



June 2010 bulletin

News from NAAPS

All change!

A huge welcome to Alex Fox, who starts work as the new NAAPS Chief Executive on 7 June 2010. Alex has come to us from the Princess Royal Trust for Carers where he was Director of Policy and Communications. Many of you will meet Alex over the next few months as he will be getting out and about as much as he can to meet members – but if you don't get a chance to meet him do say 'hi' anyway. He is keen to hear from you with suggestions about how NAAPS can develop and improve its services to members.

Sian will be working full time for the NAAPS social enterprise Community Catalysts from 7 June but will always be pleased to hear from old friends and colleagues. You can contact her at sian.lockwood@communitycatalysts.co.uk.

Update on Regulations in England

Registration is now underway and despite some initial hiccups seems to be going along quite smoothly now. In the meanwhile NAAPS is continuing to work with CQC on a jointly agreed statement about Shared Lives (latest draft attached) and a series of Additional Notes which will supplement the Essential Standards for Quality and Safety (Compliance Criteria) and will be specific to Shared Lives. These will help Inspectors to understand the processes in Shared Lives and how these fit with the new standards. Some Schemes in the North West along with members of the NAAPS England Committee are assisting with this work. Work has also started on the methodology that will be used for Inspections and site visits and again we are involved in this. Three Schemes in the West Midlands will be involved along with other services in piloting some of the methodology during June and July before it goes out for wider consultation.

Insurance

NAAPS brokers Ellis Bates are currently working with us to improve and streamline the insurances that are available to members. The aim is to reduce premiums, simplify and maximise the cover available so that the number of policies that people need to take out can be reduced, improve the information available to schemes and carers and to increase the benefit to NAAPS from insurance sales. This coincides with a re tendering process which is well underway and is being used as an opportunity to ensure that all of the new activities and client groups related to shared lives are properly covered.

NAAPS Learning Materials

The Shared Lives Team have started to review and refresh the NAAPS learning materials to ensure they continue to be fit for purpose as regulation changes along with practice. In the last Bulletin the NAAPS Learning Programme was circulated and this gave a breakdown of all of the current learning opportunities available. We would like some feedback on this and to know of any unmet learning needs which you feel ought to be added and which NAAPS might be able to deliver. Email to john@naaps.org.uk

Change to the definition of Shared Lives

The definition of Shared Lives has been modified slightly to make it clear that the home of the Shared Lives Carer is always a resource that is used in a Shared Lives arrangement. This change is principally to ensure that the tax agreement for Shared Lives Carers remains in place. The modified definition is attached. Contact John at NAAPS to discuss the individual implications of this amendment.

Resources (UK)

The Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF)

As many of you who attended the 2009 NAAPS conference will know, the way that qualifications are organised and structured is changing. This includes all vocational qualifications in all sectors - not just social care - across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

New qualifications will be introduced to replace the current Health and Social Care NVQs at level 2 and level 3. These will be called Health and Social Care Diplomas at level 2 and level 3.

With the aim of keeping everyone up-to-date on the progress of QCF developments, Skills for Care will be producing a specific newsletter dedicated to QCF. The first edition will look at why we need a new qualifications framework and a brief introduction to what it means.

Go to:

www.skillsforcare.org.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.aspx?IID=4216&SID=1464

Human rights training materials and human rights resources

Human rights training materials and human rights resources were launched on 31 March 2010.

This forms a suite of training materials designed for use in training for frontline workers - including Shared Lives Carers - supporting people with a learning disability. Go to: www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_115164.pdf

Resources (England)

Personalisation through person-centred planning

This joint good practice guidance published by the Putting People First and Valuing People

Now teams at DH has been developed to help local areas understand how person-centred planning can help to deliver Putting People First. It is one of the commitments in Valuing People Now.

It includes a range of tools and good practice examples on person-centred planning and support planning to help give people more choice and control over their lives. Go to: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_115175

National Market Development Forum web resources

The National Market Development Forum is a time-limited group made up of commissioners and providers and provider representatives (including NAAPS) from across the public, private and voluntary sectors. Its purpose is to explore some of the challenges of market development in adult social care, and to propose practical ways in which partners can work together to address them in the future. The group is meeting six times during 2010. A series of resources, tools and materials for purchasers and providers to help them address the market development agenda in their local area will be released in November 2010.

