



Scottish Social Services Learning Network West E-bulletin

Website: www.learningnetworks.org.uk/west.php



scottish social services
learning network
west

Welcome to our February E-bulletin

Welcome to our second e-bulletin of the year. We hope you have now settled back into your work routine and are eager to see what challenges and opportunities this year will bring. Learning Network West hopes to continue to promote shared training and learning opportunities across all three sectors. With a combination of our Local Learning Network meetings and our partnership working we aim to keep you up to date with the latest events, conferences, consultations and reports. If you wish to advertise any forthcoming events, training or meetings please contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

Why not start the New Year by learning more about your colleagues? the different sectors. Join your Local Learning Network in your area. If you wish to do so please contact julie.thomson@westlearn.org.uk or caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

Information Sessions

Themed discussions around Continuous Learning Framework, Registration and either Personalisation or Adult Support and Protection, will be discussed at the following events:

18th February, Scottish Youth Theatre, Glasgow, 10am to 1pm, **Information Session**

26th February, Lanarkshires, Venue TBC, 1pm to 4pm **Information Session**

27th February, Inverclyde, Venue TBC, Information Session, 1pm - 4pm

9th March, Inverary Hotel, Argyll & Bute, Information Session, 10.30am - 1.30pm

If you are interested in any of the forthcoming events please contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

Our Future Your Future, 10am till 2pm, 3rd March, Scottish Youth Theatre, Glasgow

Are you a student social worker, service user or carer? If so then don't miss this event.

"Our future Your future" will bring interested individuals together to share experiences through themed conversations, speakers

and a marketplace for organisations to tell others what services they provide. This event will be held in the Scottish Youth Theatre.

To view flier [click here](#) or to book a place please contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk

Forthcoming Local Learning Network meetings

All meeting will commence at 10am:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Ayrshires | 5th March, 1st May, 3rd July, 3rd August |
| Argyll & Bute | 9th March, 30th April, 19th June |
| East Renfrewshire | 10th March |
| Inverclyde | 23rd February |
| Lanarkshires | 5th March |

Issue 14

E-Bulletin
February 2009

Special points of
interest:

Leadership Event

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| Information Sessions | 1 |
| Our Future Your Future | 1 |
| Forthcoming LLN Meeting | 1 |
| Free Adult Support & Protection Courses—ARC Scotland/SCLD | 2 |
| ADSW Workforce Development Seminar | 2 |
| Leadership Community Event | 2 |
| Sector Skills Agreement Events | 3 |
| Moving out Moving In Conference | 3 |
| Meet Fiona McQueen | 4 |
| News, Consultation Reports, Publications | 4 |
| Information Literacy Workshops | 5 |
| Learning Network Facility | 5 |

ARC Scotland in partnership with Scottish Consortium for Learning Disability—Free Adult Support & -Protection Courses

ARC Scotland in partnership with the Scottish Consortium for Learning Disability can now offer FREE one-day courses for workers in the Learning Disability sector. These will be interactive and informative workshops on the new Adult Support & Protection (Scotland) Act 2008.

They are offering courses in 5 locations around Scotland to ensure accessibility to as many people as possible. They may be able to facilitate more days in some areas, or another

location if there is a large demand.

- 2nd March - ARC Scotland, Eskbank, Midlothian
- 23rd March - Glasgow
- 7th April - Dundee
- 8th April - Aberdeen
- 9th April - Inverness

For further enquiries, please contact 0131 663 4444 or email Muriel on muriel.mcleod@arcuk.org.uk

ADSW Workforce Development Seminar, Developing a Workforce Fit for Purpose, 25th March, Apex City Quay Hotel, Dundee

The purpose of this event is to:

- Consider and debate the inherent challenges in workforce development
- Share knowledge and experience of developing good practice
- Promote the roles of strategic and operational managers in driving forward the workforce development agenda

Who should attend this event?

As workforce development is a vital function at all organisational levels, the seminar is of particular relevance to frontline, middle and

senior managers, Staffing and HR Professionals.

