



Scottish Social Services Learning Network West E-bulletin

Website: www.west.learningnetworks.org.uk



scottish social services
learning network
west

Welcome to September Ebulletin

Welcome to our 9th 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 the Learning Network West?

28th September, 10am till 12noon, In partnership with East Renfrewshire Local Practitioner Learning Network, we will be holding a Kinship Care half-day session, lunch will be provided [click here](#) to book a place.

29th September, 9.30am till 12.30pm Facilitative Trainer follow up day [click here](#) to book a place.

1st October, 11am, - Ayrshires and Dumfries & Galloway Local Learning Network, Cumnock Town Hall, [click here](#) to book a place.

7th October, 9.30am - Lanarkshires Local Learning Network Meeting, Whitehill Neighbourhood Centre, [click here](#) to book a place.

7th October, LEARN Local Learning Network, Brook Street, Meeting Room 5, 1.30pm to 2.45pm

25th October, day 9.30am till 12.30pm, Facilitative Trainer follow up [click here](#) to book a place.

26th October, 9am to 4pm, West Dunbartonshire LPLN "Paths to Partnership" Event [click here](#) to book a place.

2nd November, 9.30am to 12.30pm, West Dunbartonshire LPLN Carman Centre, Renton, [click here](#) to book a place.

2nd November, 9.30am till 12.30pm, Kinharvie Facilitation Skills Development Day, [click here](#) to book a place.

3rd November, Kilmarnock Event, [click here](#) for further information.

8th November, 1.30pm, Glasgow Local Learning Network Meeting, Mitchell Library, [click here](#) to book a place

9th November, Leadership Event, Glasgow Caledonian University, to book a place contact Anne.Whigham@sssc.uk.com

11th November, 10.30am, Argyll & Bute Local Learning Network, The George Hotel Inverary, [click here](#) to book a place.

12th November, 9.30am, Inverclyde Local Learning Network Meeting, Venue TBC, [click here](#) to book a place.

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

17th November 9.30am, Renfrewshire Local Learning Network Meeting, Paisley, LN West offices, [click here](#) to book a place

18th November, East Renfrewshire LPLN event in partnership Eastwood House TBC, Personalisation What does this mean? 9.15, till 1pm, [click here](#) to book a place. Further information will follow.

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News/Consultations/Publications/Reports

Complying with the Scottish National Standards for Information and Advice Providers: A Practical Toolkit—This toolkit has been prepared to help agencies understand and evidence how the advice service they provide complies with the Scottish National Standard for Information and Advice Providers (the Standards). [Click here](#) to access the Toolkit.

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010: Consultation on Regulations Relating to the Establishment of Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (SCSWIS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS). This consultation seeks your views on regulations drafted under the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 relating to the establishment of Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (SCSWIS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS). These regulations will cover: registration; inspection; joint inspections; reporting; and fees. [Click here](#) to read further.

Troublesome Youth Groups, Gangs and Knife Carrying in Scotland – This Scottish Government research looks at the nature and extent of youth gang activity and knife carrying in Scotland and recommendations for policy interventions. [Click here](#) to read report.

Towards an Autism Strategy for Scotland - The Scottish Government, working in partnership with the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Reference Group, have developed a draft Scottish Autism Strategy. The Strategy sets out what the Scottish Government in partnership with users, carers and professionals proposes to do to meet the needs of people with ASD in response to growing concerns that, whilst much has been achieved in Scotland to date, much has yet to be done. [Click here](#) to read further.

Research For Recovery: A Review of the Drugs Evidence Base - A review of international evidence to support Scotland's National Drugs Strategy, The Road to Recovery. This report presents evidence on effective treatment and recovery from substance misuse. [Click here](#) to read further.

Increasing access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) Programme: West Dunbartonshire, in partnership with Renfrewshire CHP, made a successful bid for 100% grant allocation by the Department of Work and Pensions for Scotland.

