



Dennis Robertson
Non-Executive Board Member

Dennis has worked in the Public and Third Sector, championing “Equalities” and continues to challenge “Inequalities” both as a Councillor for Aberdeenshire Council and as a Non-Executive Board member. He was the first blind person to be elected to the Scottish Parliament in 2011 and was awarded the Donald Dewar Debater of the year Award 2012 for delivering a passionate speech on eating disorders. He went on to organise and deliver a Conference on Eating Disorders at Holyrood in 2014, which was the first time that this had been held at the Scottish Parliament. This event brought together clinicians and young people with an Eating Disorder, along with their families, carers and friends.

Dennis was on several Committees and Cross-Party Groups including: Vice- Convenor of the EET, a member of Equalities committee & Health & Sport; He was Convenor of the Heart Disease & Stroke CPG and signed off the Stroke Charter for Scotland. He was also Deputy Convenor for Diabetes, Palliative Care, Visual Impairment, Deaf & Hard of Hearing. Prior to being elected Dennis was the Client Services Manager for NESS delivering Social Work and Rehabilitation Services for Blind & Partially Sighted and Deaf & Hard of Hearing people.

He began his career in Social Work in Greenock, working for Strathclyde Regional Council and this was where he met his wife, Ann. Dennis is often accompanied by his Guide Dog – Murphy. He worked for Guide Dogs for 16 years, developing and delivering Awareness Training Courses in Scotland & Northern Ireland. He developed & delivered training in therapeutics for the sensory impaired for psychiatric students, delivered lectures for medical students at Aberdeen & Dundee Universities and for optometry students at Caledonian University in Glasgow. He brings a depth of experience and knowledge to the Board and is committed in tackling health inequalities and can relate to “real life experiences”.