

# DIABETES SCOTLAND

KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

Since March 2023, we have been campaigning alongside the Tech Collective for fair and equal access for diabetes tech in Scotland.

Here is our journey so far...



**DIABETES TECH  
CAN'T WAIT!**

# OUR CAMPAIGN JOURNEY...

(CLICK THE IMAGES TO VIEW CONTENT)



**DIABETES TECH  
CAN'T WAIT!**



**March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Announcement of Diabetes Tech Can't Wait campaign.

**March 17<sup>th</sup>**

Parliamentary Motion signed by 3 party leaders, 4 health spokespersons and 28% of all MSPs.

**March 20<sup>th</sup>**

We posted the first story shared by our campaigner Shelley Murray.

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Launch of our 'postcode look up' tool on our website that shows tech usage per health board.

# OUR CAMPAIGN JOURNEY...

(CLICK THE IMAGES TO VIEW CONTENT)



**March 29th**

Foysoil Choudhury MSP highlights the campaign at the Scottish Government questions.



**April 27th**

Over 400 people join the campaign.



**May 4<sup>th</sup>**

Further recruitment to the Tech Collective begins.



**May 18<sup>th</sup>**

Zoe and Kirsty video shows impact of access to diabetes tech as parents.

# OUR CAMPAIGN JOURNEY...

(CLICK THE IMAGES TO VIEW CONTENT)



**June 14<sup>th</sup>**

Co-ordinated tweet to the First Minister about Diabetes Tech after his response to campaigner Kirsty Jarvis's question during the leadership contest.

**August 29<sup>th</sup>**

Introduction to Diabetes Tech Webinar with over 450 sign ups and 200 attendees.

**September 1st**

7/14 Health Boards respond to MSP ask of plans for rollout of diabetes tech.

**October 25th**

Three days of meetings with all political parties and the Minister for Public Health and Women's Health Jenni Minto MSP.

# OUR CAMPAIGN JOURNEY...

(CLICK THE IMAGES TO VIEW CONTENT)



**Nov 8th**

Speaking with First Minister Humza Yousaf about our campaign.

**Nov 14th**

The Diabetes Tech Can't Wait campaign is launched at the World Diabetes Day event in Scottish Parliament.

**Nov 14th**

Three Scottish opposition parties write joint letter to the Minister for Public Health Jenni Minto MSP expressing support for the report recommendations.

**Dec 19th**

The National Institute of Health Care and Excellence outlines details of who will be offered hybrid closed-loop technology in England and Wales.

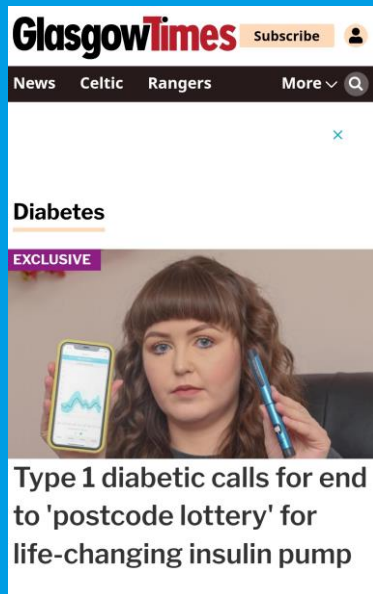
**Feb 7th**

Co-ordinated social media to the First Minister: NHS England has a 5-year plan to fund the roll out hybrid closed loop technology. Don't leave Scotland out of the Loop.

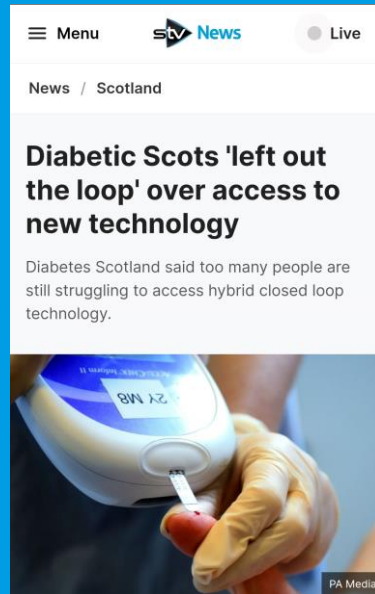


# PRESS AND MEDIA COVERAGE

(CLICK THE IMAGES TO VIEW CONTENT)