One Senior and Two Employment Advisors will provide effective service coverage for West Dunbartonshire and Renfrewshire. The service is estimated to cost £225,000 over two years. In West Dunbartonshire the initiative will be co-located with the Primary Care Mental Health Team. In Renfrewshire the initiative will be hosted and co-located by the Doing Well by Depression team. The IAPT Pilot will enable both areas to establish an integrated health and employment service providing early intervention for people at risk of losing their jobs through mental ill health. It will also enhance and contribute to the respective 'employability' programmes in each area (e.g. Workforce Plus, Jobcentre Plus, and Condition Management, Healthy Working Lives) enhancing and adding value to partnerships by addressing the gaps, providing new and additional pivotal activities and links to psychological services. Whilst most employees who are absent have access to physiotherapy and occupational health services through personnel, employees with mental ill health have difficulty quickly accessing psychological support services.

Employment Practitioners would address this service gap through early intervention and increased access to a range of appropriate supports. Early indications suggest that this initiative would significantly augment the range of supports available to employers and would be a welcome development.

The target group includes people struggling to maintain employment, employees who may be recently signed off sick, on statutory sick pay due to mental ill health and/or are unemployed but not claiming benefits. The service will focus on employment issues; staff returning to work after sick leave; supporting individuals to access psychological therapies or assisting individuals to look for new jobs.

Frontline health and social work staff will also benefit from training in conjunction with the Health and Employability team within Renfrewshire Workforce Plus and by facilitators in West Dunbartonshire to raise awareness of the importance of the benefits of employment and meaningful activity and developing capacity for staff. The pilot will commence in the spring.

If you would like any further information, please contact **Ingram Wilson**, Mental Health Strategy, Unit 5 Beardmore Business Centre, Dalmuir G81 4HA tel no. **0141 562 2447** or **Nicol Rhodes**, Senior Employment Advisor, Abbey Business Centre, Mile End Mill, Unit 1001-1011, 12 Seedhill Rd, Paisley Pa1 1JS tel no. **0141 849 2201**.

National Early Years Network Event Edinburgh Conference Centre, Heriott Watt, Edinburgh 5 & 6 October 2010

This conference aims to support early years professionals across all sectors who deliver improved outcomes for Scotland's children and families.

The objectives of the conference are:

- To provide opportunities from practitioners working in the early years and to share practice across local areas and sectors
- To share current evidence in the early years and encourage the use of evidence based practice in local service development.
- To extend awareness on the scope of the early years from preconception to 8 years and the impact of work at this life stage
- To support the implementation of transition change to improve Scotland's outcomes for children and young people.

The target audience of the conference are practitioners across the NHS, local government and the community and voluntary sector working in Early Years, both professional and volunteers. Also those interested in raising the profile of Early Years and supporting parents and young children across Scotland. For further information contact Laura Martin Email:

laura.martin2@nhs.net

Making Space 2010: international conference promoting innovation, creativity and sustainability in design for children and young people aged 0-18, 7-8 October 2010, Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh,

This conference will bring together a range of international experts who will examine issues related to children and space from aspects of how children and young people relate to their environment. It will look at the impact on their development, what makes a good learning environment and what we need to focus on in the future.

As well as plenary sessions, delegates will be invited to join one of three study tours visiting inspiring and innovative new buildings and projects in Central Scotland and hearing from those directly involved in their design and planning.

For further information click on link <http://www.playscotland.org/events-training-calendar/>

The Happening 2010, Paisley Town Hall, Tuesday 16th November 2010, 09.30am – 4pm

The Happening is a one day Social Enterprise Trade Fair which will provide the opportunity to buy and sell goods from Social Enterprises from all over the West of Scotland and network with other social entrepreneurs. There will also be the opportunity to attend workshops, visit local social enterprises and visit the cafe supplied by local social enterprises.

This fair is suitable for anyone interested in social enterprise, business and community life, including those working in Third Sector organisations, local authorities, chambers of commerce, public sector agencies and the private sector. A number of social enterprises drawn from across the West of Scotland will be exhibiting/trading goods. For full event details please [click here](#). For further information contact Anne Keir, 0141 587 2487, anne.keir@rcvsweb.co.uk.

