



September 2010 bulletin

NAAPS news	1
Member services and issues	1
Raising awareness of your work	2
Policy and regulation	3
Policy news (England)	4
Policy News (Wales)	5
Policy News (Scotland)	6
Resources and funding	6
Innovation and ideas	6

NAAPS news

The future of NAAPS: member survey and debate

This Autumn finds us right at the beginning of our business planning process. We would like to get our members involved in this, so that you can influence the work that we put into our plans for next financial year (from April 1st 2011). We are sending Shared Lives schemes, Homeshare organisations and Small Community Service members some slides which we hope you will have a chance to look at - they contain six questions about your views on the future of NAAPS.

There will be discussions about these slides at every regional and country committee meeting and at the Homeshare meeting. We would be grateful if Shared Lives schemes could also discuss these questions with your Shared Lives carer groups locally. We will include the questions in the next Shared Lives carer newsletter and they are available as an online survey to any member here: www.surveymonkey.com/s/VNMMJ9K

Member services and issues

New insurance offer for Shared Lives carers

Just a reminder that our insurance broker Ellis Bates and Travelers Insurance Company Ltd have developed a new public liability insurance offer for Shared Lives carers who are NAAPS members. For policies renewed or taken out after 1st September, the premium will be £110, a 12% reduction in cost since last year. This includes £5 million Public Liability, cover for abuse (including financial abuse) and for problems arising from supporting service users with their health or medication. Please let Shared Lives carers know about

this new offer – we know that some are paying large amounts for less appropriate insurance.

Local authority funding

We have heard some differing accounts of how the threat of cuts is affecting Shared Lives. In some areas there appears to be a temporary ban on new arrangements or on the recruitment of carers, which is threatening the morale and productivity of affected schemes. On the other hand, a local authority has set up a new Shared Lives service as a result of the funding crisis, because they see it as a way to drive down the cost of accommodation and support and also generate local jobs. An independent scheme reports a surge in referrals.

Bans on referrals would run counter to the government's aspiration to increase choice, as would a Shared Lives carer recruitment freeze, which would not even result in any cost reductions in any case. What is your local experience? Please let us know, in confidence, so that we can present a national picture to policy makers and tackle any widespread problems.

Diversity

NAAPS has now started collecting equalities and diversity monitoring information through new joiner and membership renewal forms. We will keep this information separately to members' personal details and will use it only to generate a clearer picture of the diversity of our members. We would like to gain a clearer understanding of which groups may be under-represented or overlooked in our membership and in our committees and other ways of participating in NAAPS as a member. Ellis Bates will also be collecting information from Shared Lives carers who renew their insurance about which client groups are being supported through Shared Lives. Again, this information will be collected and stored separately, then destroyed after it has been used.

At a recent Yorkshire branch meeting, Shared Lives carer and NAAPS board member Esther Cooper led an exercise which looked at the range of groups reached by Shared Lives schemes in the region. Over the lunchtime period, the group listed all of the different client groups they were working with across the top of a roll of wallpaper, putting the different types of support (long term, respite, day care etc) along the side. Each scheme worker put their scheme in the appropriate squares. It soon became clear that the list of client groups was much longer than people had expected. Schemes made new links with others who were working with particular groups and were able to share learning and progress.

Raising awareness of your work

Article in the MJ about Shared Lives

Alex co-authored an article for MJ, the leading local government journal, about Shared Lives, which you can read at

www.localgov.co.uk/index.cfm?method=news.detail&id=90923&layout=2.

New blog for NAAPS

Alex now writes a blog on NAAPS and its members' work which you can read and comment on at <http://alexfoxblog.wordpress.com>. A blog is a little like a diary, but web-based and public. It is one way in which we hope to have a discussion with members, including those who may not be able to attend committee meetings. We also advertise the blog to sector audiences to help engage people with our work.

Recent blogs: [In-house or out-sourced?](#); [Shared Lives is family life too](#); [NAAPS – we're all about the geese](#). At the bottom of each is space to leave your comments.

NAAPS teams up with Joseph Rowntree Foundation

There will be more news about our work with JRF in the next ebulletin. To kick it off, Alex has written an article for JRF's website which you can find at www.jrf.org.uk/blog

NAAPS in Community Care magazine

NAAPS featured in an article in Community Care this month – see below. From next month, Alex will have a monthly column on how personalisation is working (or not!) on the ground – if you have real life experiences to share, please get in touch!

