



Deafblind Scotland

Defining Deafblindness Communications Pack

Deafblind Scotland is working with the Cross-party Group on Deafness to lead a campaign aimed at gathering support for the adoption of a formal definition of deafblindness in Scotland.

This definition is:

Deafblindness is a combined vision and hearing impairment of such severity that it is hard for the impaired senses to compensate for each other. Thus, deafblindness is a distinct disability.

To varying degrees, deafblindness limits activities and restricts full participation in society. It affects social life, communication, access to information, orientation, and the ability to move around freely and safely. To help compensate for the combined vision and hearing impairment, especially the tactile sense becomes important.

(nordicwelfare.org)

The full Nordic Definition on Deafblindness can be viewed here:
<https://nordicwelfare.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/nordic-definition-of-deafblindness.pdf>

Supporting the Campaign

We would appreciate your support in sharing the campaign and giving yourself/your organisations support by signing the declaration.

To sign the declaration please contact info@dbscotland.org.uk with your name, designation and the organisation you support (if this applies). We will then add you name to the signatory list.

Below is social media and email content for sharing the campaign.

Resources for sharing

We have provided several resources for your information and sharing:

1. Two **documents** are available on the Deafblind Scotland website, both provide background information on deafblindness and the definition to be adopted by Scottish Government:

<https://www.dbscotland.org.uk/defining-deafblindness/>

- **Declaration on the Definition of Deafblindness**
- **Seen and Heard:** An outline of the need to define deafblindness as a unique disability within Scotland.

2. **Social Media** content:

#DefiningDeafblindness #Deafblind

- **Facebook**

Defining Deafblindness - Will you and your organisation support this momentous moment for deafblind people in Scotland?

Deafblind Scotland with the support of the Cross-party Group on Deafness are calling on the Scottish Government to formally recognise deafblindness as a distinct disability in Scotland.

More Info <http://tinyurl.com/ypkzj7u9>

Contact info@dbscotland.org.uk for comms pack and to sign the declaration.

#DefiningDeafblindness #Deafblind

- **X**

Deafblind Scotland with the Cross-party Group on Deafness are calling on the Scottish Government to formally recognise deafblindness as a distinct disability in Scotland

More Info <http://tinyurl.com/ypkzj7u9>

Contact info@dbscotland.org.uk

#DefiningDeafblindness #Deafblind

- **Instagram**

Defining Deafblindness - Will you and your organisation support this momentous moment for deafblind people in Scotland?

Deafblind Scotland with the support of the Cross-party Group on Deafness are calling on the Scottish Government to formally recognise deafblindness as a distinct disability in Scotland.

More Info <http://tinyurl.com/ypkzj7u9>

Contact info@dbscotland.org.uk for comms pack and to sign the declaration

#DefiningDeafblindness #Deafblind

3. **Emailing your contacts.** We would appreciate your support in sharing the campaign key messages and resources to your contacts. Below is wording to email your contacts.

Copy for the body of the email to your contacts, please feel free to personalise:

Deafblind Scotland with the support of the Cross-party Group on Deafness are calling on the Scottish Government to formally recognise deafblindness as a distinct disability in Scotland. Deafblindness has achieved this recognition elsewhere in the UK and in much of Europe but not formally in Scotland.

This definition is:

Deafblindness is a combined vision and hearing impairment of such severity that it is hard for the impaired senses to compensate for each other. Thus, deafblindness is a distinct disability.

To varying degrees, deafblindness limits activities and restricts full participation in society. It affects social life, communication, access to information, orientation, and the ability to move around freely and safely. To help compensate for the combined vision and hearing impairment, especially the tactile sense becomes important.

(nordicwelfare.org)

The full Nordic Definition on Deafblindness can be viewed here:

<https://nordicwelfare.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/nordic-definition-of-deafblindness.pdf>

Achieving this recognition is a crucial step toward identifying and diagnosing people with dual sensory loss as early as possible, and thereafter addressing the unique challenges that they face. We would ask you to support this campaign by signing the Declaration on the Definition of Deafblindness by contacting info@dbscotland.org.uk with your name, designation and body/organisation that you represent (if applicable).

Should you require any help, please get in touch through info@dbscotland.org.uk

The background features a vibrant red color with a white brushstroke effect in the top-left and bottom-right corners. Scattered throughout the white areas are numerous small red dots of varying sizes, creating a dynamic, textured appearance.

Defining Deafblindness

Show your
support