



Cornerstone SDS

Newsletter

Spring 2025



Hello,

From everyone in the SDS team we hope you had a lovely Easter, and we are looking forward to supporting you through this coming year. The following is an update on the team, information on PVG legislation, a recruitment toolkit and some other useful bits of information.

Changes to the team

We welcomed Rona, our Moray SDS Advisor.

We also welcomed David Denning who is one of our training and recruitment coordinator

Ligita Paksite also joined the Cornerstone team last year as an SDS Advisor for Aberdeenshire

Recruitment toolkit

The toolkit has been developed to help PA Employers, and the organisations who support them, with practical advice, tips and inspiration to maximise opportunities for PA recruitment.

<https://www.sdsscotland.org.uk/news/pa-recruitment-toolkit-published/>

PVG Legislation

Under the new legislation, from April 2025 **every** Personal Assistant will have to be part of the PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) scheme.

The Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme helps ensure people who are unsuitable to work with children, young adults and adults cannot do regulated work with them.

<https://www.mygov.scot/apply-to-pvg-scheme>

Fundraising for SDS started with a bang this year.

In March, Gillian Murphy, a colleague from the Aberdeen office, braved the heights and Abseiled down the iconic Falkirk Wheel.

Gillian raised an impressive £670 and chose to donate to SDS because her friend's son is supported by this service. She said:

"I was looking forward to the challenge but when I arrived at the car park, I did feel a bit shaky. After the briefing, and by the time I was harnessed up I really was quite excited about the abseil.

I would recommend anyone to take on this challenge, you might surprise yourself!"





kiltwalk

Aberdeen, 1st June 2025

Come along and join the Cornerstone SDS Fundraising Team for the Kiltwalk 2025!

Cornerstone SDS Advisors, Denise, Ligita and Mandy, are taking part in the Aberdeen Kiltwalk on Sunday 1 June to raise funds for Cornerstone SDS clients.

They wanted to do something to raise awareness and funds for the charity and decided the Kiltwalk was the perfect challenge because everyone can take part!

Furthermore, they would love it if any of the people Cornerstone SDS support, or family and friends, would like to join them on the day either as a fellow Kiltwalker or to cheer them on their way.

There are 3 options available:

- **Mighty Stride, approx. 18 miles, cost £20**
- **Wee Wander Adult, approx. 3-5 miles, cost £13**
- **Wee Wander Child, approx. 3-5 miles, cost £7**

For more information and to register for the Aberdeen Kiltwalk, follow this link:

<https://thekiltwalk.co.uk/events/aberdeen>

When registering please sign up as part of our team:

- **'SDS Kilted Striders'**
- **Mighty Stride wave time at 09.30am**
- and choose the charity **'Cornerstone'** so that we can all walk and raise funds together!

If you'd like any further information please contact Denise at denise.mcdougall@cornerstonesds.org.uk



Denise, Ligita and Mandy took part last year!



Denise McDougall