



Renfrewshire
Area Support Team

Learning & Development Group Meeting

07 December 2021

MINUTES

Present: Derek Bramma, Alex Macdonald, Jacqueline Doherty, Alison Thompson, Ruth Macleod

In attendance: Edi Hanley, Angela Stevenson

Apologies: Ciara McLean

1. Mandatory training completion update

Need to check who cannot sit on rota due to not having completed mandatory training.

Advocacy and sibling course must be completed.

34 panel members have been identified and out of those, 5 not contacted, 16 have now completed all, 2 had issues therefore system saying only 80% complete, 2 resigned, 2 have stated they will complete asap and 7 no response.

2 of the 7 no responses are currently on sabbatical but will need to complete before back on rota.

Discussion around how to best proceed, whether to keep gently nudging panel members along or remove from rota for a month. It is a difficult decision as we don't want to cause panel members to resign if they are removed from rota but accept that the courses need to be completed and these panel members have had a number of prompts already.

Suggestion that Marion could send email to these panel members to say that if they didn't have courses completed then they couldn't be included on rota.

One panel member hasn't indicated any inclination of completing these courses and has stated that they don't check emails, and this wouldn't be a priority.

Another panel member who is currently on sabbatical has indicated they are still busy with work and family commitments and therefore not sure when they will return or time available to complete training.

It was decided that Alex would call the PMs once again to give a gentle prompt before a recorded delivery letter is sent.

There is a need to identify those panel members who may decide that they won't complete this training, and therefore intend to resign, before next recruitment drive. All other areas may have similar issue and CHS solution would be sharing of panel members. Regardless the maximum number of new panel members we can recruit is 20.

PMs and PPAs due for reappointment must complete a form on CSAS. This is off-putting for some PMs and there is also a technical issue with the form link on CSAS.

2. Pre-Service Update

The recruitment selection timetable has now been released by CHS. Once all members of LDC are aware of their availability to facilitate pre-service then a plan can be made going forwards.

The information evening presentation prepared for last year is still relevant and will be provided to those seeking appointment in 2022.

There will be an initial sort of applicants checking for eligibility as per previous years.

It was agreed that we should try to get local services along to provide virtual training sessions to trainee panel members. If this isn't possible then a pre-recorded information session could be made available.

3. In-Service update

There has been very positive feedback from last Thursday's training session.

Link to recording will be made available to all.

It was suggested that this training should be provided to new PMs. If the recording was stored on CSAS for 3 years as a training resource, then they could be signposted to this.

Derek has submitted a bid for recording equipment which would allow future face to face training sessions to be recorded and stored on CSAS as training resource.

North Strathclyde training proposal (reasons & decisions) update

This is going to happen in March, date & venue to be confirmed. Derek will find out who will be presenting this training and advise further.

Angela has been working on an aide memoire for panel members to ensure that all points are covered when completing ROP. Would this be something which could be provided by CHS at a national level.

This may require 2 separate aid memoires, one for general hearing protocol and one for closing of hearing.

Angela will share her notes to date for further discussion.

4. Forthcoming local development sessions

Ciara is currently trying to organise training around internet safety and gender identity, although is having some difficulty finding a contact from Police Scotland. Edi, Alex and Derek are able to provide contacts.

Potential training could be around fostering and adoption and what happens when a placement breaks down.

Following on from a significant case review learning outcome:

- CAHMs are now under pressure to reduce their waiting times.
- Children's reporters and panel members require additional training in dealing with young people with addictive personalities and how they can display manipulative behaviours to ensure the right questions are asked.
- May be challenges finding a training provider.
- Additional training required around termination of orders when a child reaches 16 as there is some discontinuity around throughcare.

- Discussion about frustrations which families and panel members feel around the lack of CAHMs provision for children. It is hoped that the alternative strands for helping these children can be made available sooner.
- The new school nurse provision is also going to be used to tackle mental health issues. Health and social care partnership will hopefully provide further information on this at a future training session.

5. Management of Hearings Training

Only have information that one panel member has a date to complete this training. Need to get an idea of how panel members are feeling about this and encourage them to participate. It would be good to have their views to feedback to Learning Academy.

6. Proposed AST Development Day 2022

Wallneuk identified as venue. Possibly looking at first Thursday in March. Need to reach out for ideas for plenary sessions.

7. AOCB

Request made for members of AST to be given access to digital access logs in order that they can keep track of anyone who may be struggling.

Jim is happy to collate a newsletter once appropriate information has been identified.

Teams training evening could be provided as there are still some who are unsure of Teams. Alex, Angela and Jacqueline will meet in new year to discuss.

Derek has joined group looking at upcoming RAHVI survey and would appreciate some feedback.

Angela has several concerns with the RAHVI hearings around the length of time it takes for panel members to be admitted to room and delay in these hearings getting started.

Clarification required as to who has responsibility for ensuring that panel members receive papers on time. Is it RAVHI teams or local SCRA team? There are currently conflicting views being given to panel members.

8. Date of next meeting - To Be Advised