



## The social work briefing

As this will be our last social work briefing before Christmas, we'd like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The next briefing will be sent out in January 2020.

### **Post-qualifying standards for adult social work supervisors development pathway**

We're pleased to announce the new dedicated web page for [post-qualifying standards for social work supervisors pathway](#) is now live on our website. Here you'll find links to the following resources:

- practice guidance
- a self-assessment tool (designed to support the initial conversation between the supervisor and the mentor at the beginning of the pathway)
- a helpful infographic depicting the stages within the pathway.

You'll also find links to the final two ASYE regional events, where we'll be discussing the next stages in implementing the standards and pathway.

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## **Last chance to book onto the final two ASYE workshops**

Skills for Care is holding the final two ASYE workshops during December. Social Work England has confirmed that they will be attending the events. The workshops are aimed at those who have responsibility for the ASYE and quality assurance, including PSWs and ASYE leads.

The focus in the morning session will be on adult services and in the afternoon it will be on child and family services. Delegates are invited to attend either or both workshops and there is a networking lunch in between. The presentation from Social Work England will be just after lunch and everyone is invited.

There are only a few places left so please click on the following links to find out more and book:

[Tuesday 10 December - Preston](#)

[Thursday 19 December - London](#) - please note that the morning session about the ASYE in adult services is fully booked, however you can go on the [waiting list](#). The afternoon session about the ASYE in child and family services still has a few places available.

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## **Train the Trainer Supervisor Development Programme**

Don't forget that DHSC are working with Research in Practice for adults (RiPfa) to develop and deliver a **Train the Trainer Supervisor Development Programme (TTSDP)** for social workers working in adult services. The programme will focus on enabling and empowering training and workforce development within local authorities to deliver the learning internally or regionally. It will comprise three days of learning using a 'Train the Trainer' approach and involves a combination of face to face teaching and self-directed/facilitated study. There are various dates being organised around the country which will be advertised via Principal Social Workers.

[Find out more about the programme here](#). Also follow #ttSDP for updates.

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## ASYE Adults

### **The funding portal closes on 31 January 2020. The deadline to register NQSWs is fast approaching**

The Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE) portal is open for employers to register their 2019-20 newly qualified social workers (NQSWs) until 31 January 2020. Employers must have submitted a pre-registration application form before registering NQSWs, and NQSWs must have started the ASYE from 1 February 2019 to be eligible for funding. The portal can be accessed via [our website](#) and [guidance is available on how to use the portal](#).

Please be reminded that you will not receive your **milestone 1 payment** until you have registered at least one NQSW, completed all other sections of the online form and you have officially submitted the application. You can add further NQSWs after an application has been submitted.

**Please note that this is the final social work briefing funding reminder before 28 January 2020.**

**If you have any questions about adults ASYE, please email [adultsASYE@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:adultsASYE@skillsforcare.org.uk).**

## ASYE child and family

### **Last chance to book onto an action learning programme**

There are only a few places left on our final action learning programme which is being held in Walsall, [Midlands \(Walsall\) – 6 and 7 February and 4 March 2020](#). All other programmes are fully booked.

If you're an ASYE child and family lead or ASYE child and family supervisor, don't miss out on your chance to go on this free 3-day training course in how to facilitate action learning sets in your ASYE programme.

Action learning is a grouped based activity which uses the learning of others to solve professional challenges. It encourages the individual to reflect on their experience to develop their own practice. **Please note that this is not for newly qualified social workers.**

[Book now](#).

### **Employer visits**

As part of the Cycle of Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement the next round of employer visits will take place in February and March 2020. We will be communicating with those employers selected for a visit with proposed dates before Christmas.

**If you have any issues or questions relating to the child and family ASYE please email [childandfamilyasye@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:childandfamilyasye@skillsforcare.org.uk)**

## News from the sector



## **Social Work England becomes the new specialist regulator for social workers**

On Monday 2 December Social Work England will take over from the Health and Care Professions Council as the new specialist regulator for the profession. Social work is about people and social workers support millions of people across the country every day. The purpose of Social Work England is to regulate the social worker profession so that people receive the best possible support whenever they might need it in life. They are committed to raising standards through collaboration with everyone who has an interest in social work, and they will also seek to promote confidence in the sector.

Social workers will be contacted from Monday 2 December to introduce them to the new regulator and there will be details on how to set up an online account. Lots of useful information that social workers will need to know, for example, the new professional standards and guidance on CPD, will also be available on the Social Work England website.

