

## Staff

### Senior HD Specialist

Paula McFadyen

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### HD Specialist

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### Admin / Resource Worker

Lindsey Buchanan

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### Specialist Youth Advisor

David Drain

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### Financial Wellbeing Officer

Katrina Lovie

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### Office

Scottish Huntington's Association

Tayside Service

Room 3010, East Day Home

Kings Cross Hospital

Cleington Road

Dundee

## Contact

If you wish further information about  
the Service please contact  
Scottish Huntington's Association

Tayside Office

01382 424196

01382 424172

Further information is also available from  
our website [www.hdscotland.org](http://www.hdscotland.org)

National Office

Scottish Huntington's Association

Business First

Linwood Point

PAISLEY

PA1 2FB

Phone: 0141 848 0308

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Recognised by the Inland Revenue as a  
Scottish Charity – No. SC010985



scottish  
huntington's  
association



Part of the HDA  
Family Worldwide

Tayside  
Service

Empowering ordinary people to  
meet extraordinary challenges

## ***What is Huntington's Disease?***

- A genetic, hereditary, neurological, disorder of the central nervous system
- It is an autosomal dominant gene so if you have the faulty gene you will develop the illness at some point in your life
- It affects males and females equally
- Every child born to a parent with the faulty gene has a 50% chance of inheriting the gene
- Average age of onset of the illness is between 30-50 but this can vary widely
- It causes physical, emotional and cognitive impairment in varying degrees for each individual
- There is no known cure for this illness

## ***Who are Scottish Huntington's Association?***

- A registered charity
- Community based Huntington's Disease service provision since 1989
- Has community based services throughout Scotland
- Promotes needs led services and has a user led focus
- Tayside service is funded by NHS Tayside and Dundee, Angus and Perth & Kinross Local Authorities

## ***What service do we offer?***

The Tayside Service has two HD Specialists and aims to significantly improve the quality of lives of those living with Huntington's Disease (HD) and their families through timely specialist assessment, symptom management, information, advice, advocacy and emotional support. The Tayside Service also provides practical help for those with HD, carers and family members with benefit maximisation, adaptations, equipment, and access to services.

The service works cohesively with the multi disciplinary teams in Health and Social Care across the whole of Tayside that support our families by providing specialist information, educational sessions, and case management support.

## ***Clinics***

### **Enroll-HD Research Clinic:**

Tayside is an active site for this worldwide observational study open to HD families; it will monitor how the disease appears and changes over time in different people. The database will eventually include more than 20,000 participants and is designed to accelerate the discovery and development of new therapeutics for HD.

Participants have access to genetic and neurogenetic clinics as required.

For further information: [www.enroll-hd.org](http://www.enroll-hd.org)

## ***Youth Service***

The Specialist Youth Advisor, David Drain, works with children and young people aged 8-25, living in families with HD, and provides one-to-one support, group work, advocacy and befriending. This service ensures accurate age appropriate information is given. The one-to-one support is essential to manage the daily challenges of living in a family with HD.

## ***Where do we see people?***

Wherever the person is most comfortable, either at the individual's home or at another suitable venue.

## ***Financial Wellbeing***

The Financial Wellbeing Officer, Katrina Lovie, provides specialist welfare rights advice including benefit checks, assistance with applications, disputes and appeals, money (debt) advice, and financial guidance on money matters such as planning for the future, power of attorney, pensions and life insurance. As well as responding to specific enquires, the aim is that all the clients of SHA will be offered a 'Financial Health Check'.

## ***Who can refer to the Tayside Service?***

The service has an open referral system. Direct referrals can be made from those affected, a family member or other third party referrals with consent. Please get in touch by phoning, writing or emailing the TaysideTeam.

## ***Family Branch Group***

This group was formed by family members to provide an opportunity to meet informally with others whose lives are affected by Huntington's Disease. Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30-9.30pm. Except July and August. Further information about the Tayside Family Branch Support Group, social activities and/or fundraising is available from the Tayside office.

## ***Contact - Branch / Support Group Officer***

**Isobel Darroch**  
Tel: 0141 848 0308

Information on Tayside's Carers' Group and Symptomatic Group is also available.