



Scottish Social Services Learning Network West E-bulletin

Website: www.west.learningnetworks.org.uk



scottish social services
learning network
west

Welcome to our November Ebulletin

Welcome to our 11th ebulletin 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.

What's Happening in Learning Network West?

Personalisation – What Does it Mean?

16th November, Personalisation—What does it Mean? In partnership with Loretto Care LN **West** invite you to attend a partnership event in St Andrew's Hospice, **North Lanarkshire** [click here](#) to book a place.

Renfrewshire Local Learning Network Meeting

17th November 9.30am, Renfrewshire Local Learning Network Meeting, Paisley, LN **West** offices. Why not come along to our next meeting and have a say in our workplan and future events, [click here](#) to book a place.

Information Day - Practice Learning

17th November 2010, 10:00 – 12:00, Teacher Building, Glasgow City Centre. **There are still a few places available!** Do you want to know more about Practice Learning (Practice Teaching a social work student)? Well why not come along to an information day to find out more about the Professional Development Award in Practice Learning (SS). The day will cover: the application process, selection process, structure of the award and the assessment strategy. [Click here](#) to book online or for information contact Jenna.Currie@westlearn.org.uk

Lanarkshires Local Learning Network Meeting

2nd December 2010, 9.30am till 11.30am, St Andrew's Hospice. Why not come along to our next meeting and have a say in our workplan and future events [click here](#) to book a place.

Ayrshires and Dumfries & Galloway LLN

3rd December 2010 11am, Cumnock Town Hall. If you wish to attend please [click here](#) or contact julie.thomson@westlearn.org.uk

LEARN (Local Learning Network for Service Users and Carers)

9th December 2010, 1.45pm, PlatForum, Burleigh Street Govan. Why not come along and have your say. If you wish to attend please [click here](#) or contact Julie.thomson@westlearn.org.uk.

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The Facilitator Trainer, 15th & 16th December, Paisley

The Facilitative Trainer – this is another opportunity to participate in Kinharvie’s highly acclaimed programme; we are keen for more people to be part of this innovative and exciting programme. We hope you will take this opportunity to develop your existing practice and learn new skills.

Priority will be given to organisations that are part of a Local Learning Network or have previously supported Learning Network activity. To register your interest and to find out more [click here](#).

Domestic Abuse and Substance Misuse Performance, 16th November, Motherwell Glo Centre

North Lanarkshire Violence Against Women working group and Doorway Positive Action to End Abuse are happy to present this performance by Geese Theatre Company. This interactive piece follows two characters, Karen and Gina both of whom are victims of domestic abuse and are involved in some level of substance misuse.

For further information and to download flyer and booking form [click here](#).

Leadership Through Effective Engagement, 24th November, Touch Base, Sense Scotland

SCLD in partnership with Learning Network [West](#) and Learning Network [South East](#) are hosting this FREE event for those involved in Social Work Education and Training.

This event provides an opportunity to look at good practice in relation to involving people who use services and their carers in Social Work Education and services.

For further information, programme and booking form [click here](#).

Continuous Learning Framework (CLF) Gathering Group, 3rd December, Learning Network [West](#), Paisley

This meeting is an opportunity to share ideas with others about the many ways the CLF can be of use. The meeting will commence at 10.30 and finish at 12.30pm followed by a light lunch and a chance to network.

If you wish to attend the next gathering group please contact Shirley.gibson@sssc.uk.com or phone 01382 207170.

Continuous Learning Framework (CLF) Information Session, 3rd December, Learning Network [West](#), Paisley

Continuous Learning Framework Information Session 1.15pm till 3.15pm - This is an opportunity for you/your organisation to find out how the Framework can be used within your own setting and how you can move forward with this. To book a place contact Shirley.gibson@sssc.uk.com or phone 01382 207170.

News/Consultations/Publications/Reports

Report evaluating the Post Registration Training and Learning of newly qualified social workers is now available—This research was commissioned by the The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) to provide an evidence base for understanding the current situation in relation to Post Registration Training and Learning (PRTL) of newly qualified social workers (NQSW) and to examine how NQSW's are evidencing the impact their PRTL has on their practice. [Click here](#) to read further.

