



Scottish Social Services Learning Network West E-bulletin

Website: www.west.learningnetworks.org.uk



scottish social services
learning network
west

Welcome to March Ebulletin

Welcome to our 3rd e-bulletin of the year. This month's edition is packed full of up and coming events most of which are free. Learning Network West continues to promote shared training and learning opportunities across all three sectors. With a combination of our Local Learning Network meetings and our partnership working, we aim to keep you up to date with the latest events, conferences, consultations and reports. If you wish to advertise any forthcoming events, training or meetings please contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

Forthcoming Local Learning Network/LPF and other Meetings

Area	Date	Time	Venue
Argyll & Bute	18th March	10.30	The George Hotel Inverary
Argyll & Bute LP Forum	25th March	11am	Whitegates, Lochgilphead
Ayrshires and Dumfries & Galloway	9th April	11am	Cumnock Town Hall
East Dunbartonshire	17th May	TBC	TBC
East Renfrewshire	18th May	1.30pm	Paisley, LNW offices
Inverclyde	18th May	9.30am	TBC
Glasgow	20th May	1.30pm	Mitchell Library
Lanarkshires	1 April	9.30am	St Andrew Hospice
Renfrewshire	20th May	9.30am	Paisley, LNW offices
West Dunbartonshire LPLN	4th May	9.30am	Carman Centre, Renton

If you wish to attend any of these event please register online on our events page of our website <http://west.learningnetworks.org.uk/events.php> or contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

Renfrewshire's Local Practitioners Forum, 31st March, Paisley, 11am till 12.30pm

Renfrewshire's Local Practitioners Forum would like to invite you to the next meeting. Topic: Renfrewshire's Transforming SW Agenda - Frontline staff having their say!!!

Invited speakers: Director of Social Work/CSWO - Peter Macleod, Strategic Change & Development Manager - Murdoch Carberry.

Time: 11am till 12.30pm,

Location: Paisley, Stoddart Suite Sir James Clark Building

Tea & Coffee will be available if staff wish to bring lunch from 12.30pm - 1.30pm.

If you wish to attend contact liz.snodgrass@renfrewshire.gsx.gov.uk

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News/Consultations/Publications/Reports

Improving Social Work in Scotland: A Report on SWIA's Performance Inspection Programme 2005-09

This report describes how well social work services are performing and what people who use services think about them. The messages are clear; the majority of people of all ages who use services and their carers have valued them and think they have made positive differences to their lives. Staff who provide services are committed and look for ways to improve the services they offer to people. [Click here](#) to read more.

Health and Community Care: Research Findings Review of Mental Health Law

Consultation Analysis The Scottish Government wished to consult on the recommendations raised by a review of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 and published a consultation document in August 2009 which attracted 82 responses. [Research publication](#), [research findings](#)

The Role of the Registered Social Worker in Statutory Interventions: Click on links to access documents [Guidance for Local Authorities](#), [Consultation Responses](#)

Private fostering the unknown arrangement? A report by the Care Commission on private fostering arrangements in Scotland

This report builds on our 2007 report 'The quality of fostering and adoption services in Scotland'. It showed that the quality of the public fostering services in Scotland was positive, but outlined plans to focus in future inspections on particular areas such as private fostering. [Click here](#) to read more.

The SSSC Code of Practice for Social Service Workers - giving you confidence in care ! -

What standard of care do you expect from your social services worker? Coinciding with World Social Work Day 2010 - Making Human Rights Real on 16 March 2010, the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is launching an awareness raising campaign of the Code of Practice for Social Service Workers. [Click here](#) for more information.

Continuous Learning Framework—On 3 December 2008 Adam Ingram the Minister for Children and Early Years launched the Continuous Learning Framework (CLF). The CLF was developed by the SSSC and the Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (IRISS) through a process of robust consultation with the social service sector. To download a copy of the CLF and examples of how the CLF is currently being used [click here](#)

ScOPT Newsletter - The March edition of the ScOPT Newsletter is now available for you to view. [Click here](#) to read further. If you are interested in becoming a member of ScOPT please contact Tara.hamilton@scopt.co.uk.

