



**Scotland's
Vital Health Sector**
VHS Annual Conference 2024

**Celebrating
20 Years
of Voluntary Health Scotland**

**Scotland's Vital
Health Sector**

**23rd October 2024
Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh**



✕ **#VHSCONF24 #WEAREVITAL @VHSComms**

Conference Agenda

9.00-10.00 **Registration, refreshments with poster and exhibition viewing**

10.00-11.30 **SESSION ONE: Scotland's Vital Health Sector?**

Welcome from Conference Chair

Jane-Claire Judson, Chief Executive, Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland

Conference Overview

Tejesh Mistry, Chief Executive, Voluntary Health Scotland

Keynote Address

Professor Linda Bauld, Chief Social Policy Advisor, Scottish Government and Professor of Public Health at The University of Edinburgh

Keynote Address

Martyn Evans, Chair, Scottish Police Authority

Questions and discussion

2024 Poster Competition: Our poster finalists

- ◆ Action for M.E.
- ◆ The Breastfeeding Network
- ◆ CANDU (Dundee Cancer Support Network)
- ◆ Living Streets
- ◆ The Sorted Project
- ◆ Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
- ◆ Voiceability
- ◆ RNIB

11.30-12.00 **Refreshments, exhibition and poster viewing**

12.00-12.50 **SESSION TWO: Scotland's Inclusive Health Sector?**

Inclusion and Missingness in Health

Presentation: Professor Andrea Williamson, Professor of General Practice and Inclusion Health, University of Glasgow

Round table and panel discussion: Missingness in Health

- ◆ Dr Carey Lunan, GP Chair of Scottish Deep End Project, Senior Medical Advisor on Health Inequalities and Mental Health at Scottish Government and Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer at The University of Edinburgh
- ◆ Alison Leitch, Lead of Scottish Social Prescribing Network and Assistant Service Manager, Edinburgh Community Link Worker Network, EVOC
- ◆ Roisin Hurst, Project Manager, Scottish Community Link Worker Network

12.50-13.50 **Lunch, exhibition and poster viewing**

Post lunch energiser: Health at Hand with Scottish Ballet

13.50-15.45 **SESSION THREE: Scotland's Valued Health Sector?**

Afternoon Keynote Address

Ewan Aitken, Chief Executive, Cyrenians

Round table discussion session: Is the third sector in crisis and what can we do about it?

Presentation of the poster competition winner by Christine Carlin, Chair, Voluntary Health Scotland

15.45 **Conference close**

Our speakers

● Jane-Claire Judson, Chief Executive, Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland

⊗ @JCJudson @CHSScotland



● Tejesh Mistry, Chief Executive, Voluntary Health Scotland

⊗ @MistryTej @VHSComms



● Professor Linda Bauld, Chief Social Policy Advisor, Scottish Government and Professor of Public Health at The University of Edinburgh

⊗ @LindaBauld



● Martyn Evans, Chair, Scottish Police Authority

⊗ @MartynR_Evans @ScotPolAuth



● Professor Andrea Williamson, Professor of General Practice and Inclusion Health, University of Glasgow

⊗ @UofGSHW



● Dr Carey Lunan, GP Chair of Scottish Deep End Project, Senior Medical Advisor on Health Inequalities and Mental Health at Scottish Government and Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer at The University of Edinburgh

⊗ @careylunan



● Alison Leitch, Lead of Scottish Social Prescribing Network and Assistant Service Manager, Edinburgh Community Link Worker Network, EVOC

⊗ Edinburgh_CLW



● Roisin Hurst, Project Manager, Scottish Community Link Worker Network

⊗ @ScotCLWNetwork



● Ewan Aitken, Chief Executive, Cyrenians

⊗ @EwanAitken



● Christine Carlin, Chair, Voluntary Health Scotland

⊗ @VHSComms



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THANK YOU

“It is a huge privilege for me, on behalf of the Voluntary Health Scotland Board and our wonderful Staff Team, to welcome everyone to our 2024 Annual Conference, celebrating 20 years of VHS. Looking back on those 20 years, there is much to celebrate about the achievements of the health and voluntary sector. But I believe that we are facing perhaps the most pivotal moment in our sector’s future. As the burden of health inequalities increases, our sector’s ability to engage meaningfully with individuals, with families and with communities must be truly valued. Ours is the business of early intervention and prevention, improving the lives of, not only present, but future generations. We are Scotland’s Vital Health Sector. Together, let’s make our voices heard – today, and in the crucial months ahead.”



Christine Carlin, Chair, Voluntary Health Scotland

“As we reflect on the journey VHS has taken in celebrating our 20th Anniversary, we are also looking ahead at the direction we need to take next to improve equity in Scotland. We are celebrating 20 years of our vital impact across the sector and take great pride in sharing the countless success stories we and our members have achieved in that time.



This is your conference and today we should, quite rightly, be proud of our collective achievements. The work of our sector is saving lives at a time when people and services are facing increasing challenges and support for them is under pressure. Yet, we know there is still much more to do.

We value you and your vital work. We know it won’t be easy but collectively we have to continue to be ambitious, to advocate for vulnerable people and to focus on the impactful delivery of the vital services people need to live healthily and happily.”

Tejesh Mistry, Chief Executive, Voluntary Health Scotland

Thank you to our amazing exhibitors



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