



Second Quarter Summary of Deaf Sector Partnership work – October to December 2016

Total Grant for DSP: £450,000

Outcomes:

1. To support the development of the BSL National Advisory Group (the NAG):
 - NAG 4 meeting took place on 1st November 2016. Feeders NAGs on hold at the present time as the NAG develops the draft BSL National Plan for consultation
 - Working together to ensure the BSL National Plan and the consultation is fully accessible and easy to understand.
 - Joint working has successfully increased during this quarter

2. To support people whose first or preferred language is BSL (including Deaf BSL users, Deafblind BSL users, Deaf/Deafblind people from equality and diversity groups whose first or preferred language is BSL, and people with additional language/support needs whose first or preferred language is BSL) to be as involved as they want to be in the development of the first BSL National Plan:
 - Increased engagement across Scotland with Deaf and Deafblind people with protected characteristics at deaf clubs and deaf groups.
 - Increased contact and engagement with local deaf organisations.
 - Continued development of online resources including social media.
 - Increased engagement specifically with young deaf people, who are growing in confidence in their involvement in both the YNAG and the BSL NAG. The YNAG won an award at the SCoD Star Awards in November.

3. To support public bodies to be more inclusive of people whose first or preferred language is BSL and to support them to meet their duties under the BSL (Scotland) Act:
 - Awareness raising of the BSL National Plan, DSP and the BSL (Scotland) Act with public bodies across Scotland
 - THE DSP Training Programme is ongoing.

Successes

The NAG continues to work on the draft BSL National Plan supported by the DSP.

The work of the DSP was featured in the See Hear Programme on the BSL (Scotland) Act.

Challenges

Reaching Deafblind people who are not members of Deafblind Scotland and who are not necessarily in contact with local deaf organisations, for example, people with Usher's.

Ensuring all people whose first or preferred language is BSL will be involved in the consultation on the draft BSL National Plan – the preparation has started.

Making sure all the information produced by the BSL NAG is accessible for young deaf people and Deafblind people.

Ensuring the NAG representatives are not over-burdened by extra work and remembering they have “other lives” too.

Ensuring the flow of information across the partnership and with communities and key stakeholders

This has improved with most of the information across the partnership going through the DSP Co-ordinator. Messages are more consistent and the website and social media is in constant use.

What will we do next?

The next two quarters will be spent planning and then engaging in the consultation process for the first BSL National Plan and looking at what will happen from July 2017 onwards.

09/02/17