

# HEARINGS MANAGEMENT SUB-GROUP AGENDA

Minutes of Meeting 1st March 2022

Teams Virtual @ 10:00AM

## **1. Apologies**

Lesley King; Eileen Anderson

## **2. Sabbatical**

There are currently seven panel members off rota, five females and two males. There are potentially five panel members who will have to be removed from rota due to non completion of Information Governance mandatory training. We may also lose a male panel member due to a change in work arrangements, requested time off may exceed sabbatical period, further discussion between Derek and Panel Member to be had before final decision made.

## **3. Resignations**

One male panel member.

## **4. Hearing Stats - period -12th January - 28th Feb 2022**

- Deferred Cases - Twelve deferred cases all virtual - one awaiting safeguarder report; five grounds still at court for determination; three relevant persons failed to attend; one grounds sent to court as children too young to understand; one no social work report and one where a panel member failed to attend - panel member had taken ill due to covid and had failed to notify lead panel rep.
- Cancelled Sessions - Two; one where social workers were not in a position to prepare a report as unable to speak to the child and one session cancelled by SCRA with no reason given.
- Secure Hearings - One
- Extra Hearings/Sessions - Two extra slots requested; three sessions had three cases instead of two, panel had agreed to do but lead panel rep not aware beforehand.
- Swaps - Seven swaps all virtual hearings.

- Continuity - Two requests made.

## **5. Pastoral Care**

Two panel members receiving pastoral care.

## **6. Panel Member Strength**

Eighty three panel members, of which sixty one are female and twenty two are male. Currently there are seventy five panel members who are available for rota scheduling, this is made up of fifty six females and nineteen males.

## **7.AOCB**

A Stevenson had enquired with the office regarding not having received hard copies of grounds papers for a couple of recent hearings, one hearing was passed to Alex McDonald to chair as a result of being too difficult to read from the screen and engage with family at same time. The SCRA administration team has now been informed and will be resolved going forward.

Another panel member had recently sat on her first virtual hearing, having previously received hard copy papers, she only received digital copies this time. E-mail sent to SCRA administration staff to check if any changes to protocol for notifying on preference.

Inverclyde AST are currently requesting panel members to complete five hearing sessions per month due to a shortage of available members, we are providing a male panel member for two sessions so far. Situation will have to be monitored to ensure it does not impact on our own rota especially with reduction in available males.

Work should be underway in the SCRA offices for building alterations which are expected to last around three weeks or so. All works being completed the Rota for April will be five face to face and five virtual sessions per week.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 19th April Teams Virtual at 10:00am