POWER, PARTNERSHIP, PERSEVERANCE

VHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026

2 November, 2026

9.00 - 16.00

Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

9.00 - 9.45	**Registration, networking, explore the Health Creation Hub**
9.45 - 10.00	**Welcome and Introduction** Tejesh Mistry, *Chief Executive, Voluntary Health Scotland*
10.00 - 10.20	**Keynote Speech** Angela Constance MSP, *Cabinet Secretary for Health and Care of Scotland*
10.20 - 10.50	**Keynote Speech** Paul Johnston, *Chief Executive, Public Health Scotland*
10.50 - 11.10	**Morning Break**
11.10 - 12.10	**Panel: "After the Election: The First 200 Days"** Chair: Kirsten Hogg, *Director of Devolved Nations, Carers Scotland* Panellists: Amy Callaghan, *Strategic Political Advisor, Chest Heart & Stroke* Adam Lang, *Director of Policy, Insight and Advocacy, Carnegie UK* Rachel Baker, *Chair and Director, Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health, Glasgow Caledonian University*
12.10 - 12.25	**Photo Contest and Vote**
12.25 – 12.40	**New Brand Launch**
12.40 - 13.25	**Lunch**
13.25 - 13.35	**After Lunch Energiser** *Empathetic Listening Activity with* Befriending Networks

13.35 - 14.05 **Fireside Chat with Mel Young,** *Director and Founder, Homeless World Cup*

14.05 - 14.30 **Explore the Health Creation Hub**

14.30 - 15.30 **Panel - "Changing the system from within: Third sector impact on health and social policy"**

Chair: Kirsten Urquhart*, Strategic Engagement Lead, Edinburgh Futures Institute*

Panellists: Norman Gill*, Programme Manager, Clackmannanshire Transformation Space*

Sarah Latto*, External Affairs Lead, Voluntary Health Scotland*

Marina Norris*, Community Grants Strategic Lead, Macmillan Cancer Support*

15.40 – 15.45 **Photography contest winner announcement**

15.45 - 16.00 **Closing statement, conference close**