A qualified workforce makes a difference— Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) is carrying out a survey on the difference that a qualified workforce makes to the quality of social services. They would welcome your views and would appreciate it if you could take time to complete one of their surveys. [Click here](#) to read further.

A graduate trainee's verdict on the National skills academy for social care—A recent **English Initiative** report was issued into how a new trainee scheme is helping graduates gain the skills needed to build their careers in the independent social-care sector. Various organisations across the sectors employed graduates under [the National Skills Academy for Social Care Scheme](#).

The results were extremely positive; both graduates and employers benefited from the scheme. It gives graduates with no experience of social care the opportunity enhance their careers and to nurture management talent in the sector. It's give employers large or small across all sectors the opportunity to locate an inspiring leader. One employer said "fast-tracking leadership means we are able to give them a passion for delivering care and managing an excellent care service, and we are able to bottle that passion and enthusiasm before it gets lost, which can happen along the way. The find out more about this scheme [click here](#)

Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has a responsibility once social service workers are registered, to investigate any allegations of misconduct it receives about them. It carries out this responsibility in adherence with the SSSC Conduct Rules which are made by the SSSC with the consent of Scottish Ministers. The Conduct Rules set out how the SSSC will deal with allegations of misconduct against registered workers and sanctions that can be imposed where misconduct is found.

The SSSC has now operated under its Conduct Rules since 1 April 2003 and in that time the Conduct Rules have been amended several times, with the consent of Scottish Ministers. The SSSC has decided it is now time to consider further changes to the Conduct Rules and they are keen to hear your views. [Click here](#) to access the proposals, the response form and where to send your reply. This consultation runs from 12 November 2010 to 12 February 2011.

Inverclyde Event, Personalisation/In Control - What does it mean? 25th January 2011

The Richmond Fellowship Scotland in partnership with Inverclyde's Local Learning Network invite you to share practice, participate in themed conversations and contribute to discussions around Personalisation, Telecare and Self-directed support; the event is open to organisations and workers interested in finding out more. Personalisation/In Control – what does it mean? will take place in Greenock on Tuesday 25th January; further details and a programme will follow shortly.

Personalisation: Exploring the tensions, 7th December, University of the West Social Work Research & Practitioner Series, Paisley Campus, Room D133

In the next in this series of Lectures, Ian Ferguson, Senior Lecturer in Social Work, University of Stirling will discuss "Personalisation: Exploring the tensions".

Ian Ferguson will discuss research and practice issues related to the personalisation agenda and consider how social workers can maintain a critical perspective. Lecture will be begin 7th December at 4pm and finish at 5.30pm, Room D133, Paisley Campus.

Tea and coffee will be served.

If you wish to attend please contact Michele McCutcheon email michele.mccutcheon@uws.ac.uk or tel: 0141-848-3951.

Are you afraid of IT?: Using learning technologies to support social service practice, 25th February 2011

A first for Scotland's social services, this conference and exhibition is about technology to support social service practice.

Organised by the SSSC, IRISS and the Scottish Social Services Learning Networks, this event at the Edinburgh Conference Centre at Heriot Watt University promises to be both exciting and challenging. It's part of a programme to foster better use of technology in the social services sector.

Who should attend?

The Conference will attract a wide range of participants from across the social service sector in Scotland. It will bring together policy makers, senior managers, learning and development staff, social work and care practitioners, academics, and IT managers.

Why you should attend?

Addressing the development needs of staff is one of the many challenges facing employers in the social service sector. This includes balancing increased demand for services with limited operational budgets, maintaining staffing rotas with scarce human resources etc. Enabling staff to access learning and development opportunities in this context can be particularly challenging.

For further information or to book a place [click here](#).

Training Facility—Learning Network West, Paisley

Learning Network West's Training facility offers extremely competitive rates for anyone who wishes to run a course or event.

When you book our training room you also have access to 2 break out rooms completely free of charge.