The National Market Development Forum now has a page on the Putting People First website:

www.puttingpeoplefirst.org.uk/content.asp?contentid=459

SCIE Report 20: Personalisation: a rough guide

This publication from SCIE has been updated and sets out the current understanding of personalisation and its implementation, exploring what personalisation is, where the idea came from and placing the transformation of adult social care in the wider public service reform agenda. Go to: www.scie.org.uk/publications/reports/report20.pdf

TASC website becomes Putting People First

Following feedback by professionals involved in the delivery of Transforming Adult Social Care and regional support teams, the TASC website has been updated, improved and rebranded.

You will now find all of the information and resources on the TASC website has been moved to a new *Putting People First* website. The new site includes specific pages for providers, Councillors, service users and people leading transformation. The site also includes case studies of people's experiences of Adult Social Care under personalisation. Go to: www.puttingpeoplefirst.org.uk

Policy news (England)

The Coalition Government

What tumultuous times we live in!

The five year policy programme for the new Coalition Government was published on 19 May. It includes the Government's priorities for the NHS, public health and social care.

Go to :<http://programmeforgovernment.hmg.gov.uk/>

The new ministerial team in the Department for Health are:

Health Secretary: Andrew Lansley MP

Minister of State for Health :Simon Burns MP

Minister of State for Care Services: Paul Burstow MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health: Anne Milton MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Quality: Earl Howe MP

For a full Cabinet list go to: www.number10.gov.uk/news/latest-news/2010/05/her-majestys-government-49840

Policy language is already changing – which may seem superficial but this change in language reflects a major change in approach to the third sector in particular which will impact on all of us. The talk is of civil society groups working together to create a visionary Big Society with more empowered and engaged citizens and greater freedom to innovate.

This Big Society agenda certainly seems to be at the heart of the new Government, and further information about how the new administration plan to take this forward can be found at: www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/newsroom/news_releases/2010/100518-news-big-society-launch.aspx

The new Minister for Civil Society is Nick Hurd MP, previously the spokesman on third sector issues on the Conservative benches. Working with Francis Maude MP and Oliver Letwin MP he will be developing work around engaging communities and groups to shape and deliver public services. This could result in significant opportunities for not-for-profit providers working with the public sector – a case of watch this space!

ADASS reports on progress towards personalisation

In a letter to all Directors of Adult Social Care Jeff Jerome (National Director, Social Care Transformation) reviews progress in the delivery of Personal Budgets 2010.

In March 2010 the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and the Local Government Association (LGA) conducted a survey of 152 councils with social services responsibilities to measure progress on the roll out of personal budgets. The survey repeated facts and figures questions asked in a similar survey in 2009, enabling a year on year comparison. 148 councils responded to the survey. Go to: www.adass.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=328 over 376,000 by March 2011.

Care Quality Commission advisers on adult social care

The Care Quality Commission has brought in two advisors to add to its experience and expertise in adult social care and to help develop its relationship with the sector. Bill Hodson has been appointed as national advisor on adult social care, working at both policy and operational levels. He will provide advice on best practice, contribute to policy decisions and strengthen partnerships with stakeholders and other organisations. He joins a small team of national advisors who have current or recent practice experience at a senior level in health and social care. His appointment is initially for a year and he will spend one day a week on his CQC work.

Barbara Laing is helping the commission in the run-up to the registration of adult social care providers under the Health and Social Care Act 2008. Over the next six months, working two days a week for CQC, she will offer an additional channel of communication with providers while assessing what is working well in the registration process and advising the commission on what could be done better.

http://www.cqc.org.uk/newsandevents/pressreleases.cfm?cit_id=36248&FAArea1=customWidgets.content.view_1&usecache=false

New Chief Executive for Skills for Care

Skills for Care has appointed the highly experienced social entrepreneur Sharon Allen as its new Chief Executive Officer to succeed Andrea Rowe who is retiring after a decade of service in the role. Sharon Allen is currently Chief Executive of St Anne's Community Services that offers not-for-profit social care and supported housing across Yorkshire and the North East.

