

News bulletin - Nov 08

Welcome to our November news bulletin

Network News

❖ Consultation Workshop for Practice Learning (PLQ2)

As a result of the recent consultation - which was extremely well attended by a diverse range of interested parties - a Steering Group has been convened to address the development of a PLQ2 (SCQF Level 9 Award) in, by and for the north of Scotland. The first meeting of the Group will be in Aberdeen on 7th November.

❖ Showcasing Workforce Planning – 4th December, Aberdeen

This LNN event is aimed at providing an insight into certain work carried out within the sector on Workforce Planning, specifically four Workforce Planning tools that are tailored for different areas in the Social Services sector.

Speakers will include Kate O'Hagan, Head of Organisational Development, Improvement Service
Mike Docherty, Learning and Development Advisor, SSSC
Maureen Anderson, Assistant Director: Workforce Development, SIRCC
Caroline Sturgeon, Development and Policy Officer, VSSSWU

To access the programme and booking form click [here](#)

❖ SVQ Assessors & Verifiers Local Area Network (SVQ LAN)

Next meeting of the SVQ LAN 2nd December, Aberdeen - change of topic to **Registration & Closing Dates Consultation**. Further information on this event will be posted to the SVQ LAN site in the LNN portal and circulated to the LAN members. If you are not a member of the SVQ LAN but would like to attend this part of the day please contact Jan at the Network office on 01888 569200 or click the email link: learningnetworknorth@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

❖ Website

We are currently re-developing the Learning Network's website, both nationally and regionally. Look out for information on the launch of the new site over the next few months.

❖ CPD Events

The [Learning Network North](#) in partnership with the VSSSWU and Learning Dynamic invite you to attend this learning event it is aimed at social service managers registered or due to register with the SSSC. It will support you to plan to meet the Post Registration and Training Requirements (PRTL) for yourself and your team.

It will specifically refresh your knowledge of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) concepts and help you plan your leadership approach to developing learning within your team.

❖ MHO Award – RGU

The new MHO Award has been approved by the SSSC with no conditions. Congratulations to all concerned.

❖ Consultation event – Modern Apprenticeships

Modern Apprenticeships offer people over the age of 16 a chance to combine paid employment with training and gaining qualifications. Modern Apprenticeship frameworks are developed by the sector where they will be used and this means that they offer high quality training to standards recognised by the sector.

In 2008, the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC), as Skills for Care and Development, took over the management of the frameworks for the Health and Social Care (HSC) and Children's Care Learning and Development (CCLD) Modern Apprenticeships (MAs) levels 3 and 4.

The frameworks for these MAs are being updated and will incorporate the most recent SVQs and some changes to the Workplace Core Skills. This work is being undertaken to ensure that the frameworks meet the needs of the sector and of employers.

The SSSC would like to hear your views on the review of the existing HSC and CCLD Modern Apprenticeships and on the possibility of level 2 Modern Apprenticeships. Your views will feed into the submission to the Alliance of Sector Skills Council (ASSC) of the revised frameworks. An on line consultation questionnaire will be available shortly also the sector's views will be sought at four consultation events. These are being held on **9th December Aberdeen**, 15th December Glasgow, 16th December Edinburgh and in January Dundee/Perth date and venue tbc.

The [Learning Network North](#) in partnership with the SSSC are facilitating at the December event in Aberdeen. For further information on the consultation and to book your place please contact L&D.Admin@sssc.uk.com

Private Care Sector Workforce Initiative

This is a new initiative to be managed by Scottish Care in partnership with Scottish Care at Home - on behalf of the wider private health and social care sector in Scotland.

The Initiative is funded by the Scottish Government through the Older People's Unit and the Workforce & Capacity Issues Division. It has arisen from the outcomes of the recent Workforce Surveys carried out by Scottish Care and Scottish Care at Home.

The Initiative team will be managed by a contracted team lead by David Rennie and will be accountable to Scottish Care and Scottish Care at Home.

Click [here](#) for more detailed initial information. A new website will be launched at the Scottish Care Annual Conference in Glasgow on 14 November. There is currently a website holding page with all contact details at www.workforceinitiative.co.uk.