What makes us different from most organisations is that we include the use of a laptop, projector, sound system and flipcharts free of charge. We can offer free parking and are only a 10 minute walk away from the local train station.

If you are thinking of having a training event why not come along a view our premises. We will try to negotiate the best rate possible given the current financial restrictions across all organisations.

For further information contact Denise.Alexander@westlearn.org.uk or call 0141 848 1500.

From College to University, 14th December, Hilton Edinburgh Grosvenor Hotel

A combination of funding cuts and rising application numbers signals an uncertain future for Scotland's further and higher education sector – perhaps the only guarantee is that it will face unprecedented challenges in the months and years to come.

Lord Browne's review of higher education funding has firmly cast the spotlight on HE funding and as we await the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning Mike Russell MSP's Green Paper on HE funding in Scotland due later this year, there are major questions to be answered on how new arrangements will impact access to higher education.

To book a place, find out more information and to view the programme of the day [click here](#).

Survey on Terms and Conditions in the Voluntary Sector

Survey on Terms and conditions in the Voluntary Sector - Over the past couple of years, voluntary sector organisations have come under increasing pressure to reduce costs and make efficiency savings. The Workforce Unit has devised a survey which aims to find out:

- The extent to which voluntary sector organisations have had to reduce terms and conditions of employment
- The reasons behind any changes
- The impact that this has on the workforce and on service delivery

Find out why and who should take part in this survey by [clicking here](#) or contacting caroline.strugeon@ccpscotland.org or phone 01786 849 752.

Survey closes on Wednesday 8th December.

Out of adversity.....comes resilience, resourcefulness, innovation and much more

Are you looking for ways of making your funding go further, for making sure that what you do is effective, that you are kept up to date with latest news on ways of developing the skills of the workforce?



In these times of economic uncertainty, partnership working becomes even more important and strengthening existing partnerships and building new ones is vital. We are planning a range of opportunities for you to get together to develop new skills, build capacity for you and your organisation and ultimately benefit those in receipt of services.

Watch this space, our ebulletins and website for a range of new or tried and tested learning options. These include latest research on what makes transfer of learning work best; coaching and mentoring skills; more Facilitative Trainer programmes; how to evaluate what you're doing so you know you are getting best value and much more.

Keep in touch with Learning Network [West!](#)

LEARN Conference, 27th January 2011, Glasgow

LEARN (A Local Learning Network for people who use services and carers) is hosting an event for people who use services, carers and social care/social work students in the Glasgow area. This is a follow on event from the very successful **Our Future Your Future**; please follow the link to read the conference report <http://data.learningnetworks.org.uk/workforce/451/Conference%20report%20March%202009.pdf>.

The event will be held in Glasgow on Thursday 27th January, more details will be sent out in due course. If you live in the Glasgow area and would like to be involved in the conference or find out more about LEARN, please email julie.thomson@westlearn.org.uk or phone her on 0141 848 1500.

SCLD Employment Champions

Currently SCLD has employed six individuals with learning disabilities as Employment Champions. Their role is to tell the story of their transition from education to employment and the barriers they have faced and overcome. They speak at events and conferences, often for Central and Local Government employers, and always to a very high standard.

The aim over the coming months is to introduce the Employment Champions to the wider employment market, highlighting the benefits and opportunities available to employers both in terms of equality and diversity, particularly in today's job market.

The Employment Champions are available to speak at conferences and events either as individuals or as a group. They have each gained considerable experience from previous events and have become very skilled in their presentation. Each event or conference to date has given extremely positive feedback on these presentations, often leading to further engagements. Following a partnership event organised by the Supported Employment service run by Glasgow City Council's Social Work Department, Angie Black, Supported Employment Service Manager said "The Employment Champions really helped to make the day a success, the feedback was really positive. It's a much more powerful message to hear them speak; it really worked."

The Employment Champions attend events at **no cost** to the organiser since the aim of attendance is to promote awareness and benefits to employers. If you feel you, or someone you know would be interested in the Employment Champions contact Pauling McKenna, 0141 418 5420 or email christine.mcbain@scld.co.uk.

