

# Media Release



**To:** Local and national media  
**Date:** 8 June 2007  
**Release:** Log On to Sign Language

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## Log On To Sign Language

Extra help for British Sign Language users is now available at the click of a mouse. The NHS Forth Valley public website is carrying a video clip in British Sign Language, which gives details of the services and contact options available.

For some profoundly deaf people, BSL is their first language and this clip is thought to be a first for health services throughout Scotland.

The project is part of NHS Forth Valley's Disability Equality Scheme and research included looking at work being undertaken by the Royal National Institute for the Blind and the University of East Anglia, who are currently developing an animated BSL signer.

Keen to provide a solution in the interim the possibility of a BSL video clip was discussed with members of the deaf community in Forth Valley, who gave it the thumbs up. This new method of accessing services will be monitored and could influence future developments.

**-ends-**

### *Notes to Editors*

For further information please contact the Communications Department on 01786 457243.

The video clip can be found at [www.nhsforthvalley.com/home/services/A-Z/disability/disability\\_intro.html](http://www.nhsforthvalley.com/home/services/A-Z/disability/disability_intro.html)

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*Forth Valley NHS Board is the common name for Forth Valley Health Board*