Choose Life Programme

The Scottish Government's Choose Life [national strategy and action plan](#) was launched in December 2002 and now resides as a multi-partnership programme within NHS Health Scotland. The strategy and action plan aims to reduce the suicide rate between 2002 and 2013 by 20%, supported by 50% of key front-line staff being educated and trained in suicide intervention skills by 2010. Each Local Authority area has a nominated Choose Life Co-ordinator who plays a key role in implementing their local plan including supporting training initiatives. Choose Life is actively involved in raising awareness of suicide through national and local media campaigns. This is most evident in our current 'Suicide. Don't hide it. Talk about it.' campaign.

Since 2002 a comprehensive and widely-acclaimed training programme has been developed in Scotland with over 500 trainers trained in local areas who have delivered intervention skills training to over 25,000 participants. This training is suitable for participants from all backgrounds, including trained professionals, the general public and especially anyone with an interest in learning how to help someone at risk of suicide. Overviews of each of the programmes can be found on www.chooselife.net/training including details of courses run each month in local areas, many of which are open to all and funded by the Local Authority area.

Putting Learning into Practice, 30th March, Scottish Youth Theatre, Brunswick Street, Glasgow

There are still a few places available for this event.

In partnership with Private Sector Workforce Initiative, Loretto Care and the Voluntary Sector Social Services Workforce Unit, the Learning Network West is pleased to provide you with unique access to many different types of learning and information under one roof. Our event, 'Putting Learning into Practice', will provide you with the opportunity to engage in hour long themed conversations with the experts. These conversations will focus on registration, inspection, procurement, new qualifications, employability, leadership, human rights, continuous learning, and much more.

The following organisations are confirmed to facilitate conversations with you:

- **Scottish Social Services Council**
- **Care Commission**
- **Scottish Human Rights Commission**
- **Social Services Knowledge Scotland**
- **Scottish Qualifications Authority**
- **Joint Improvement Team**
- **Employability Network**
- **Enable**

For more detail and to request a place please visit <http://west.learningnetworks.org.uk/events.php>. Joining instructions will be issued **no later than 23 March**.

A Meeting for people who use services and carers, 29th March 11am till 1pm, Touchbase, Kinning Park, Glasgow

Learning Network **West** would like to invite you to an open meeting on the above date in Touchbase, Kinning Park. The meeting is for people living in Glasgow who use services and carers.

Some of you may want to improve and/or shape social services and make sure that social and health careworkers across Glasgow listen to the service user and carers perspectives.

There is potential to build on the excellent work done by SUCIG (Service Users and Cares' Involvement Group) which is no longer in existence.

If you think you would be interested in attending you can contact Margaret Blair on 0141 848 1500 or email her at Margaret.blair@westlearn.org.uk. If you would like further information you can contact Julie Thomson on the same number or by email Julie.thomson@westlearn.org.uk.

Commissioning for Personalisation, One day ADSW Seminar in partnership with CCPS. Thursday 8th March 2010, Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

The purpose of this event is to provide participants with an opportunity to hear how the challenges associated with Commissioning for choice & control can be overcome from the perspective of the commissioner and the provider. There will be opportunity for discussion & advice from specialists. The seminar is aimed at staff from across sectors & services who lead, manage and deliver services directly and also those who support organisations through commissioning / policy / strategy & 'back office' activities. The cost will be £90+vat per delegate or £80+vat for ADSW and CCPS members.

For further information and to book a place go to the ADSW website or click on the link below:

<http://www.adsw.org.uk/Events/ADSW-Commissioning-For-Personalisation-Seminar/>

Human Rights and Health: making the connections work, 13th April 2010, Glasgow

Voluntary Health Scotland are hosting a conference which will focus on what they can all do to promote and support the human rights of people using health services in Scotland. Respecting and delivering the human right to 'enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health' can be a challenge - from service design to frontline delivery.

