

HEARINGS MANAGEMENT SUB-GROUP

AGENDA

Minutes of Meeting 10th May 2022
Virtual @ 10am

1. Apologies

Angela Mitchell

2. Sabbatical

Currently eight panel members on sabbatical, four males and four females.

3. Resignations

Two males and one female have resigned, with four females and one male not going for re-appointment.

4. Hearing Stats - 1st March - 9th May 2022

- Deferred Cases - Fifteen Virtual in March; five no social work reports available; one no social worker in attendance; six relevant persons failed to attend; one family did not attend due to covid; one grounds still at court; one place of safety emergency transfer was not in place. Eight deferred April; one grounds still at court; one relevant person failed to attend; two reports not received due to technical issues; one legal representative not available; one panel member did not attend due to family emergency. Five deferred in May to date; two relevant persons failed to attend; one grounds still at court; one to request specialist education report; one legal representative and safeguarder did not receive reports in time.
- Cancelled Sessions - One virtual, no cases allocated.
- Secure Hearings - One
- Extra Hearings/Sessions - one session for two cases; one session with additional emergency transfer added; one session with 2nd working day added.

- Swaps/Cover for short notice; March eleven virtual; April four virtual and seven face to face; May three virtual and four face to face.
- Continuity - two requests made

5. Pastoral Care

Three panel members have received pastoral care

6. Panel Member Strength

Seventy four panel members of which eighteen are male and fifty six are female. There are currently fifty eight active panel members, made up of twelve male and fifty one female.

There are twenty four panel members who can carry out both face to face and virtual hearings, eighteen who do virtual only, and thirty one who do face to face only.

7.AOCB

There continue to be ongoing issues with the HIP, a resolution is being worked on to provide read only copies of the pdf files and further details will follow.

The number of male panel members is critical and is providing additional challenges in terms of completing Rota. This is being experienced across the country and not just in Renfrewshire, a Cross Party Sharing chat has been set up on Teams for dire emergencies, request to date have come from various areas, Aberdeen, Inverclyde being two examples and seems to be working so far.

There is some discussion around the possibility that we may be able to incorporate four panel members from East Renfrewshire but this requires to be further explored.

One panel member, with an I.T background had raised an item at their re-appointment interview about their being a connection issue at SCRA and seemed to be quite knowledgeable about it. Enquiries between Angela Stevenson and Leslie King, show that no such issue has been raised with the AST or local SCRA office. Without further information it is not possible to comment further. Angela Stevenson will follow up with the panel member.

8. Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.