Colum Conway, Chief Executive of Social Work England, said: "It's a landmark moment for the sector as our organisation takes over as regulator. We have been established under new legislation which allows us to be a modern, specialist regulator that builds and promotes confidence in the sector. We will be flexible in our approach, collaborative with everyone who has an interest in social work and take proportionate action when things go wrong.

"Many social workers, stakeholders and people with lived experience have played an active role in shaping our organisation through the development phase. I look forward to continuing our collaborative work and increasing confidence in the sector."

Find out more [here](#). You can also support the launch of the regulator by sharing this information amongst your networks and on Twitter using #socialworkengland.

## **LGA announces re-launch of Return to Social Work programme**

The LGA is pleased to launch its Return to Social Work programme. Designed to support councils to recruit social workers who have taken

a break from work, this national scheme will provide free, high-quality training to 200 former social workers to enable them to return to the profession. [Visit their website for more information.](#)

### **Social work with adults blog**

The [latest blog](#) from the Chief Social Workers is titled 'Voting and social work'. Over the last few years, social workers across the country have supported people to register and get access to support to be able to vote. In this guest blog, social care commissioner Elaine James and principal social worker Rob Mitchell discuss the background and evidence base for social work engagement in supporting people to fulfil their citizen rights if they choose to do so.

You can read more of their previous blogs [here](#).

## **Skills for Care activity**

### **12 days of Christmas**

In the lead up to Christmas, Skills for Care will be sharing 12 exciting products to support you and your service during the festive season and into 2020. There'll be exciting giveaways so keep an eye on their [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages, as well as [their website](#).

## Social work in your area

### London

#### ASYE workshops

We're holding an ASYE workshop at the Holiday Inn Bloomsbury on Thursday 19 December, 10:00-16:00. It's aimed at those who have responsibility for the ASYE and quality assurance, including PSWs and ASYE leads. The focus in the morning session will be on adult services and in the afternoon it will be on child and family services. Delegates are invited to attend either or both workshops and there is a networking lunch in between. **Please note that the morning session about the ASYE in adult services is fully booked, however, the afternoon session about the ASYE in child and family services still has a few places available.** Find out more and book.

[Find out more and book.](#)

#### Forum meeting notes

Please note the most recent forum notes are available on the [website](#) (click on London and South East and scroll down). The minutes from the most recent forums are on the main page. If you click on [ASYE best practice forum](#) or [SWEN](#), these documents contain notes from previous meetings.

[The notes from the SWEN held on 6 November are now available.](#)

#### Shared Practice Learning Paperwork

REMINDER: Following the annual review of the paperwork after the SWEN on 3 April, the revised shared practice learning paperwork for the 2019-20 academic year is now available on the [website](#). This paperwork will be used by all London higher education institutions from September 2019.

#### Dates for your diary

If you wish to be added to the invitation list for the meetings below, please email us. **Please note, the booking system is changing (see below) and due to increasing numbers it is important to book your place.**



## **SWEN**

Future meetings will be held at Skills for Care, Lynton House, 7-12 Tavistock Square, Kings Cross, London, WC1H 9LT. Dates for the next meetings are:

- Wednesday 18 March 2020.

SWEN members may organise further meetings in 2020. Details will be agreed at the meeting on 18 March.

## **ASYE best practice forum**

Thursday 19 December 2019 – please note that this will not be the same format as the usual best practice forums as it is a regional ASYE workshop run by the national Regulated Professional Workforce team. Further details are above. Please note that this is not being held in the London office.

Dates for 2020 have been confirmed (please note due to room availability the first is on a Wednesday)

- Wednesday 1 April
- Thursday 18 June.

## **Booking onto the forums**

The booking process for the forums has changed and is now as follows:

- An email will be sent from the London social work email address 6 weeks before the forum to advise people of the date, time, venue and agenda and will include a link to book onto the forum.
- Book onto the forum via the Skills for Care events booking system.
- You will then receive an email confirming your booking\*.
- Once booked you can add the event into your outlook calendar.
- Further details including the confirmed agenda will be sent from London social work email address a week before the forum.

\* Please note that due to the popularity of the forum and room size, there will be a limit placed on two people per organisation and if you

are no longer able to attend you need to cancel your booking through the system. People who haven't booked would only be let in on the day if space was available.

**Independent sector ASYE**

If you know of any social care organisations which employ social workers and would like to be sent details about support available, please email us.

**If you have any questions or would like further information about things happening in your area please email Ali Rusbridge who is the Social Work Coordinator for London via [londonsocialwork@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:londonsocialwork@skillsforcare.org.uk).**



Get involved using **#sfcsocialwork**  
**@skillsforcare**

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