

DATE: Wednesday 25th August 2010

VENUE: The Thistle Hotel, Cambridge Street, Glasgow, G2 3HN

Agenda.

Morning Session

With a new Coalition Government, a tough budget and further talk of difficult economic times and spending cuts to come, how will these issues effect carers? Jo Swinson MP, Jacqueline Brown and Annie Gunner-Logan will each provide their perspective.

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| 10.30am | Registration and refreshments |
| 11.00 to 11.10 | Welcome and Introductions |
| 11.10 to 11.30 | Jo Swinson MP, The Liberal Democrat Party
Jo will explain how the new Coalition Government is operating and how government policies are likely to effect carers. |
| 11.30 to 11.45 | Questions, Answers and Discussion |
| 11.45 to 12.00 | Jacqueline Brown, The Department of Work and Pensions
Jacqueline will be providing details on the recent Welfare Benefit reform, paying particular attention to Carer and Disability Benefits. |
| 12.00 to 12.15 | Questions, Answers and Discussion |

12.15 to 12.35 **Annie Gunner Logan, Community Care Providers Scotland**
Annie will provide a perspective from the voluntary sector on how government policy and cuts to spending are likely to effect carers and vulnerable groups.

12.35 to 12.50 **Questions, Answers and Discussion**

12.50 to 1.40 **Lunch**

Afternoon Session

We will be examining the newly launched Carers Strategy for Scotland, *Caring Together* and discussing how the Coalition and its members can support local implementation. We will also be seeking your views on the Carers Manifesto Campaign, which is currently being developed by the National Carer Organisations, in advance of next years elections.

1.40 to 1.55 **Caring Together, Scotland's Carers Strategy**
Seb Fisher, Coalition Executive and VOCAL Carers Centre
Seb will provide information and analysis on the newly launched Carers Strategy.

1.55 to 2.10 **Question, Answers and Discussion**

2.10 to 2.25 **Scotland's Carers Manifesto Campaign**
Claire Cairns, The Coalition of Carers in Scotland
Claire will provide details on Scotland's Carers Manifesto Campaign, which is currently being developed by the National Carer Organisations.

2.25 to 3.00 **Discussion Groups**
This is your opportunity to comment on the Carers Manifesto Campaign and the messages you want delivered to the politicians.

3.00pm **Close of meeting**