The cost of this event will be £95 per delegate. Please note no refunds can be made, although delegates may substitute, providing reasonable notice is given. Payment is required to be made in full by Friday 13th March 2009.

Payment can be made by cheque or by requesting an invoice.

For further information and booking form please click on link: http://www.adsw.org.uk/documents/Workforce_Development_Flyer.pdf

West of Scotland Leadership Community “Taking the Next Step”, Wednesday 25th March 2009, 10am – 2pm, Scottish Youth Theatre, Glasgow

Leadership is about your attitude, not your job title. **Changing Lives** needs leadership from every level, and every sector of Social Services, including front-line staff, service users and carers.

It's about your attitude, not your job title.

So do you want to talk to other interested folk about what works and what doesn't?

Do you have ideas on how we can make things better for service users?

If so, then come along, roll your sleeves up and get involved in some real action and debate at the next session of the West of Scotland Leadership Community, 10am – 2pm, 25th March at the

Scottish Youth Theatre, Brunswick Street, Glasgow G1 1TF.

This Leadership Community is led by local people working in social services in the West of Scotland who want to make a difference, and it is supported by Scottish Government, the Changing Lives Leadership Group and the West of Scotland Learning Network.

For further detail on the day email linda@smithsquared.co.uk and programme of the day click here. To book a place please contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

Sector Skills Agreement Events

As part of Skills for Care and Development, the Sector Skills Council for the social services sector, the SSSC developed the Sector Skills Agreement (SSA) in partnership with employers, training providers and funders of training. The SSA Stage 5 report is available on the SSSC [website](#).

In March 2009 they will be holding two SSA information events for employers which will offer information from the SSSC, Learndirect Scotland and the Learning Networks.

The events will keep you informed of progress of implementation of the SSA, the Sector Qualification and Learning Strategy (SQLS)

and a range of organisations who provide information on funding and support for training. The event details are:

Tuesday 10th March, 10am—3pm, Barcelo Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh

Tuesday 17th March, 10—3pm, Ramada Inverness Hotel, Inverness.

Please contact Dave Kydd by email david.kydd@sssc.uk.com or telephone 01382 207322 if you would like a programme, to book a place or for more details about the event.

Transitions Conference, Camphill Scotland in collaboration with the Scottish Government

Moving out: Moving on - but where to?

Tuesday 21st April 2009, Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld

Many young people with special needs, and their families, experience great difficulty in securing an adult provision that comes close to a good match for their assessed needs. Our experience suggests that an alarming number of these young people end up in inappropriate placements which may place them and others at risk. We are also aware that a significant number return home as a last resort, most often to parents or family who have neither the skills nor stamina for the demands this move will make on them.

This conference will examine a number of themes, including:

- Young people moving on from specialised residential care and education

- Identifying changing trends in individual needs and potential future provision
- Managing the search and transition process – including resource issues and the role of Self-Directed Support
- Engaging the parents, young people, current placements, potential new provision, local authorities and health services
- Coping with settling in and worrying about no way back

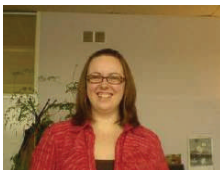
[Click here](#) for flier.

To register your interest please contact:

Richard Snowden, Event Manager, Convention Management Service T: 0131 275 7748

E: richard.snowden@shsc.csa.scot.nhs.uk

Fiona McQueen friend of West Dunbartonshire Local Practitioners Network



Hi, my name is Fiona McQueen and I am a qualified Social Worker and Practice Teacher. I started in January 2009 as a Practice Learning and Development Worker with West Dunbartonshire Council. I was part of the pilot programme with the Learning Network West for the Professional Development Award in Practice Learning (PDAPL) which I completed last year. This is the award that has replaced the PLQ (Stage 3) in Practice Teaching.

In my current post I am working as a Practice Teacher with students when they come on placement in West Dunbartonshire Council. Part of my role is also to support other Practice Teachers and Link Workers within the council area and to promote practice learning within the social work/care sector. I will also have the opportunity to contribute to the training agenda for West Dunbartonshire Council with a particular emphasis on building workforce learning. As part of my role I will be working closely with the Learning Network West and with the universities in the west of Scotland in the field of practice learning.