Free Mentoring for Renfrewshire Charities

Janis McDonald, RCVS' Chief Executive of Renfrewshire Council, will be the host for three Mentoring Group sessions aimed at established charities in Renfrewshire looking to improve how they are run. Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce is delivering these sessions for FREE thanks to the Business Mentoring Programme.

The first session takes place on the 23rd of September with the theme of 'Social Enterprise: What is it? Why do it?' Session two looks at managing change and will be held on the 21st of October. The third and final session occurs on the 18th of November and focuses on successful planning and finance.

The sessions will also provide a good networking opportunity with like minded people from the sector. [Further information](#)

Scottish Housing and Support Conference, 7th October 2010, Hilton Edinburgh Grosvenor

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Scottish Housing and Support Conference. It began as the Scottish Special Needs Housing Conference, determined to bring together the different strands of services across housing, health, social work and the voluntary sector and get them talking about how best to meet housing and support needs, share best practice and innovation, and most importantly, to listen to the voice of service users.

Twenty years on, the country now faces a time of unprecedented budget constraints and challenges.

The 2010 Conference opening themes are **Choices, Cuts and Contradictions**. Click on link for programme and booking form <http://www.joa.co.uk/shasc.html> or Contact: Norma Jones on 0131 557 1954.

Directory of Learning Providers

Learning Network [West](#) are developing a directory of Learning Providers across the West of Scotland; this will include organisations who provide social services related courses from SVQ 2 to postgraduate level and all other relevant training. The completed document will be located in our website; we will notify you when it is available to download.

If you wish your organisation to be registered on this list please contact caty.mccolgan@westlearn.org.uk in the first instance.

Complete this survey from SSSC

The Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Social Services guidance and resources were developed by the Scottish Social Services Council as part of the development work to support the implementation of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) within the social services sector.

The SSSC has recently developed digital versions of the RPL Evidence Gathering and Profiling materials along with worked examples and some e-learning activities to help individuals prepare for making and RPL claim. This is available on the Workforce Solutions Portal at: <http://workforcesolutions.sssc.uk.com/course/view.php?id=12>

The SSSC have prepared a Survey Monkey on the use of RPL processes in social services. These questions are focused on people supporting learners whether they are employers, work based assessors or training providers.

The deadline for completion of this survey is **1st October**. Take part and share your views by following the link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7TVQHJZ>

Planning in the care curriculum

The Scottish Social Services Council would like to invite College employees with responsibility for the planning, development and delivery of the care curriculum to a workshop.

The aims of the workshop are:

- to update colleges on SSSC's registration dates, registration conditions and the implication for individual registrants who fail to meet requirements
- to clarify the registration process
- to discuss how colleges can ensure that learners can meet SSSC registration criteria
- to discuss ways to use credit transfer and the recognition of prior learning
- to ensure that learners have no artificial barriers to gaining qualifications.

Workshop A: for staff with responsibility for the Early Education curriculum is on 23 September 2010. There is a choice of a workshop from 10am - 12noon or from 1.30pm - 3.30pm. These will be held in the Teacher Building, Glasgow.

Workshop B: for staff with responsibility for the Social Care curriculum is on 28 October 2010. There is a choice of a workshop from 10am - 12noon or from 1.30pm - 3.30pm. These will be held in Scotland's Colleges, Stirling.

To book a place at the workshops [click here](#).

Farewell to Nicola Bain from Learning Network West



For those of you who don't know me my name is Nicola Bain; I am employed as an administrator at the Learning Network West. I came to the Learning Network on a 2 year secondment 15 years ago!! I am sorry to be leaving everyone at the Learning Network after so long, but I am excited to be returning back to Glasgow City Council. I am looking forward to the challenges that my new job will bring. I have met many interesting people over the years and I have enjoyed a varied job and have learned lots of new skills.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all past and present colleagues for their support and humour over the years.

STRADA, Focus Newsletter

University of Glasgow, STRADA wish to announce their new-look Focus Newsletter is now available. The Focus is available to download at www.projectSTRADA.org.

The Focus will now be published three times per year; in the Autumn, Winter and Spring/Summer.

They hope you find this an interesting and informative read. Please pass this onto any colleagues that may be interested in the work of Scottish Training on Drugs and Alcohol.

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.