NCJA

The Northern Community Justice Authority (NCJA) covers the same geographical area as the [LNN](#) and amongst other things is tasked with identifying gaps in current services and opportunities for joint working and training. A new Training & Development Officer is due to commence in post in November - using the same office base as the [LNN](#) team.

To find out more about the work of the NCJA visit their website click www.northerncja.org.uk or to download their latest Training Newsletter click [here](#)

Scottish Government : Consultations

Introduction of final dates for social workers and social service workers to achieve registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)

This consultation paper proposes the setting of **final** dates for achievement of registration with the SSSC for social workers and social service workers through the introduction of the Regulation of Care (Fitness to Employees for Employment in Care Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2008. The legislation applies to full and part time workers, not to volunteers or workers in seasonal services. Deadline: Wednesday, 31st December 2008

Click the link [here](#) to participate.

The Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2008: Second Consultation

The document accompanies the second draft of the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2008. The regulations have been significantly restructured and redrafted following the original consultation which closed in March 2008. Scottish Government welcome comments on all of the draft regulations Deadline: Friday, 16th January 2009

Click the link [here](#) to participate.

Proposals for Maximum Regulatory Fees for care services to be set by Scottish Ministers for 2009-10

This is a consultation paper requiring comments on the proposed raising of Fees charged by The Care Commission from 1 April 2009. Deadline: Monday, 19th January 2009

Click the link [here](#) to participate.

Richmond Fellowship Positive Approaches to Challenging Behaviour

This seminar will be held on 3rd December from 7pm to 9pm and then again on 10th December from 2pm to 4pm at Discovery Point , Discovery Quay, Dundee. The events are an opportunity for staff or parents or carers who have an interest in the area of Challenging Behaviour to find out about the approach taken by Richmond Fellowship to support people with very high levels of Challenging Behaviour.

Click www.trfs.org.uk to access a booking form

SIRCC

Caring About Success: Who Cares? Scotland's 30th Anniversary Conference

20th November 2008 : International Children's Rights Day
Glynhill Hotel, Renfrew

30 years on - breaking down barriers, challenging stigma and championing the rights of children and young people.

Cost £125: Click [here](#) to access SIRCC's website download more information & a booking form.

- **Scottish Care - Developing a Sector Fit for Purpose Annual Conference & Exhibition**

- FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER: THISTLE HOTEL, CAMBRIDGE STREET, GLASGOW

- Scottish Care, the member organisation for independent care homes in Scotland invite you to attend their Annual Conference and Exhibition.

- Speakers include:

- Shona Robison, Minister for Public Health
- Alan Baird, President of ADSW
- Jacquie Roberts, Chief Executive, Care Commission
- Carole Wilkinson, Chief Executive, Scottish Social Services Council

- The preferential rate of **£50.00** for attendance is offered to individuals through the Learning Networks. To book, please contact the administrator, Cath Balmer, at Scottish Care on 01292 270240 or at cath.balmer@scottishcare.org Click [here](#) to download the programme and booking form

- **Open University : Foundations for Social Work Practice (KYJ113)**

- This course is the open access version of the first of the 3 practice learning courses that when studied sequentially along side other open access courses make up the honours degree professional social work programme.

- The OU have opened up this course to students working in a care setting but not already sponsored by an employer giving opportunities to gain an insight into what social work is about as well as demonstrating their potential to a present or future employer. It should be equally of interest to people considering a career in the caring professions for the first time as the course provides a grounding in the components of good social work practice – knowledge, values and ethics, skills and the social work process.

- Click [here](#) to access course flyer

- **VSSSWU – Funding Streams Update 2008**

- The Workforce Unit has updated its guidance on funding that may be available to voluntary sector social services organisations for learning and development.

- The guidance describes the different funding streams, explains who is eligible and gives contact details for each stream.

- Click [here](#) to download the full document via the Workforce Unit website.



- **Find out more about who we are and what we do by visiting our national and regional website:**
<http://www.learningnetworks.org.uk/north.php> and don't forget, if you have an event you'd like publicised or an item of news you'd like to share please contact us

- W: www.learningnetworks.org.uk/north E: learningnetworknorth@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

- T: 01 888 569 200 F: 01 888 569 207

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