

Inform

# Scottish Disability Equality Forum

Leading Disability Equality in Scotland

August 2014

## SDEF Voice 16

Dear Member

Welcome to Issue 16 of SDEF Voice.

In this issue we are sharing with you the latest news from SDEF, as well as some other news we think you will find of interest.

Don't forget to connect with us on Twitter and Facebook, you can join in on our online topical discussions.

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 us by email at [morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk](mailto:morven.brooks@sdef.org.uk) or call 01259 272063.



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## Have Your Say on Disability - National Survey

Our national survey is still running and we need as many disabled people in Scotland as possible to feed into our survey. We feel it is important that disabled people have a voice and our survey gives the opportunity to do this.

As a member with SDEF, please help us share this survey with your friends, colleagues and members. We have published a range of resources to help you do this, please go to our website for further information.

If you haven't already done so, please complete the survey by clicking on the link below:

[Have Your Say on Disability Survey](#)

## Disability Roadshows

We are currently travelling throughout Scotland delivering our Disability Roadshow. We have received fantastic reviews so far. The aim of the events is to reach disabled people who may not necessarily engage on policy issues which affect them, but would like to know how to have their voice heard.

We are planning future dates, so watch this space for a roadshow near you.

## bespoken

bespoken provides an information, product testing, review and advice service for disabled people and their families, care professionals and equipment manufacturers. This is a free online community forum and is lead by its members.

Register for free at [www.bespoken.me](http://www.bespoken.me)



## Scottish Disability Directory

The Scottish Disability Directory provides access to information on thousands of disability organisations and support groups, both local and national.

Access to the directory is free and available to all: disabled people, carers, professionals, disability organisations and anyone with an interest in disability issues.

[www.update.org.uk/key.php](http://www.update.org.uk/key.php)

## Policy Consultations

We feel it is important that our members are the voice of SDEF. We regularly send out consultation documents to our members to respond to.

The following consultations are currently live and we would appreciate our members opinions.

We work hard to ensure this information is accessible to you. Each document is available in Word, PDF, Text and Audio and these are uploaded to our website. If you require a hard copy of any of our consultations, please contact Morven and she will be happy to send this to you.

- [The Welfare Funds \(Scotland\) Bill](#)
  - Closing Date 17 August 2014
- [Mental Health \(Scotland\) Bill](#)
  - Closing Date 17 August 2014
- [Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Bill](#)
  - Closing Date 24 August 2014
- [National Care Standards](#)
  - Closing Date 7 September 2014
- [The Scottish Independence Bill](#)
  - Closing Date 28 September 2014





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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

## **SDEF urge all Local Authorities to make streets accessible and inclusive for disabled people**

A recent report published by Living Streets states that most Local Authorities in Scotland have not made any apparent link between their equality duties and their policies with respect to public spaces.

[Go to our website to read full Press Release](#)

## **Equality Internship Programme to promote a Changing Places toilet in your town!**

SDEF and Inclusion Scotland have received funding to create employment opportunities for disabled graduates in Scotland. If you think that your community would benefit from a Changing Places toilet (and of course it would!) get in touch with us Tel: 01259 272063 or email: [info@sdef.org.uk](mailto:info@sdef.org.uk) we can help you with your application to fund an intern to work on installing a Changing Places toilet in your area.

[For more information about Changing Places Toilets go to Pamis website.](#)



## Your passport to a smooth journey

The Equality Human Rights Commission (EHRC) have produced a top tips document for disabled and less mobile air passengers.

[The document can be downloaded from EHRC website](#)

## Commonwealth Games

We would like to hear from any of our members who were involved in the recent Commonwealth Games. We would love to keep the momentum going and share your fantastic stories.

Our Convenor, Jackie Maceira and Intern Support and Development Officer, Adam Nosal were both Team Leaders for the Games.

Adam says "What an incredible time and an experience I will always remember. For the whole two weeks Glasgow had an open door and welcomed the world to join them. It's amazing to see what people are capable of when they all work together towards something great. Long may the happiness continue."

## 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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