Common induction standards refreshed

The Common Induction Standards have been refreshed and aligned with the core and mandatory units of the new Diploma in Health and Social Care, part of the Qualifications and Credit Framework. As a result there are now eight standards instead of six. Although there will be more standards it will not take longer to complete - elements have just been repackaged and ordered to offer greater clarity.

Skills for Care expect the revised standards to be available on their website in June 2010. More FAQ are available on their website - choose 'Common Induction Standards (CIS) refresh' from the drop-down menu. <http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/faq.aspx>

SCIE Get Connected Cycle 2

The second cycle of the SCIE's Get Connected Investment Project is for private and voluntary sector adult social care providers offering services in England and registered with the Care Quality Commission, Companies House, Financial Services Authority or Charity Commission.

The level of funding that providers can apply for is dependent on the size of organisation:

Micro and small organisations (employing up to 49 full-time equivalent staff) or domiciliary care agencies with 1–3 branches:

Up to a value of £20,000 per grant to improve access to ICT in order to enhance • quality of life and/or skills and

Medium-sized organisations (employing 50–249 full-time equivalent staff) or domiciliary care agencies with 4–20 branches

Up to a value of £20,000 per grant to improve access to ICT in order to enhance • quality of life and/or skills. This is subject to matched funding being identified by the organisation making the bid.

A registered care provider with 250 or more full-time equivalent staff or domiciliary care agencies with more than 20 branches are not eligible for investment in this cycle, but may be eligible in Cycle 3 or Cycle 4.

How and when to apply for cycle 2

Applicants are advised to create a My SCIE account in order to submit an Expression of Interest for Cycle 2. You can create a My SCIE account here:

<http://www.scie.org.uk/myscie/signup.asp>

Expressions of interest open 28.4.10•

Expressions of interest close 11.6.10•

Full bids close 20.8.10•

For each cycle you will be asked to follow the steps below to apply:

Step 1: Check that you are eligible to apply using the information in the eligibility • criteria.

Step 2: Create a My SCIE account to make an online Application. Click here to do so, if • you have not already.

Step 3: Complete the Expression of Interest form. SCIE has published the Expression of • Interest forms and guidance notes online. Providers who cannot get online at work or at home can request a paper Expression of Interest form and guidance notes by calling 0845 6997038.

Step 4: SCIE and our Get Connected partners will then assess your Expression of • Interest to see if it is appropriate to invite you to go forward to the formal application stage. We will inform you of the outcome and support your online application. If you have submitted your Expression of Interest by paper we will send you the necessary forms.

Step 5: You will need to submit your completed application form by the specified • closing date. We will put you in contact with approved ICT suppliers in your region to help you to develop your proposal and provide an estimate of the cost.

Step 6: SCIE and our Get Connected advisory group will assess your application. •

Members can also direct queries to getconnected@scie.org.uk

The information on SCIE's website will be changing in terms of its layout, but the essential information is up. SCIE has decided to hold fire with national promotion for this Cycle as it received over 2000 applications for the first Cycle and envisage the response will be similar for the second Cycle. For further information please visit:

<http://www.scie.org.uk/workforce/getconnected/index.asp>

Social Care Reform Grant

The Department of Health confirmed last week that the social care reform grant, of £520m from 2008-11, will continue to be ring fenced for the implementation of personalisation by English councils this year.

Policy news (UK)

National Minimum Wage

The Government has confirmed that from October 2010 the National Minimum Wage will increase.

From 1 October 2010, the adult minimum wage rate will increase from £5.80 to £5.93 an

hour, the Youth Development Rate will rise from £4.83 to £4.92 an hour and the minimum wage for 16-17 year olds will increase from £3.57 to £3.64 an hour.

For the first time, apprentice pay will be covered by the minimum wage framework. A new apprentice rate will be introduced at £2.50 an hour.

Consultations (England)

CQC and Skills for Care consultation on the national minimum data set for social care

CQC has formally requested that social care providers are consulted on a proposal to share data from the NMDS-SC with CQC. This will benefit employers who have to submit workforce data, by eliminating the need to submit twice. For further information:

www.skillsforcare.org.uk/participation/consultations/NMDSSCCQC_consultation.aspx?dm_i=AYZ,4Y2M,1A53SY,FDPM,1