

Foreword

The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to 'ensuring that Edinburgh plays its part in making Scotland the best place in the world for British Sign Language (BSL) signers to live, work, visit and learn. As Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh has a special responsibility to promote and raise awareness of the language.

We know that for many people who use BSL, English is a second language, bringing challenges in everyday life – in school, work, healthcare, leisure, and in day to day activities like using buses or looking for information online.

Our ambition is for BSL users to be fully involved in daily and public life in Edinburgh, as active, healthy citizens, able to make informed choices about every aspect of their lives.

We have spoken to BSL users in Edinburgh and they have told us what needs to change. This plan sets out a series of broad actions that the Council will take over the next six years for our ambition to be realised.

This plan will be delivered with the leadership of elected members and the support and dedication of staff across the council and its partners. We will work with BSL users throughout the life of the plan to review and develop our actions to make sure that we are making a real difference.