Policy and regulation

NAAPS influencing government

Following positive meetings with the President of the Association of Directors of Adult Services, we have meetings coming up with the Director General for social care and the Minister of State for social care, as well as other senior Department of Health officials. We are pursuing meetings with officials in Communities and Local Government. We would be grateful if branch and country committees could identify and feed back issues which you would like us to raise with policy makers.

NAAPS calls for better advocacy for users of Shared Lives

A High Court judgment, reported on the BBC at <http://bbc.in/aw7uTP> and in Community Care at <http://bit.ly/bXr3xe>, criticised a council for breaching both the Mental Capacity Act and the Human Rights Act by removing a young man from his Shared Lives arrangement and placing him in residential care without any legal authority and in breach of Deprivation Of Liberty Standards and the Mental Capacity Act. This happened because of safeguarding allegations which later proved unfounded. The young man had been living with his carer since 1995. NAAPS CEO, Alex Fox, was quoted extensively in the Community Care article, who focused on the call for more access to independent advocacy for users of Shared Lives services. See [Shared Lives is family life too](#) for more detail. The law in this case does not apply in the same way in Scotland, although the principles established will be of interest. The [Government Equalities office](#) has published a series guides to the *Equality Act 2010*.

Another case (*A Local Authority v A (A Child) & Another* [2010] EWHC 978), also looked at the obligations of local authorities in cases where there may appear to be a deprivation of liberty for a child or vulnerable adult. In this case, the child and adult lived at home with their families and there were concerns about them being locked in their bedroom at night for their own safety. Where a local authority knows or ought to know that a vulnerable child or adult is subject to restrictions on their liberty by a private individual, that arguably give rise to a deprivation of liberty, then its positive obligations under Article 5 of the Human Rights Act will be triggered. These include a duty to investigate and to take reasonable and proportionate measures to bring that state of affairs to an end, through, for example, offering more support to the family in managing behaviour. If this is not possible, the local authority may need to seek the assistance of a court in determining whether there is, in fact, a deprivation of liberty and, if there is, obtaining authorisation for its continuance.

The Law Commission

The Law Commission reviews the law in England and Wales, attempting to make it simple, accessible and modern. They are currently reviewing adult social care law. They are asking for

suggestions as to areas of law which they might review. You can submit ideas at www.lawcom.gov.uk or via NAAPS. They cannot alter the intention of existing laws, but they do make recommendations where the law is unnecessarily complex, disproportionate or not doing what it was intended to do. The closing date is October 15th.

Personalisation and self-directed care planning

These documents came out earlier this year, but if you are looking at the way in which you carry out care planning, they are worth a look:

- [Changing lives together: using person-centred outcomes to measure results in social care](#) looks at new ways to measure success in local social services. It shares the learning from initiatives which aim to find out if people achieve outcomes which are important to them.
- Lincolnshire has put outcome-focused reviews into practice, making use of the In Control framework: [Lincolnshire review form](#).
- A group of disabled people, family carers and people from eight councils have worked together to develop a new way to carry out reviews: [Outcome-focused reviews: A practical guide](#).
- There is a guide to: [Personal budgets for older people - making it happen](#)
- SCIE has launched a new [website](#) to help councils with Putting People First.

Employment for people with learning disabilities

DH data for 2008/9 on National Indicator 146 shows that the employment rate for adults with learning disabilities known to social services is 6.8%, compared to 47% for all disabled people. See [The Resource Hub](#) for relevant resources.

Good nutrition for Alzheimer's sufferers - Food for Thought

The Alzheimer's Society's leaflet, "[Food For Thought](#)" has nutrition and food delivery tips for carers of dementia sufferers, based on carers' experiences.

New whistle blowing guide

The [Speak up for a Healthy NHS guide](#) advises on how to ensure staff feel safe and confident in reporting bad practice.

