# Midlands and East regional round-up (accessible slides)

### Slide 1 (title slide): Midlands and East regional round-up

News and information from your teams

29th July

Hosted by: Regional Head of Operations Colin Vince

### Slide 2: Agenda

[Image: a volunteer with a puppy]

* Regional changes
* Breeding update
* Canine Assisted Services (CAS) update
* Skills, Information and Support Services (SISS) update
* Volunteering update
* Fundraising update
* 90th anniversary and media champions
* Comments and Questions

### Slide 3 (new section): Regional changes

[Image: a member of staff wearing a Guide Dogs polo shirt]

* New Operations Volunteering Officers
* New names: National Centre and Midlands and East region
* Recruitment of Operations Support Coordinators

### Slide 4: Breeding Update

[Images: a photo of a sleeping puppy and an illustration of a dog running]

Pup Production:

* Covid 19 Impact
* Aim going forward – responsive to need (Supply Chain Manager)
* Regular ‘beat’ of approx. 120 pups monthly

Genetics and Born to Guide:

* Monitoring of genetic diversity
* Pedigree based genetic evaluations
* Our new genomics project

### Slide 5: Pup Transition Trial

[Image: a puppy]

Background:

* To investigate best practice regarding the age at which litters leave their dam
* Determine benefits and impact for:
  + pups
  + broods
  + volunteers
  + staff

### Slide 6: Pup Transition Trial cont.

[Image: two puppies running]

Cohorts (10 litters in each):

* Cohort 1 (Business as Usual) – nest to NC between 6-7 weeks of age
* Cohort 2 - nest to NC at 7 weeks +
* Cohort 3 – nest to NC at 8 weeks +

Timeframes:

Generic Comms to volunteers early August

Begin allocations and specific comms August onwards

Measures:

Settlement Questionnaire

Faecal Quality Charts

Surveys

### Slide 7: International Collaboration

[Images: two photos of new breeding dog, Frankie]

Joined the European Breeding Co-operative

* To foster sharing and exchange of ideas
* To participate in tangible exchanges to improve genetic diversity

New Breeding Dog Frankie from Croatia

### Slide 8: Canine Assisted Services (CAS) Update

[Image: a Guide Dog Trainer walking outside with a trainee guide dog]

Recently launched:

* Puppy Raising For Excellent Partnerships (PREP) - 1 July 2021
* Guide Dogs Academy – recruitment started June 2021

For more info, visit Volunteer Information Point to watch the 'Guide Dogs Futures: leading the way' webinar recording.

### Slide 9: Canine Assisted Services (CAS) Update

[Image: a Guide Dog Trainer walking outside with a trainee guide dog]

Buddying Process - our Guide Dog Trainers and Guide Dog Mobility Specialists

* Enables early identification for potential matching
* Encourages cross learning and support
* Maximises the success and development of our dogs

### Slide 10: Canine Assisted Services (CAS) Update

[Image: a Guide Dog Trainer walking outside with a trainee guide dog]

Midlands & East Regional waiting list and training update

* 176 people are awaiting training
* From January 2021 - 37 New Partnerships
* Guide Dog Owners (GDOs) without dog - 14 months wait
* GDOs with dog - 9 months wait
* New applicants - 12 months wait
* Mean national average is 18 months wait

### Slide 11: Skills, Information and Support Services (SISS) Update

[Image: a My Sighted Guide partnership]

My Sighted Guide:

* 113 partnerships now reinstated
* 131 people are now waiting for a MSG partnership
* Recruitment of volunteers has recommenced

Children & Young People:

* My Time to Play
* Habilitation
* Tech for All
* New Trainee HabSp recruited, who will start in September
* Our current Trainee HabSp also qualified in July!

### Slide 12: Skills, Information and Support Services (SISS) Update

[Image: a My Sighted Guide partnership]

Orientation & Mobility:

* Focus on clearing the lockdown backlog of Mobility Assessments and providing support for existing GDO's through training programmes.
* By end June, our team have supported over 250 people (despite ongoing restrictions)
* 3 trainee Orientation & Mobility Specialists qualified in June!
* New trainee due to start in September 2021!

### Slide 13: Volunteering Update

[Image: a volunteer walking with a dog]

* Changes to teams covered by Volunteering Coordinators
* Community hubs pilot update
* Investing in Volunteers assessment in August
* New volunteer expenses form

### Slide 14: Fundraising Update

[Image: a Labrador dog sat next to a fundraising bucket]

* Fundraising activities picking up!
* NAP website up and running
* Guide Dog Appeal is all about the 90th birthday
* £100k over expectations in Midlands and the East so far this year
* £1,125,129 on collections!
* £1,154,012 on LSDs and Counter-top Boxes

### Slide 15: 90th Anniversary and Media Champions

[Images: the Guide Dogs 90th anniversary logo and composite image of a guide dog trainer made up of a black and white archive image and contemporary colour photo]

90th Anniversary:

* Celebrations so far
* Guide Dogs Appeal

Media Champions:

* New role to support Regional Marketing and Communications Managers
* Recruiting 1 — 2 per region to start with
* Support with 90th Birthday Guide Dogs Appeal in October

### Slide 16: Comments and Questions

### Slide 17 (end slide): Thank you for joining us today!

Details of your next regional round-up event will be published on the Volunteer Information Point and in The Guide e-newsletter.

Any questions? Email regionalroundup@guidedogs.org.uk.

Document Ends.

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