Post-school Transitions of People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
The project

• Commissioned by the NDCS in 2012

• Its aim is to investigate the post-school transition process for young people who are deaf or hard of hearing

• The team
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Context of the research

• The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004

• Scottish Government report on the implementation of the ASL Act (2012)

• The Doran Review (Scottish Government, 2012)

• Post-16 Transitions Policy and Practice Framework (Scottish Government, 2012)
Methods

- An analysis of policy and legislation
- An analysis of official statistics
- In-depth interviews with thirty young people aged 18-24
In-depth interviews

• School background
• Post-school transition planning
• Experiences of post-16 education, training and employment
• Personal background: identity and social capital
Key findings

• Good level of support in schools, but some inconsistency across local authorities

• Most commonly cited difficulties in school were related to social adjustment

• Most respondents did not have transition plans

• Young people from socially-advantaged backgrounds managed their own transitions
Transitions to adult audiology

• High level of care of paediatric audiology

• Some complaints about adult services:
  o waiting times
  o less frequent and less thorough check-ups
  o different hearing aids
  o no named person
  o lack of deaf awareness
Case study: Jack, HE graduate

‘It’s one of the least deaf aware places I’ve ever been.’

‘[Adult audiology] will just leave you for weeks and they don’t seem geared up to understand that I might have a job or be at university or that I might be utterly reliant on my hearing aid.’

‘That’s been the biggest issue of the transition for me.’
Nature of transitions

- Several transitions at the same time → ‘black hole’
- Multi-agency partnerships
- Developments in policy and legislation
- Funding
- Young person’s hopes and aspirations
Thank you for listening!

For more information about the project and our forthcoming dissemination seminar please visit

http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/education/rke/centres-groups/creid/projects/postsch-trans-young-hi