Policy news (England)

Care Quality Commission (CQC)

As mentioned in message from John earlier in the year, CQC issued incorrect advice in *A new system of registration The scope of registration*. This document advised that Shared Lives schemes should be registered as "Accommodation for people who require nursing or personal care". This was corrected in their Operational Support Update (Issue 14) dated Friday 30th July 2010. The correct registration for Shared Lives schemes is "Personal Care". This has caused understandable confusion for at least one scheme so, if you have been affected, please contact john@naaps.org.uk.

Also on the information front, some members have heard rumours of changes to the Regulated Manager role. We are aware of no basis for these. All existing registered managers will need to be re registered under the Health and Social Care Act as outlined in CQC guidance: *How existing registered managers become registered under the Health and Social Care Act 2008* at <http://bit.ly/aZmoOI>

Locally, provider organisations sometimes change how they group their services under the different regulated activities, which can impact upon managers' roles, as can any outsourcing of in-house provider services.

Big Society pilot areas

The Prime Minister announced the first four “big society” communities in Sutton, Windsor and Maidenhead, Eden Valley in Cumbria and Liverpool. These four areas will now receive targeted and tailored help from the Government to ensure they can overcome bureaucratic barriers and take greater responsibility for the decisions that affect the local area and local people. If you are in one of these areas and think that you might be able to benefit from this initiative, please get in touch with NAAPS and we can discuss making contact with the relevant departments.

Refreshing the National Carers’ Strategy – call for evidence

The DH is seeking views, by 20 September, on what will have the greatest impact on improving carers’ lives in the next four years. <http://bit.ly/czzJKt>

Consultation of support for adults with autism

There is a consultation on health and care services for adults with autism, following on from the Strategy for adults with autism: *Fulfilling and rewarding lives* and the Autism Act 2009. Views are now sought on diagnosis, increasing awareness of autism amongst frontline staff, needs assessment, services and the role of NHS and social care. Closing date: 22 October. Click the consultations link at: www.dh.gov.uk

Social Care Framework published

Supporting people to live and die well: a framework for social care at the end of life was published on 8 July. [Download the framework](#) or email: information@eolc.nhs.uk

Safeguarding vulnerable adults: awareness campaign

A government campaign to raise awareness of financial abuse of vulnerable people includes [downloadable posters](#) to increase awareness of staff and the public.

Policy News (Wales)

Regulatory consultation in Wales

The consultation document provided by the Welsh Assembly Government regarding proposed changes to the regulatory and National Minimum Standards framework arising from recommendations made to Welsh Ministers by the Adult Placement Task and Finish Group following the abuse case in Wales last year have been distributed to all members in Wales.

The NAAPS Cymru Committee will respond to the proposals but we need to know what all members think before doing so. All Scheme Managers in Wales have been asked to make arrangements to talk to members in their area about the proposals and find out their views. Members can respond by replying directly to the Welsh Assembly Government, through their Schemes or to the NAAPS Cymru Committee directly to Tim Southern:

tims@ategi.co.uk Tel: 029 2081 3434 or Geoff Bliss: GeoffJean@pendrestar.fsnet.co.uk
Tel: 01239 698300.

Documents can be found here:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/?lang=en&pageNum=2>
www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/wales/wsi2004/20041756e.htm

NAAPS Development worker in Wales:

Members are considering the details of a 3 year full time NAAPS development post in Wales before seeking funding sources. Details have been forwarded to Committee members for discussion and agreement at the next NAAPS Cymru Committee meeting on 6th September. Members should express their views to their Scheme representatives to the Committee or directly to tims@ategi.co.uk

WAG Funding to promote dignity

Small grants for projects that promote dignity in health and social care are open until 1st September. Email: Gareth.Morgan5@wales.nhs.uk

Policy News (Scotland)

The Carers and Young Carers Strategies for Scotland: 2010-2015

Caring Together and *Getting It Right For Young Carers* are five year strategies published alongside *Good Practice and Carers and Young Carers Stories* (which mentions Shared Lives), and *An Analysis of Existing Data Sources on Unpaid Carers in Scotland*. See: www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/Health/care/strategy

Caring Together includes commitments to help carers including a Carers' Rights Charter, further investment in carers training, improving carer identification and promoting carer-friendly employment practices. £5 million over five years has been allocated to develop personalised short breaks.

