

Monday 16 November 2009

Hilton Edinburgh Airport Hotel
Edinburgh International Airport, Edinburgh
United Kingdom EH28 8LL



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Access to Justice

Improving justice for disabled people



CROWN OFFICE AND
PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE



www.capability-scotland.org.uk

Programme

09.30-10.00

Registration

10.00-10.10

Introduction to the JDSG
its aims and its work,
Neil Stevenson

10.10-10.30

Keynote speech,
Kenny MacAskill MSP

10.30-10.50

Introduction to the project
and aims of the conference,
Richard Hamer

10.50-11.10

Tea and coffee

11.10-12.30

Breakout sessions

12.30-13.30

Lunch

13.30-13.50

Group session

13.50-15.00

Breakout sessions

15.00-15.15

Conclusion and plans for the
future, Neil Stevenson

15.15-16.00

Tea & coffee and your chance
to meet members of the JDSG

Access to Justice Conference



The Justice Disability Steering Group (JDSG) was set up in 2007 by the organisations which represent the multiple areas of the justice sector in Scotland. It includes representatives from the Scottish Government, the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, the Scottish Court Service, the Law Society of Scotland, the Scottish Legal Aid Board and the Scottish Prison Service.

The JDSG is working in partnership with Capability Scotland and other organisations including; the Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland, Guide Dogs Scotland, Inclusion Scotland, the Scottish Association for Mental Health, Deaf Connections and the Scottish Disability Equality Forum. Over the past three months these organisations have been holding a series of involvement events with disabled people across Scotland. These events have given participants the opportunity to present and discuss their experiences of access to the justice sector.

The JDSG would now like to invite you to take part in the Access to Justice Conference. Representatives of the disabled people who have taken part in the initial involvement events, representatives of the JDSG and practitioners within the justice sector will have the opportunity to discuss the findings from the involvement events, consider common barriers to justice and make recommendations for the future.

The Speakers



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Kenny MacAskill MSP

Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Communities

Mr MacAskill was an MSP for the Lothians Region from 1999 to 2007 and has been MSP for Edinburgh East and Musselburgh since the General Election on May 3, 2007. He was born in Edinburgh on April 28, 1958, and has previously been Shadow Justice and Home Affairs Minister. He was a long standing member of the SNP's NEC and has been National Treasurer and Vice Convener of Policy.

He was educated at Linlithgow Academy and Edinburgh University and was a senior partner in a law firm. In 2004 Kenny wrote a book entitled 'Building a Nation - Post Devolution Nationalism in Scotland'. He has since edited another book 'Agenda for a New Scotland - Visions of Scotland 2020' and has co-authored two books on the Scottish Diaspora, 'Global Scots - Voices From Afar' and 'Wherever the Saltire Flies, with the former First Minister Henry McLeish.

Mr MacAskill is married with two sons.



Neil Alan Stevenson

LL.B. (Hons), M.Sc.

Director of Representation and Professional Support

Neil is responsible for ensuring that the Law Society of Scotland is seen as the 'hub' of the legal profession. This involves ensuring the Society listens to and learns from its members and those working in the sector, campaigns on their behalf, promotes the profession, provides support services to individuals and firms, and creates business opportunities at home and abroad.

One part of this is responsibility for the Society's compliance with equality legislation and public sector duties; which have been significant and highly positive drivers for change within the organisation. This role involves undertaking and commissioning research, setting strategy, ensuring compliance, and dealing with specific issues and cases arising. Neil also sits on the equality sub-committee of the Judicial Appointments Board, and is an associate with the Centre for Diversity in the Professions at Leeds Metropolitan University.

The Speakers



Richard Hamer

Director of External Affairs,
Capability Scotland

Richard has 17 years experience in the Scottish voluntary sector, in fields including foreign aid, regeneration, health and housing. Disability has been a strong theme throughout these roles, and his experience in this area resulted in him joining Capability in 2008. He has a strong interest in legal affairs and was instrumental in disabled tenants getting a right to adapt their homes in 2006.

Scottish charity SC011330.
Scottish company SC36524

Directions to the Conference

From the Airport

Call the hotel from free phones provided in the arrivals lounge and we will send our Courtesy Minibus to the Airport to pick you up and bring you to the hotel. This service is available 24 Hours.

BY TRAIN

Take the train to Haymarket Station (Closest to the hotel) or to Waverley Station (City Centre). Buses and taxis are available from both stations.

BY BUS

Frequent Express Shuttle Bus (No. 100) going to and from the City Centre. It leaves every 7mins and the journey takes approximately 25 minutes.

BY TAXI

Costs Approximately £25-£30 from the City Centre.

BY CAR

Very close to the M8 and M9 (Follow all signs for Edinburgh Airport and Newbridge Roundabout)

Booking

Price: £79 + VAT

For more information or to book your place please contact Michaela Crosthwaite at Capability Scotland.

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