



Renfrewshire  
Area Support Team

## Learning & Development Group Meeting

07 October 2021

### MINUTES

**In attendance:** Ciara McLean, Alex MacDonald, Edi Hanley, Derek Bramma, Jacqueline Doherty

**Apologies:** Ewan McNaught, Kirsten Miller

#### 1. Mandatory training completion

- Learning Academy (LA) have offered a walk through of training for Panel Members (PMs) who have mandatory modules to complete. It was proposed that this will be offered to PMs and they will be directed to LA as appropriate.
- Some PMs are genuinely having technical issue which make virtual learning difficult.
- PMs have been contacted at various points throughout, but some will need further prompting.
- Enhanced practice module has been dropped from mandatory training and now that emergency legislation has ceased the Emerging from Lockdown has also been removed.
- 2020 Act and Advocacy module are the only current mandatory modules.
- Failure to complete mandatory training has an impact on rota. Sharing of PMs with other regions has been discussed.
- Another reminder call will be made to these panel members, after which another method of encouragement may need to be explored. Edi and Alex will coordinate this.
- Some PMs are marked as still in progress, and it may simply be that they haven't ticked the necessary boxes or completed the questionnaire.

#### 2. Pre-Service Update

- Local sessions for new panel members – the last meeting of this group was successful for those who attended, and a future meeting was considered. It was suggested that this could either be virtual or face to face. Although there was a small attendance last time it was felt that those who came along really benefited from it being face to face. Agreed to ask cohort for their view.
- Discussion around having a recognition event early in the new year, perhaps end of January. Possible venue would be St Mirren Park, although other venues will be explored.
- Pastoral support for new panel members – unfortunately the usual local training sessions with education, social work, etc haven't taken place. Education are keen to come and present on the changes with Additional Support for Learning and Health on the new changes with the reintroduction of school nurses. It was agreed that these sessions would benefit all PMs (see in-service update below).

### **3. In-Service update**

- North Strathclyde training proposal – a joint training session around Reasons and Decisions, therefore no need for this to be covered locally in Renfrewshire at this time.
- Subject matter for next local development session – topics raised recently include:
  1. education and health input (see section 2 above)
  2. domestic abuse
  3. Phil Capaldi from Public Protection Unit came before and gave a very informative talk, and this would be useful once again.
  4. gender identification

Derek will arrange a suitable time and date for 1. Jacqueline and Ciara will pursue possible presenters for 2,3 and 4.

- Next year there will be many reappointment interviews and recruitment within a short period which will be a busy time for PPAs. It is proposed to put a letter out before Christmas to gauge PMs intentions with regards to reappointment. This will allow the AST to determine how many new PMs need to be recruited.

### **4. Management of Hearings Training**

Proposal to include Renfrewshire in trial to get people back to face to face training. This would be a joint training for PMs and PPAs, with all attendees coming from different regions. This will reduce risk of pressures on rota created by possible Covid outbreak.

### **5. AOCB**

- Suggestion that new members should be invited onto the group.
- Letter of suggestion sent to CHS around recruitment. Currently only those working or living in an area can apply to be a PM there, however it would seem reasonable to consider allowing those with a significant involvement in an area being considered. Those already in service are not constrained by these rules, therefore the CHS approach is not consistent.

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