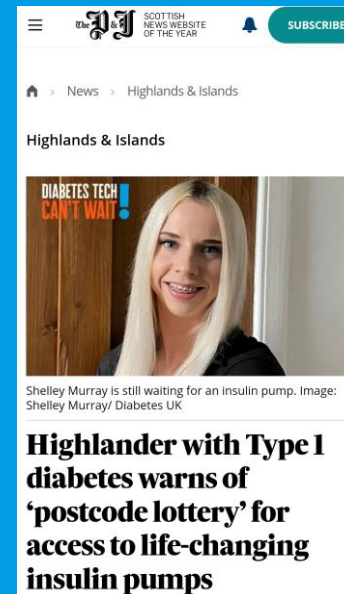
Glasgow Times



STV News



The Herald



The Press and Journal



BBC

# DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT



Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Orla · 27 July · 4

"We feel frustrated by the lack of progress in obtaining the insulin pump. During clinic visits, the consultant informed us that the waitlist was not moving forward and that we might not receive the pump at all.

This news was disheartening for us, we had hoped the pump would offer better diabetes management and alleviate some of the burdens of daily injections."

For Mel and her son, Gregor, the journey to getting on the insulin pump in their area has been a struggle... See more



Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Andy Burton Diabetes Scotland · 27 July · 4

"I must admit, we weren't keen on hybrid closed loop for the first few weeks as this is just not working. But we persevered with it and now I don't miss it without it."

Watch: Aiden's love of sport means that vital diabetes tech has been life for his family.

They believe everyone who is eligible for the tech should be able to access it.

If you have an experience you'd like to share in regards to diabetes tech... See more



See Insights and Ads

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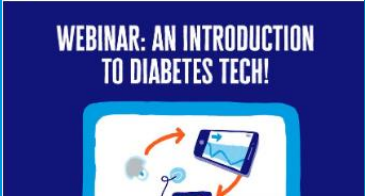
Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Orla · 8 August · 4

**NEW EVENT: An Introduction to Diabetes Tech Webinar!**

Have you heard the term 'hybrid closed loop' but not sure what it means? Are you in the dark about what diabetes tech you're eligible for? What is a CGM? And what do we mean when we say Diabetes Tech Can't Wait?

We hear you.

That's why we are excited to announce and... See more



Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Andy Burton Diabetes Scotland · 10 August · 4

Meet Professor Brian Kinnear, the National Lead for Diabetes in Scotland at our upcoming webinar at 7.30pm on 29th of August. An introduction to who is it for?

If you feel like you're in the dark about diabetes technology and want to be well informed but have a specific question, we're sure everyone will benefit from the event.

How do I sign up?... See more



See Insights and Ads

You and 18 others

Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Orla · 7 September · 4

"Seeing the hybrid closed loop pump at play, it is a game changer for us as parents and I'm hoping that it'll be lifechanging for me when I start using it. It's going to take away a lot of the stress and a lot of the decision making and where I go wrong, the pump will help to correct it."

Both Stephen and his son Lewis live with type 1 diabetes. When Lewis was diagnosed, he was put on the waiting list for the insulin pump right away and now has access to lifechanging hybrid closed loop... See more

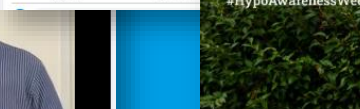


Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Orla · 14 September · 4

"I have epilepsy and the main trigger is low blood sugar. So, I don't know if I'm going to have a hypo when I'm by myself. How do I manage my anxiety and improve my quality of life. I can trust myself. I can't trust my glucose meter."

This #HypoAwarenessWeek, we want to highlight Alyssa's story to help others who are struggling with hypoglycaemia.

Her access to lifechanging hybrid closed loop has been instrumental in her journey... See more



See Insights and Ads

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Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Orla · 21 September · 4

How much do you know about hybrid closed loop diabetes tech?

Here are some handy tips with some infographics!

For a more in-depth deep dive into all things diabetes tech, our recent webinar: An Introduction to Diabetes Tech with Professor Brian Kinnear, is still available to watch at: <https://orl.co.uk/Z6GX>

#DiabetesTechCan'tWait... See more



Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Orla · 28 September · 4

Have you used our handy postcode look up tool to see the level of tech in your area?

It's so easy. Simply click the following link, enter your postcode and we'll show you the level of tech in your area.

Then take an Action to help us show decision makers why #DiabetesTechCan'tWait.

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Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Orla · 6 October · 4

In just ONE WEEK, we will be launching our #DiabetesTechCan'tWait campaign report in the Scottish Parliament, complete with data, your lived experience and our recommendations to decision makers and health boards.

