

# **Cross Party Group on Deafness**

**AGM Wednesday 6 September 2023 at 6pm to 6.15pm.**

Via Zoom (an online video conferencing platform)

## **Minutes - Present**

### **MSPs**

Convenor – Colin Beattie MSP (Scottish National Party)

Karen Adams MSP (Scottish National Party)

Douglas Lumsden MSP (Conservative)

### **Invited guests**

Kirsten Abioye – Lived Experience Family Member

Hannah Tweed – The ALLIANCE

Amanda McNamara – Teacher of the Deaf

Douglas Lyons – Colin Beattie MSP staff member

### **Non-MSP Group Members**

Secretariat – Janis McDonald (the ALLIANCE)

Assistant Secretariat – Amy White (The ALLIANCE)

AVUK – Anita Grover

Association of Teachers of Lipreading to Adults Scotland (ATLA Scotland) – Jill Bradshaw

British Deaf Association Scotland (BDA Scotland) – Avril Hepner

Deafblind Scotland (DbS) – Jonathan Reid

Forth Valley Sensory Centre – Jacquie Winning

National Deaf Children's Society Scotland (NDCS Scotland) – Mark Ballard

Edinburgh University – Prof John Ravenscroft

North East Sensory Services (NESS) – Adam Hillhouse

Queen Margaret University (QMU) – Rachel Mapson

Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) – Teri Devine

Scottish Register of Language Professionals with the Deaf Community (SRLPDC) – Leona Glennie

BATOD - Teresa Quail

Sensory Impaired Support Group Ayrshire (SISG Ayrshire) – Denise McClung

West Scotland Deaf Children's Society (WSDCS) – Charlene Dolan

Highland/Caithness Sensory Services/Hearing and Sight Care – Deirdre Aitken

EIS – Julie Ferguson

RCSLT – Brogan Ferguson

Dumfries and Galloway Hard of Hearing Group – Sian Bertram

Sense Scotland – Joanne O'Donnell

## **Individuals**

Donald Richards

## **Language Service Professionals**

BSL / English Interpreter – Bruce Cameron

Electronic Notetaker – Carol McGuire

Electronic Notetaker – Melanie Coulter

## **APOLOGIES**

### **MSPs**

Roz McCall MSP

Annabelle Ewing MSP

Mark Griffen MSP

## **Invited guests**

### **Non-MSP Group Members**

Heads of Service, Audiology – Linda Sharkey

BATOD – Cathie Finestone

Paediatric Audiology – Jim Harrigan

Hearing Link – Nicholas Orpin

Gary Quinn – Heriot Watt University

Dumfries and Galloway Hard of Hearing Group

Association of Sign Language Interpreters Scotland (ASLI Scotland) –

Tessa Slaughter

Deaf Equality and Accessibility Forum South Lanarkshire (D.E.A.F.

South Lanarkshire) – Enrique Canton

Deaf Links – Alana Harper

Deaf Action – Philip Gerrard

Donaldson's – Kath Cooper

Deaf Links – Alana Harper

NHS Highland Deaf Services – Amanda Wilson

Disability Equality Scotland – Douglas Bryce

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists Scotland (RCSLT Scotland) – Glenn Carter

## **Agenda Item 1**

Welcome and Introductions.

The Convenor, Colin Beattie MSP, opened the meeting and reminded everyone to say who they were prior to speaking. He noted the AGM would be immediately followed by a general meeting.

Attendance and Apologies.

Apologies were noted and listed in this record.

## **Agenda Item 2**

Minute of 2022 meeting agreed.

## **Agenda Item 3**

Convenors Report

Colin Beattie MSP briefly outlined the work of the group picking up momentum through working group activity.

He noted work was progressing with the Definition of Deafblindness and the group was working towards officially launching an agreed declaration in June 2024. In the meantime, work is underway to bring the draft for agreement to the scheduled December meeting of this group.

The second working group is focussing on attainment and education of deaf children through recognition and improvements within specialist teaching for deaf children. Both groups have terms of reference agreed and membership relevant to progress the topics.

Looking forward we see the need to focus on dementia and the impact of dual sensory loss and plan to set up a third and final working group for the moment.

He felt the focus on fewer topics, in more depth, was proving successful and thanked all those involved in the CPGD for their contributions.

Finally, he noted the National Audiology Review Report had recently been released and would be on the agenda at the general meeting.

He then moved to the Election of Office Bearer's and asked Karen Adams MSP to chair that section of the AGM.

## **Agenda Item 4**

Election of Office Bearers. It was agreed:

Convenor: Colin Beattie MSP - proposed by Mark Griffen MSP via Janis and seconded by Karen Adams MSP.

Vice Convenor: Roz McCall MSP – proposed by Colin Beattie MSP and seconded by Karen Adams MSP.

Secretariat: Janis McDonald, The ALLIANCE. Proposed by Colin Beattie MSP and seconded by Karen Adams MSP.

The Convenor noted it was feasible to have more than one Vice Convenor and it was agreed the Secretariat work to attract new MSPs to the group over the next year.

## **Agenda Item 5**

It was noted the communication support was provided by the ALLIANCE to the value of £1500 and the CPG on Deafness had no other monies.

## **Agenda Item 6**

Date of next AGM to be confirmed – likely September 2024.

The Convenor closed the meeting to move on to the general meeting.

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