# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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| **TITLE**  | **British Deaf Association Audit** |
| **DATE**  | **14 February 2023** |
| **BY** | **Jane Hutt MS, Minister for Social Justice** |

The Welsh Government has been exploring ways in which it can support the Deaf community in Wales and support the use of BSL, which we have recognised as a language in Wales since 2004.

As part of this, the British Deaf Association undertook an audit of Welsh Government policies and approaches mapping against the five commitments in their BSL Charter. The report of their findings has now been published by the BDA.

The report recommends areas for action by Welsh Government and enhances our understanding to how we as an organisation can make services fully inclusive for colleagues and visitors who communicate through BSL – and how we can build similar considerations into wider policy and service design.

The report is an important piece of evidence for the Disability Rights Taskforce to consider in its work, in particular the Access to Services Working Group.

## The report can be found here: [Audit of the Welsh Government for the BSL Charter 2022](https://bda.org.uk/welsh-government-bsl-charter/)