# BSL Advisory Board: Application for membership as independent co-chair

▶️ [BSL version – Introduction and section 1: personal details](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SJ0ZRvYwlk) (YouTube)

This application form is for an independent co-chair of the British Sign Language (BSL) Advisory Board.

Please complete sections 1 to 4 of this form in writing.

You can complete **Section 5: Personal Statement** in writing, or by videoing your statement in BSL.

Please complete all sections as best you can and return to [bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk) by **5pm, 8 August 2025**

I wish to apply for the role of Independent co-chair of the BSL Advisory Board:

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you are unsuccessful in your application for Independent co-chair, would you be happy for your application to be considered for the role of board member?

☐ Yes

☐ No

## Section 1: Personal details

1. Full name (including first and second name):
2. Address including postcode:
3. Email address:
4. Telephone or mobile number:
5. Is mobile number text only?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. If you are currently working, what is your role?
2. Tell us a little about what your role involves (150 words max):

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### References

Please give the names and contact details of 2 referees to support your application - these can be people who know you in a personal or professional capacity:

Referee 1:

Referee 2:

## Section 2: Your experience of BSL

▶️ [BSL version – Section 2: your experience of BSL](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZDitnDgqWs) (YouTube)

1. Do you use BSL as your first language?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. Do you use or have experience of tactile or hands-on BSL?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. Are you a parent of a Deaf BSL-using child or young person?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. Are you a CODA (Child of Deaf Adult)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. Are you a teacher of Deaf children who communicate using BSL?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. Are you a healthcare professional that communicates using BSL?

☐ Yes

☐ No

1. Are you a qualified BSL signer? Please detail any qualifications you have achieved, including level of qualification:
2. Do you work as a professional BSL interpreter?

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 1. If yes, please give details of your NRCPD registration

1. Do you work as a professional BSL translator?

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 1. If yes, please give details of your NRCPD registration

1. Please list any Deaf organisations where you are a member, or if you are a volunteer:

## Section 3: Your committee or board experience

▶️ [BSL version – Section 3: your committee or board experience](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OLP1ljgIbbU) (YouTube)

1. Have you any experience of sitting on committees or boards set up by the government (national or regional or local), or committees or boards run by voluntary organisations?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please provide details including dates:

## Section 4: Conflicts of interest

▶️ [BSL version – Section 4: conflicts of interest](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ai3fsK9fdQY) (YouTube)

The BSL Advisory Board is a public body and, as such, will be expected to maintain a register of members’ interests to avoid any danger of board members being influenced or appearing to be influenced by their private/personal interests in the exercise of their public duties.

Conflicts could include:

* membership of organisations whose aims might be perceived to be in conflict with those of the Cabinet Office and the wider Government
* any activity which, if revealed after appointment, could cause embarrassment to the government
* significant political activity such as being employed by a political party, holding significant office in a party, standing as a candidate for a party in an election, having publicly spoken on behalf of a political party or having made significant donations or loans to a party. Significant loans and donations are those of a size which are reported to the Electoral Commission, in line with a central party’s reporting threshold.

1. Please detail here any conflicts of interest you may have including significant political activity for any political party in the past five years. (Please note: withholding information which emerges after appointment will result in the withdrawal of Board membership):

## Section 5: Personal statement

### 500 words max or submit a BSL video

▶️ [BSL version – Section 5: personal statement](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1jMM75ihN8) (YouTube)

1. Please tell us why you want to lead the BSL Advisory Board. We are interested in what you will bring to the role. You should use the role description to guide your response. Please note that this section is what we will use to shortlist applications.

You may wish to tell us about other similar roles you have held, the community you represent (geographical and/or of interest), how you will communicate to your community or seek views from them, or anything else you think relevant to support your application to lead the Board.

## Section 6: Co-Chair vision for the Board

250 words max or submit a BSL video

▶️ [BSL version – Section 6: co-chair vision for the Board](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USWyK4TNIUY) (YouTube)

1. Please tell us about your vision for the BSL Advisory Board for the three year term. We are interested in your leadership style and goals as co-chair. You should use the role description to guide your response. Previous [BSL Board minutes](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/british-sign-language-bsl-advisory-board-meeting-summaries) are available to support your understanding of the BSL Board’s work so far. Please note that this section is what we will use to shortlist applications.

You may wish to tell us about the areas you would want the board to focus on, any goals you have for the board and how you see the board to work with the Deaf community and government.

If you would like to send in BSL format, please limit your recording to 5 minutes and send it by one of the following:

* Whatsapp to 07928 399104
* email to [bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

## Your data

▶️ [BSL version – Your data](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUBxL5LohWc) (YouTube)

If you are not selected to sit on the BSL Advisory Board, are you happy for us to keep your data on a reserve list? If a space does become available, we may be in touch.

☐ Yes

☐ No

In order to comply with GDPR are you happy for the Cabinet Office to keep your details on file and contact you with information pertaining to BSL and the BSL Advisory Board?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please return this form to: [bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)