
- The Future Delivery of Social Security in Scotland  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/consultations/consultation-responses/374-the-future-delivery-of-social-security-in-scotland>

## Disability Confident promotional materials

If you are an organisation or know an organisation which employs disabled people, the following promotional materials may be of interest.

The Department of Work and Pensions have launched promotional materials for organisations to use so they can highlight that they employ disabled people.

The information can be downloaded from

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-disability-confident-campaign>

## What Matters to You?

The Scottish Government is inviting you to have your say on what a healthier Scotland should look like in the next 10 to 15 years and the steps that could be taken to make this vision a reality.

From August 2015 to early 2016 the Scottish Government will be holding a national conversation on improving the health of the population and the future of health and social care services in Scotland.

As part of the national conversation about the future of health and care services in Scotland (Creating a Healthier Scotland – What matters to you) Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) is delighted to announce the launch of the Scottish Government's new Healthier Scotland Engagement Fund.

Grants of up to £500 (or exceptionally up to £1,000) are available to support an event or engagement activity with a group of five or more people. The event or activity should gather the participants' thoughts about how we can create a healthier Scotland.

Applications should be received by VAF by 5pm on Friday 11 December 2015.

You can join the conversation in a number of ways:

- Add a post or comment by clicking on this link here <http://healthier.scot/?replytocom=156#respond>
- Follow the conversation on Twitter @scotgovhealth Please use the twitter hashtag #healthierscotland in your tweets!
- Like and join the conversation on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/healthier.scot>
- You can email your ideas at [healthier@gov.scot](mailto:healthier@gov.scot)





## 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 <http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/2015-uncrpd-consultations-by-scottish-government-and-cosla>
- Health Facilities Scotland  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/consultations/358-health-facilities-scotland-consultation>
- Scottish Ambulance Service  
<http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/consultations/337-scottish-ambulance-service>

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

- E: [morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk](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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## Do you want to improve access in your community

### Volunteer with your local Access Panel today!

Access Panels are groups of volunteers who work together to improve physical access and wider social inclusion in their local communities. Panels are made up of disabled people, those affected by disability as well as non disabled people. You can contribute to the great work already being done to make changes to how we all access buildings and services where you live.

To find out more you can search for your nearest Access Panel by going to the Access Panel Network Scotland website -

<http://accesspanelnetwork.org.uk/directory-panels/> or contact Katrina Watson, Access Coordinator at Scottish Disability Equality Forum T: 01259 272062 or E: [katrina.watson@sdef.org.uk](mailto:katrina.watson@sdef.org.uk)

## FREE EVENT - What to do with care charging

Scotland Against the Care Tax (SACT) are organising an event for disabled people about care charging.

Siobhan McMahon MSP has launched a consultation on abolishing care charging. Siobhan would like the Scottish Parliament to pass a new law so that everyone gets social care without having to pay.

SACT are organising this event so that you can hear more about this consultation and answers questions about care charging.

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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At the event we will:

- Inform you about care charging and how it works just now
- Hear your ideas about care charging and how things should change
- Make notes about what people think so that we can prepare a report about what people think

You can book online here <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/what-to-do-with-care-charging-tickets-19385054219>

If you prefer to book by phone please call 0141 212 3395

#### **WHEN**

Wednesday, December 2, 2015 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

#### **WHERE**

The Melting Pot - 5 Rose Street Edinburgh, Scotland EH2 2PR GB

## **Inclusive Communication Hub - What do you think?**

The Scottish Accessible Information Forum (SAIF) and the Scottish Disability Equality Forum (SDEF) have formed a Steering Group to develop an Inclusive Communication Hub for Scotland.

The Inclusive Communication Hub will be the first of its' kind for Scotland. To find out more about the purpose of the Hub go to our Inclusive Communication Hub page

<http://www.saifscotland.org.uk/inclusive-communication-hub/#sthash.SLdl3mED.8udPP5Jt.dpbs>

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The Steering Group have produced a survey to find out your views on the Hub. The survey is available here -

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B9KRG5>

Please take 15 minutes to answer our questions.

## 2015 UNCRPD Consultations by Scottish Government

The Scottish Government currently has a consultation 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 plan. This draft plan sets out what actions they will take to ensure that disabled people enjoy their human rights under the UNCRPD.

### Scottish Government's Draft Delivery Plan

- Draft Delivery Plan Easy Read Word
- Draft Delivery Plan Easy Read Plain Text
- Draft Delivery Plan Easy Read Audio
- Draft Delivery Plan Easy Read PDF

You can submit your response back to SDEF:

- E: [morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk](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 consultation 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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Independent Living in Scotland (ILiS) has produced a resource pack for disabled people, their organisations and others to help them respond to the consultation. 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.sdef.org.uk/index.php/employability#current>

## 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.

## 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.

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





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- 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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