Before joining West Dunbartonshire Council I had heard and read about the local practitioner's network in this area, I knew it involved the Learning Network West and the local practitioner's forum. I intend to join this forum and hopefully I can contribute to the work they undertake and promote practice learning. I am looking forward to meeting new people and I am excited about the challenges that lie ahead in this job.

News/Consultations/Publications/Reports

Social services knowledge management strategy update, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall on February 6th 2009—Over 70 people from the social services sector in Scotland gathered at a consultation and consensus building event to discuss the social services knowledge management strategy (for more information, please visit <http://www.ssks.org.uk/km-strategy.aspx>). You still have an opportunity to contribute your views to this stage of the consultation by completing the online questionnaire which can be found by following the link <http://tinyurl.com/KM-consultation> (closing date 20th February 2009). A user group is being formed to gather views on how to develop the Social Services Knowledge Scotland website (www.ssks.org.uk<<http://www.ssks.org.uk>>). This website will play a key role in delivering the aims of the knowledge management strategy. User group members are being recruited from across the sector, if you would like to join, please complete the membership form which can be found <http://tinyurl.com/SSKS-website>.

For further info, please contact Susan Lindner by email susan.lindner@nes.scot.nhs.uk or telephone 0141 352 2909.

CJSWDC publish new Briefing Paper, entitled '[Race and Hate Crime Prevention in Scotland](#)'

This Briefing Paper covers the following topics: Current literature and theory on racially motivated and hate crimes. The legal response to race and hate crimes. Community responses to racially motivated crime and the implications for Scottish social policy.

Latest Edition of Strada Focus is now available to download [click here](#) to access.

What has Changing Lives Changed, 3rd March 2009, Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre

Our colleagues in the North are hosting the above event.

The main focus of the conference will be what the Changing Lives Workstreams planned to do, what they have achieved and what still needs to happen nationally, regionally and locally.

This is a free event and inevitably there will be a great deal of interest. If you would like to book a place or get more information, email Jan Foster at learningnetworknorth@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or telephone 01888 569200.

[Flier](#), [booking form](#)

Learning Network West, IRISS and NES, SSKS Information Literacy Workshops, 3rd March & 20th March 2009

There are still some spaces left on the workshops listed below. If you wish to attend any of these events please contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

Social Services Knowledge Scotland (SSKS) is an online knowledge service for Scotland's social services staff, providing a single point of access to knowledge and information for the workforce. SSKS is the outcome of a partnership between IRISS, NHS Education for Scotland (NES), the Scottish Social Services Learning Networks and the Social Care Institute for Excellence. It includes input from a growing number of key social services knowledge and information brokers and providers including each of the Centres for Excellence.

The Learning Networks, IRISS and NES are working together to offer workshops on SSKS which include hands-on sessions. There will be a workshop on the **3rd of March 2009 at the Lochgilphead Learning Centre (9.30am-1.15pm including lunch)** and **one on the morning of the 20th March 2009 at The Albany Centre, Glasgow (9.30am-1.15pm inc. lunch)**.

Click on links for [workshop programme](#) and an [information sheet](#) on SSKS. There is no charge for attending this training event though places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.



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Learning Network West, Training Facility, Abbey Mill Business Centre, Paisley

Learning Network West's training facility is available and will try to accommodate your needs where possible. Should you wish to run a one day event or use our premises over a longer period of time, come along and see our facilities. Our premises are located at the Abbey Mill Business Centre, Paisley.

Our rates are very competitive and include:

- Audio/loop systems
- Laptop/projector facilities
- DVD/Video
- Flipcharts
- White boards

Tea/coffee

Our main Training room can comfortably hold up to 35 delegates depending on layout.

We also have 2 break out rooms which can hold 8 to 10 people for small discussions.

Lunches can be arranged at an extra cost.

If you wish to enquiry about prices, dates etc. please contact denise.alexander@westlearn.org.uk or call 0141 848 1500.