New PVG scheme to go live on 30 November 2010

Details, guidance and training materials and contact details for Disclosure Scotland and the Central Registered Body in Scotland (CRBS) are at: www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1141/0100847.pdf

Public Spending in Scotland - Independent Budget Review Findings

To have your say on spending go to <http://blogs.scotland.gov.uk/publicspending/>

Resources and funding

Community groups can apply for a share of Big Local £200m

The [Big Lottery Fund](#) has announced the [50 areas](#) in England where community groups will be able to apply for 10 year grants from its new £200m funding stream, Big Local, to "identify their pressing issues and develop the skills and confidence necessary to start changing things in their community for the better."

New funding for social entrepreneurs from September

From September 28th, The Arthur Guinness Fund will award £6m in grants to 30 social entrepreneurs in partnership with [Ashoka](#), a global association of more than 2,500 social entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs will receive financial, practical and strategic support to run projects that bring about social change in their communities and others. To apply, go to www.guinnessforgood.com.

Innovation and ideas

The Boundaries Clock

NDTi (National Development Team for Inclusion) have worked with a number of partners on the issue of professional boundaries. Those who work in social care and those who use it live in increasingly overlapping worlds, particularly now that people can use personal budgets to employ friends and neighbours. There is a view that social work has become too focused on risk assessment and maintaining boundaries at the expense of the kinds of relationships that people who use services may want. Shared Lives, of course, has been taking a radically different approach to these issues for many years and is an excellent example of an approach that balances professionalism and safety with warmth and kinship. NDTi have produced a tool called The Boundaries Clock, designed to help mental health but also other services to examine their current approach to risk, boundaries and safeguarding. The model uses a clock face to suggest six sets of potentially opposing values and invites services to examine where they are within the model and where they want to be. For instance, how does the service balance protecting people's privacy with intervening in their lives; consistent application of rules with personalising responses; a focus on the worker's role with a focus on the individual's gifts and community? The tool can be found at:

www.ndti.org.uk/what-we-do/client-groups/mental-health/professional-boundaries.aspx

NDTi have invited us to write a short paper on the application of the model to Shared Lives. If you are interested in the model, please get in touch: alex@naaps.org.uk

New mentoring scheme to help those affected by dementia

People with dementia, their carers and family members are invited to become online Living Well with Dementia mentors. This is part of an innovative new support network set up by the DH, in partnership with online coaching and peer mentoring site www.horsemouth.co.uk Mentors will use their personal experiences of dementia to help others face the challenges of this condition, and can choose how much time they devote to their role.

Outcomes measuring

Are any schemes attempting to measure outcomes for the people who use their services? We are keen to build the evidence base for the outcomes of Shared Lives, so would be very interested to hear from anyone who was already measuring outcomes or who would be interested in doing so.

Social Return on Investment (SROI) is one approach to understanding and managing the impacts of a project, organisation or policy. It puts financial value on the important impacts identified by various stakeholders that do not have market values. There is a step by step guide to using SROI at www.thesroinetwork.org. SROI can be used at varying levels, according to your needs and resources.

Share your learning and innovation with the network

One of the ways in which we can help members is to ensure they find out about the lessons being learned by other Shared Lives schemes. We are always grateful for your contributions of brief practice examples and case studies. Please send us accounts of innovative or interesting work from which you feel your fellow NAAPS members might be able to learn.

Contacts

Alex Fox, CEO: alex@naaps.org.uk

John Dickinson, Head of Shared Lives: john@naaps.org.uk

Deborah Power, Business Manager: Deborah@naaps.org.uk

Jackie McCluskie, Administration: Jackie@naaps.org.uk

Anne Fernie and Else Wilson, Scotland: Anne@naaps.org.uk and Else@naaps.org.uk

Judith Holman, Shared Lives carer support: Judith@naaps.org.uk

Tim Southern, Chair of Wales: tims@ategi.co.uk

Jane Bell, Chair of England: Jbell@swaps.org.uk

Sue Mahony, Chair of Scotland: Suzanne.Mahony@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Disclaimer: we attempt to provide useful and relevant information, but we cannot guarantee that all source documents referred to have been checked and verified. We cannot accept responsibility for actions or omissions taken after reading this bulletin. Nothing in this bulletin is intended as a substitute for expert, professional or legal advice.