This Conference will provide a unique opportunity to:

- Gain a better understanding of the Human Rights standards and principles that impact on health services from home to hospital
- Become aware of how we can improve health services using a human rights-based approach, particularly at a time of financial cutbacks
- Review examples of good practice which can be replicated in the voluntary and public sectors

To find out more and to access [flyer](#) click on link.

MSc Applied Studies (Child Welfare and Protection), University of Stirling

The Social Work CPD team at University of Stirling has launched a new **MSc Applied Studies (Child Welfare and Protection)** in February 2010. There will be a further intake for this new MSc programme in September 2010 as well as the revised **MSc Applied Studies (Management and Leadership in Social Services)**. Both programmes offers PG Certificate and PG Diploma options as well as the full MSc award.

Applications are welcomed for the autumn intake for both courses . Contact Veronica Collins (Course Director) on v.m.collins@stir.ac.uk for more information or visit the website at www.socialwork.stir.ac.uk.

University of the West of Scotland School of Social Sciences, Lecturer in Social Work Vacancy

Lecturer in Social Work (Paisley Campus) - Reference 10/032

The above permanent post is currently been advertised with a closing date of 1st April 2010.

If you are interested in applying a recruitment pack can be obtained from the Department of Human Relations. Telephone 0141-848-3491 or email, sheila.irvine@uws.ac.uk quoting the above reference number.

Learning Network West, Blog Facility

Did you know that Learning Network West have a daily blog facility on our website <http://west.learningnetworks.org.uk/blogs.php>. Are you interested in contributing information that you would like to share with our members? If so, please contact Caty McColgan by email: caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk.

The information should only be related to the social services sector. A blog should be no longer than 200 words. We look forward to your input.

New Dates—The Facilitative Trainer Course

The Learning Network West are now in a position to offer further Facilitative Trainer courses which will be run by Kinharvie. We would encourage organisations that have not applied before to do so. Places are limited so it is important to ensure the member of staff who attends is the right person. The following dates are now available:

13/14 April 2010, Paisley
 15/16 April 2010, Paisley
 6/7 May 2010, Paisley
 2/3 June 2010, Paisley

[Click here](#) for further information. If you wish to register your interest, please go to our events page of our website or click on link provided <http://west.learningnetworks.org.uk/events.php>

As part of the Facilitative Trainer courses, we are developing a network of people who have undertaken the training. It is our expectation that on completion of the training, you will become part of this Network. The Network will focus on the Facilitative Trainer experience, how it affected your practice (good, bad or otherwise), the possible creation of a virtual toolbox based on your experiences and the opportunity to develop the Facilitative Trainer Network supported by Learning Network West. Feedback has suggested you would welcome the chance to link up with trainers and practice what you learned during the training; we can support you to do this.

Our next Facilitative Network follow up day will be held at Learning Network West's Offices on **23rd April 09.45 till 12.00** finishing with lunch and a chance to Network. If you wish to register for this event click on link <http://west.learningnetworks.org.uk/events.php> or go to our events page of our website.

Learning Network West, Training Facility, Abbey Mill Business Centre, Paisley

Learning Network West's training facility is available to hire. If you wish to run a one day event or use our premises over a longer period of time we will be happy to assist. Our premises are located at the Abbey Mill Business Centre, Paisley, we are conveniently situated for public transport and parking is available.

Our rates are very competitive and include:

- Audio/loop systems
- Laptop/projector facilities
- DVD/Video
- Flipcharts
- White boards
- Tea/coffee

Our main Training room can comfortably hold up to 35 delegates depending on layout.

We also have two small break out rooms which can hold a maximum of 8 to 10 people. Lunches can be arranged at an extra cost.

If you wish to enquire about prices, dates etc. please contact denise.alexander@westlearn.org.uk or call 0141 848 1500.

