



Renfrewshire  
Area Support Team

# Learning & Development Group Meeting 5 February 2024

## Minutes

**In attendance :** Derek Brama, Jacqueline Torrens, Alex MacDonald, Gillian Wallace, Jacqueline Doherty

**Apologies:** Ciara McLean and Ewan McNaught

### 1. Pre-Service update

- Trainees update

Completed day 1 and 2 and day 3 is this week.

Mentors will contact buddies to check for any additional support requirements.

1 trainee has had to withdraw due to other time commitments.

1 existing PM who has had significant leave of absence is currently redoing pre-service training.

- Local Training Evenings

These are going well with good attendance and communication if unable to attend.

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> - role of reporter, which included the familiar discussion around manageability of hearings and need for these to be completed within an hour.

26<sup>th</sup> February for next training – this will be role of social work.

The last training night will be role of advocacy and potentially meeting their buddies (if they are on rota before the recognition event in April).

- Observations

Most have completed observations. There followed a short discussion around the benefits of these observations, with feedback from trainees also being positive.

### 2. In-Service Update

- Mandatory training update

All necessary PMs have completed IG training, with no-one having to be taken off rota.

PMs will still be encouraged to complete all necessary training and Alex continues to monitor this.

- Training calendar update

8<sup>th</sup> February – Voice of the infant. Members of the SW pre- and post-birth team will attend as well as representatives from Wee Minds Matter.

11<sup>th</sup> March LGBTQIA+ - presentation by Pat Bulski – session will cover terminology and transgender issues. Slides to be provided in advance and decision to be made by end February whether this will be face to face or on Teams.

- MOH/Enhanced practice update

5 PMs still to complete EP – extra encouragement may be required.

26 due to complete MoH training. There was a discussion around those who are likely to feel confident that they are ready for this and those who may need additional encouragement. A few identified who may find the pressure of having to complete this training too much. Extra support will be required.

Jacqueline D to email Meggan asking how invites will be landed.

Discussion as to how we can make a chair position more attractive/ less daunting for some PMs. This included having sufficient chairs on rota to allow at least two chairs per hearing – each chairing an individual case. Offering an informal evening addressing unusual situations which have cropped up and how they have been dealt with.

- Panel member/social worker twilight event

Early June – once date has been set, Jacqueline D can liaise with Mark Coyle to get ideas for next session.

Noted that the overall feedback from previous event had been very positive and attendees felt it was worthwhile.

- Mention of a refresher training online and suitability for PM who has been off rota for significant period. Jacqueline D to email Meggan re refresher training.

### **3. Panel recognition event – 26<sup>th</sup> April**

This will be our last 'local' planned evening of the current raining calendar.

To be held at Glynhill. This will be last event as a single LA and therefore to be marked.

Suggestion that there will be an information brochure. Anna Devet suggested as a potential speaker.

Mid-range menu.

### **4. Shared training opportunities with SW**

Discussion around how these opportunities are shared and how we can ensure members go along if they sign up.

### **5. Resources for Young People info – distribution**

Jacqueline T had attended the interagency Child Protection Session this, at which the Wellbeing Coordinator for Education provided a very useful link - Resources for Young People.

This was shared with the LDG prior to the meeting, and all agreed that it would be useful to circulate amongst our volunteers. As this is a Sway presentation there are many who

may be unable to access this. Jacqueline T to enquire about a PDF version which we could share with community.

## **6. Training needs analysis**

Draft one had been circulated prior to meeting and this was discussed. Gillian to share new draft prior to circulation to wider panel community.

## **7. AOCB**

Meeting was informed that Mo is currently exploring the standardising of numbers of hearings across the North Strathclyde hub – currently only Renfrewshire have 3 substantive cases per session.

This is something that the AST have been concerned about as cases become increasingly complicated and/or there may be multiple children.

Following an error whilst information was being transferred onto CSAS PMs who have completed the Advocacy training now have this on their activities page on CSAS.

Unfortunately it appears in such a way that it suggests PMs need to attend this training on 31<sup>st</sup> March – Jacqueline to send email to all explaining that this appears on CSAS if you have completed the course and therefore no further action required.

Gentle reminder to be given to those who haven't completed this.

There was a short discussion about recent continuity case which PMs had alerted LPRs to, with necessary swaps being made. It was noted that at previous hearing the continuity PMs name did not appear on the RoP (an error caused due to this PM only covering the continuity case and not the full session). This unfortunately meant a legal document was incorrect – something which PMs are no longer able to check on completion of RoP as they do not have access to the final document during the session. Suggestion that the RoP should be printed out and given the PMs to read on the day – particularly as the chair's electronic signature is added to this document.

## **8. Date of next meeting - To Be Advised**