

January Newsletter

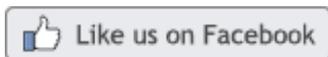
January 2015

IASW in the News

Social Workers Leaving Child & Family Agency

Social workers are leaving Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, at an alarming rate citing high caseloads, lack of administrative support, lack of training and concerns regarding the nature and quality of the work that they are able to undertake with children and their families. Click here to view our [press release](#) and see [media coverage](#) of the IASW response to the issue.

The story generated a lot of activity on our Facebook page. Follow us and join the discussion



New Special Interest Group

The Practitioner Researcher Group recently became an Association SIG. The group aims to support social workers to contribute to the development of professional knowledge base, to develop new skills and to meet CPD requirements of registration. Visit the [SIG page](#) to find out more.

Dear member

It has been a challenging but exciting six months for the Board of the Association and myself! Our Association has, thanks to members' input, been able to speak out on a number of issues that impact both on those we work with and on us as professionals - issues such as the homeless crisis, Direct Provision and the extraordinarily difficult conditions faced by those working in Tusla. Delegations of social workers from various Special Interest Groups have met with government departments, the HSE and Tusla management to address the pertinent issues facing social workers directly with those who can effect change. All this, while still offering you an interesting and diverse range of CPD opportunities to enhance your skills and improve your practice!

Now we start the New Year refreshed and ready to build on the gains we have made. Your Association is committed to ensuring that your voice, the voice of the professional social worker, is heard and that you as a member are fully supported in your professional practice. To that end, over the next few months, the Board plans to roll out a series of exciting new developments to enhance our social work community and to help you in continuing to do what we all intended to do when we joined this profession, to make a difference. An active Association means a stronger voice for social work in Ireland, so make it a New Year's resolution to encourage a colleague to join the IASW and, if you have the time, become active in your own SIG. Share your knowledge, experience and expertise because we are stronger together!

Dónal O'Malley, IASW Chair

IASW Upcoming Events

To secure your place at an IASW event, you will need to book and pay online. You can do this by visiting the relevant events page on the website, clicking on the **Book Now** button at the top of the page and completing the booking form.

Members will notice that in 2015 they pay even less for events than non-members, one of the many benefits of membership.



Child Welfare & Protection - Separating the Inseparable?



TELL IT TO THE HAND

Let us know your views, suggestions and feedback. Get in touch at office@iasw.ie or on 

Introducing the Board

Aisling Coffey, Treasurer



For me, social work is not just a job. Social Work is my profession, and it's a role I take great pride in. Through the IASW, I have had the privilege of meeting many of you, who similarly hold your work to high standards and continually strive to improve the quality of social work services we provide our clients.

I would urge all social workers to get involved in the Association and keep informed. Through involvement, we can influence the future of social work in Ireland. Social work is our profession and we are stronger together.

Best wishes colleagues,
Aisling

Click [here](#) to read more about Aisling's role and work

Delivering Healthy Ireland: Impact of HSCP Research and Practice

**Thursday 16th April 2015
School of Nursing & Midwifery, TCD**

**Children and Families SIG Conference and AGM
Friday, 6th February from 9.00 - 3.30
Ashling Hotel, Parkgate Street, Dublin
3.5 CPD points have been awarded
€25 members/ €45 non-members/ €15 students
Price includes lunch and refreshments**
Keynote speakers are Sue White and Helen Buckley with workshops in the afternoon on topics including Attachment and the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Social Workers.

**Healthcare Records and the Vulnerable Adult
Wednesday, 11th February from 9.30 - 5
St Andrews Resource Centre, Pearse Street, Dublin
5.5 CPD points have been awarded
€50 members/€100 non-members. Price includes lunch, refreshments and course materials**

La Touche Training have been commissioned by the IASW to provide a one day course on healthcare records tailored to meet the needs of social workers who work with vulnerable adults across a range a healthcare settings.

**Understanding Children, Loss and Bereavement
Wednesday, 25th February from 9.30 - 4
Education, Research and Training Centre, Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross, Dublin 6W**

The conference is a joint event hosted by the Irish Association of Social Workers and Social Care Ireland. Keynote speakers are Nuala Harmey and Jennifer Moran Stritch.

Fitness to Practise Complaints Open

CORU are now able to process complaints against Registered Health and Social Care Professionals in respect of events that occurred on or after the 31 December 2014. The Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, for each profession, sets out the standards of conduct, performance and ethics, which apply to all registered Health and Social Care Professionals. It is against these standards that an individual will be measured in any Fitness to Practise complaint.

For further detail and to view supporting documentation please visit www.coru.ie

Legislation & Policy

Consultation on Social Work Registration Board CPD: Standards and Requirements Framework Document

Thanks to all the members who sent in their views on the Framework Document. The **IASW submission** can be downloaded from the [Submissions & Representations](#) section of the website.

Children and Family Relationships Bill

The General Scheme of the Bill is due before the Dáil in February. Click [here](#) to find out more.

The Social Care Division of the HSE launched **Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons at Risk of Abuse: National Policy and Procedures** in December 2014. The document addresses the issue of safeguarding all vulnerable persons across the Social Care Division, encompassing older people and persons with a disability. The Policy and Procedures will be reviewed within 12 months, taking account of experiences of its use and any relevant developments in legislation and/or other policy initiatives. The HSE have requested feedback and asked that it be directed to

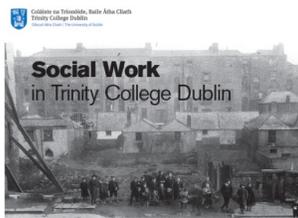
Registration for the HSE Health and Social Care Professions annual conference will open on Monday, 2nd February. To register for the conference and to find out more details you first need to register with www.hseland.ie - you do not need to be an employee of the HSE to register.

JOIN US!!!



Find out more about the benefits of membership

Trinity College School of Social Work & Social Policy 80th Anniversary Public Lecture Series



To mark the establishment of social work training in Trinity College Dublin in the academic year 1934-1935, the School of Social Work and Social Policy will be hosting a series of public lectures. All are welcome.

disability.socialcare@hse.ie or olderpeople.socialcare@hse.ie. Click [here](#) to download a copy of the document.

Feeling CPD fit?



The Social Workers Registration Board will introduce its specific CPD requirements in the next few months. From 31 May 2015, which marks the start of the audit cycle, social workers will need to fulfill these requirements in order to comply with the CPD standard as set out in their Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics.

In the meantime, according to the *Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Social Workers*, registrants have a duty to take part in CPD and to keep clear and accurate record of CPD. Please refer to section 23 of the Code for more on the standard *Keeping your professional knowledge and skills up to date*.

The IASW is developing supports for our members to facilitate them to meet the CPD requirements of registration. We intend to have these in place before the start of the audit cycle and will keep you updated of news of new resources, tools and training.

For further information and useful documents visit the [CPD section](#) at www.iasw.ie

Representing Social Work in Ireland since 1971
A Member of the International Federation of Social Workers

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