***LETTER TEMPLATE – FOR CREATIVE SCOTLAND***

***Use the template below to send an email to Creative Scotland.***

***Add your name to the bottom of the page***

***Email to enquiries@creativescotland.com***

Dear Creative Scotland,

As a supporter of Edinburgh Deaf Festival, I am writing to express my deep concern at the decision not to fund this essential cultural event.

This decision has put Edinburgh Deaf Festival at risk, which will have a huge impact on the deaf community in Scotland, and across the world. Deaf people could lose a vibrant cultural space in which to celebrate their identity, culture, language, and heritage.

Your decision not to fund the festival not only denies deaf people the right to equal access to Scotland’s culture and arts, but it goes against the BSL National Plan. Given the recent publication of the Scottish Government’s BSL National Plan that says the Scottish Government will *“work with Creative Scotland to help embed BSL further within culture and the arts in Scotland”*, I find this decision astonishing.

Whilst I understand that your budget is limited, it’s very concerning that deaf-led projects are not amongst those being regularly funded. I hope you will reconsider your decision, ensuring that Edinburgh Deaf Festival can continue in 2024 and beyond.

[YOUR NAME]