Before we do that, can you help us explain to people who may not know what access to diabetes tech means to you?

Simply comment below by filling in the gaps: "To me, diabetes tech means..."



Diabetes Scotland  
Published by Andy Burton Diabetes Scotland · 4 October · 4

Watch: when we launched our #DiabetesTechCan'tWait campaign back in March, one of the first stories we shared was Shelley's, who was still on the waiting list for an insulin pump.

Since then, she is now delighted to announce she is part of the patch pump family, and it has changed her life immeasurably.

The next stage for Shelley is getting access to hybrid closed loop, but as she explains, there are still barriers in place.

See more



See Insights and Ads

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See Insights and Ads

83

16 comments · 18 shares

Like Comment Share

See Insights and Ads

35

6 comments · 21 shares

See Insights and Ads

26

1 comment · 5 shares

See Insights and Ads

You and 4 others

2 shares

Like Comment Share

See Insights and Ads

42

6 comments · 20 shares

Like Comment Share

# MEET CAMPAIGNER KIRSTY

**DiABETES  
SCOTLAND**

**KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.**

Kirsty says being part of the Tech Collective has been “so inspiring.” When she first joined the Collective, she had just started using an insulin pump. Her fellow Collective members taught her about hybrid closed loop systems and helped her to get one for herself.

The biggest achievement of Kirsty’s volunteering was getting the chance to speak on behalf of the Tech Collective at a parliamentary reception on World Diabetes Day in 2023.

**“I still can’t believe it happened, how many people get to do that? Someone gave me seven minutes to stand and talk in front of politicians and Healthcare Professionals and my peers with diabetes. It was fantastic getting to do that.”**

[Read more about Kirsty’s journey](#)



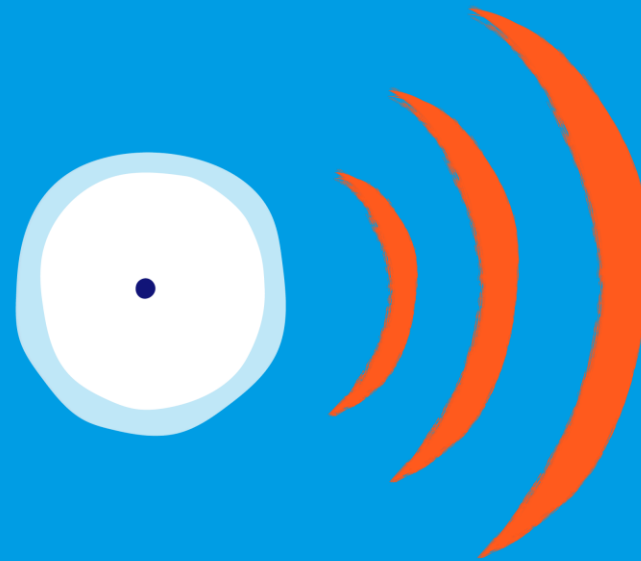


# WHAT IS DIABETES TECH?



For many people with diabetes, technology can be a very important part of how they manage their diabetes.

There are lots of different types of diabetes tech, like insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors (CGM for short).



# INSULIN PUMPS



- Tethered insulin pumps + patch pumps available.
- Removes need to inject (as often).
- Blood sugar levels more often in your target range.
- Tailor your insulin more easily before, during and after exercise.
- More flexibility in what, when and how much you eat.



# CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORS (CGM)



- Your latest sugar levels show up on device or mobile automatically, transmitted by Bluetooth.
- Removes need to finger prick (as often).
- You can share your data online with your healthcare team.
- Helps understand how food, activity, and other things affect your sugar levels.
- You can set an alarm to sound if your sugar levels go too low or too high.



# HYBRID CLOSED LOOP

- **Insulin pump + CGM + algorithm**
- The technology ‘talks to each other’
- Also called an “artificial pancreas”
- Different insulin pumps and CGMs work together depending on what companies in the industry have teamed up.
- The diabetes community have created a “DIY loop”







“My nephew has gone from being the happiest and funniest boy I knew, to a child who is scared and wondering why it is happening to him. Anything to make his life easier would be a godsend and less worrying for all involved.”



“It’s been totally life-changing for him. At 10 years old he can have some independence now and play with his friends.”

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**“You shouldn’t have to be paying for a piece of equipment that is so vital to your quality of life. Because when we talk about an NHS free at the point of use, we’ve got to mean that in every sense of the word.”**

**Humza Yousaf, March 2023**



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