

RCSLT Scotland Day – 10th September 2026

Making an impact where it matters most

Working differently to improve outcomes for people with communication and swallowing needs.

Aims and Objectives

By attending Scotland Day 2026, delegates will -

- Learn from practical examples of services working differently through partnership, prevention, public health, and whole-system approaches.
- Explore how digital tools and innovation can improve access, outcomes, efficiency and communication across services.
- Develop a deeper understanding of what it is like to live with communication difficulties, poverty, and trauma.
- Explore how SLTs can better support underrepresented and marginalised groups.
- Strengthen confidence in leadership, influencing, and advocacy across systems.
- Identify practical learning and actions to take back to their own context.
- Network and build stronger professional links across Scotland.

09:15 – 09:45	Registration and refreshments
09:50 – 10:00	Welcome and Opening Remarks • Glenn Carter, Head of Scotland Office, RCSLT
10:00 – 10:15	RCSLT Scotland update • Glenn Carter, Head of Scotland Office, RCSLT
10:15 – 10:25	Introduction to new Chief Allied Health Profession Officer • Nicola Richardson, CAHPO, Scottish Government
10:25 – 11:00	Leadership, influence and politics • Willie Rennie, Scottish Liberal Democrats, MSP
11:05 – 11:25	Comfort break and transition to workshop 1
11:20 – 12:10	Workshop options: Session 1 • Using digital innovation to improve access, outcomes and efficiency Two practical examples of digital innovation in SLT. An online intensive aphasia programme supporting access to rehabilitation and student learning and NHS Grampian's use of vCreate to streamline assessment, follow up and communication across children and adult services. • Monia Molino & Anja Kushmann, University of Strathclyde • Helen Day & Gareth Radford, NHS Grampian

	• Rethinking Need: The evolving role of speech and language therapists in prevention With a particular focus on the early years, this session explores why moving upstream matters, how preventative population health approaches can improve outcomes and reduce demand and how SLTs can influence the system, engage partners and equip the wider workforce. • Louise Steel & Gill Earl, Public Services Delivery Scotland • From Dysregulation to Connection: A new lens for SLT advocacy in care experienced and trauma affected young people How SLTs can use a sensory-regulatory lens to understand communication breakdown in care-experienced, justice-involved and trauma-affected young people, with wider learning on reframing behaviour, strengthening advocacy and supporting communication in complex, high-pressure contexts. • Julia Pollock, NHS Tayside / Perth & Kinross Council
12:10 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 13:25	Keynote • Dr Rishma Maini, Public Health Scotland
13:25 – 13:55	RCSLT updates • Derek Munn, Director of Policy & Public Affairs, RCSLT • Krystina Stanway, Director of Professional Development and Innovation, RCSLT
13:55 – 14:05	Transition to workshop 2
14:05 – 14:55	Workshop options: Session 2 • Establishing new partnerships to reach children and families when others can't How SLTs in Forth Valley are working with Family Wellbeing and social work teams to reach children and families affected by trauma and poverty, with practical learning for anyone seeking to build stronger partnerships and work beyond traditional boundaries. • Hazel McKellar & Alison McDonald – NHS Forth Valley • Opening the conversation: adopting outcomes and experience measures for marginalised groups How adapted versions of a patient outcome and experience measure are helping individuals in hospital settings to share their views, express preferences and influence their care, particularly those in marginalised groups such as autistic people, people with a learning disability, people with acquired brain injury and d/Deaf people • Dominique St Clair Miller & Xophie McAllister, Cygnet Health • Scottish Government's Foundation Inclusive Communication Toolkit: SLT support on a plate A practical session on Scottish Government's Foundation Inclusive Communication Toolkit, looking at how SLTs can use it to support organisations across health, education, social work, justice and other sectors to reduce inequalities, reach marginalised groups and make inclusive communication part of everyday practice. • Kim Hartley Kean, Inclusive Communication Consultant
14:55 – 15:15	Refreshment break and networking

15:15 – 15:45	Keynote: Every seed has the potential to grow: A journey through poverty, trauma, communication difficulties and transformation. • Scott McCarroll, Community Development Coach, CentreStage Communities • Fiona McKenzie, Founder and CEO, CentreStage Communities
15:45 – 16:00	Thanks, close and evaluation