

WSSSEN

Social Enterprise of the Month

ACTION FOR DEAFNESS

Action for Deafness was established in 1994 under its original name 'West Sussex Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association'. They were founded by deaf people, for deaf people, in order to supplement existing services already in place within the County.

Action for Deafness provides NHS Audiology Services on behalf of NHS West Sussex to anyone over the age of 50, available from their centres in Haywards Heath, Worthing and Steyning via GP referral. Their audiologists provide comprehensive training for all new hearing aid users and patients can drop into any of the Resource Centres for follow up appointments or rehabilitation. They also provide hearing aid clinics county-wide for maintenance and advice.

Action for Deafness also offer a variety of other services, which include Advocacy and advice; Employment advice; Hearing aid clinics; Home visits; Resource Centres; Lip reading classes, sign language classes and Deaf Awareness training. The following services are available at each of their Resource Centres in Haywards Heath, Worthing, Steyning and East Grinstead:

- NHS Audiology Service to anyone over the age of 50 via West Sussex GP referral.
- Private Audiology services
- Information & Advice Service
- Demonstration & Sale of Specialised Equipment
- Volunteers' Services
- Deaf Awareness Training
- WSCC Sensory Services Assessments
- Quotes for Equipment Installation

The online shop offers a wide range of devices and equipment aimed at helping to improve the lives of deaf and hard of hearing people. Items sold in the Resource Centres include specialist telecommunication equipment, alerting devices and listening devices.

The organisation offers training that is aimed at increasing the skills of deaf people or those in contact with them as well as awareness of deafness itself. Training includes deaf awareness training, a paid six week course on an introduction to British sign language and a series of lip reading classes.

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