

# Edinburgh Airport to partner with Guide Dogs Scotland in 2016



Staff at Edinburgh Airport have announced that Guide Dogs Scotland will be their Corporate Charity Partner for 2016.

Guide Dogs Scotland provides life changing mobility services, which enable people who are blind and partially sighted to take control of their lives and get around with confidence. The charity works with people of all ages, from all different walks of life.

Each year, Scotland's busiest airport works with different charities, raising funds and awareness of various organisations. Last year we worked with Erskine and helped raise over £25,000 for nursing, respite and dementia care for ex-service men and women in Scotland. In 2014 the airport worked with Scottish Autism and Unicef, raising over £10,000 during the course of the year.

Welcoming the staff decision to back Guide Dogs Scotland, Edinburgh Airport Chief Executive Gordon Dewar said:

"I am absolutely delighted that the staff voted for Guide Dogs Scotland and I look forward to meeting the working dogs and their handlers early in the New Year.

"Helping raise £25,000 for Erskine is a fantastic achievement and it is great for us to be involved and play our part in supporting these vital organisations."



Kyla Stratton, Business Development Manager at Guide Dogs

Scotland, said:

“Guide Dogs Scotland is delighted to have been chosen as Edinburgh Airport’s charity partner for 2016. There are currently 34,500 people living with sight loss in Scotland, a number which is set to double by 2050. Each and every day, the charity Guide Dogs Scotland ensures that, when someone loses their sight, they don’t have to lose their freedom as well.

“Our services help people do the simple things that sighted people often take for granted, like getting to work, popping out to the shop for groceries or meeting up with friends for coffee and a chat.

“Guide Dogs Scotland receives no government funding to provide its life-changing services and therefore relies entirely on the generosity of the local community to continue its work. A partnership with Edinburgh Airport will help us raise awareness of the independence we can give to people with sight loss.”

Shona Langlands, Community Fundraiser for Erskine, said:

“Working with Edinburgh Airport in 2015 as their Charity Partner has been fantastic and we are so grateful for all their support. When Anna Light and Gayle Barclay came into the Erskine Edinburgh Home to present the cheque for £25,000, our veterans were just blown away.

“This wonderful donation has already paid for some trips for our veterans and we are hoping to use some of the money to build a greenhouse within our gardens to allow for the veterans to do some gardening.”