

News bulletin - 06/08

Welcome to our June news bulletin

Information, news & events, if you would like to share your news with others, please notify us and we will do our best to include your information in the next edition.

Network news

- The Gathering is Scotland's premier charity and voluntary sector event. It brings together voluntary sector staff, volunteers, community activists and is the largest event of its kind in the entire UK. This year's Gathering will take place on June 19th & 20th at the SECC, Glasgow. The Learning Network are exhibiting at the conference – Lynsey & Jan look forward to seeing you there, for more information about The Gathering click [here](#)
- Aberdeen City Council are hosting their 3rd Annual Practice Learning Event 'MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL' on Friday 20th June 2008, 9:15am- 3:30pm at Summerhill Education Centre, Aberdeen, The event is open to all staff with an interest in Practice Learning - Practice Teachers, 40 Day Practice Teachers, Link Supervisors - Past, Present, Future and will feature recent students reflecting on their Practice Learning experiences. To book your place contact the ACC social Work Training team on 01224 346340 or email SWTraining@aberdeencity.gov.uk
- Youth Justice Practitioners' Forum - The next forum will take place on Thursday 19th June in the Council Chamber, Woodhill House, Aberdeen. To obtain a program and to book a place contact Alison Garrow, 01224 664991 or email alison.garrow@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
- Hello and welcome to Linda Bruce who is the new PLQ Course Leader at Robert Gordon University; Linda takes over from Susan MacKechnie who has moved on, we would like to thank Susan for her work with the PLQ and wish her well in her new position. Linda is contactable on 01224 263373 or l.bruce@rgu.ac.uk
- The closing date for applications for the two full time, permanent Lecturers in Social Work vacancies at Robert Gordon University is the 13th June 2008. To apply you should be a graduate with a qualification in social work, with experience in criminal justice or social work with adults and older people. For informal enquiries/further information please contact either Terry McLean, Associate Head of School on 01224 263206, t.nclean@rgu.ac.uk or Alastair Gibson, Course Leader on 01224 263207 a.gibson@rgu.ac.uk

Voluntary Sector Social Services Workforce Unit

Wednesday 18th June at Aberdeen Foyer the Workforce Unit is hosting two workshops; the morning session will focus on "Skills Strategy, Skills for Scotland" and the afternoon session "Consultation on proposed amendments to the SSSC Conduct Rules".

To reserve a place at either event contact Laura Weir on 01786 849752 or email vswu.admin@ccpscotland.org

Leadership & Management Award for Care Services – Level 4 (LMC Award)

A Reference Group has been formed to consider collaborative working on the new LMC Award.

The first meeting of the Group took place on Thursday 5th June; members are from across the Learning Network North region with representatives from Aberdeen City Council, Highland Council, Moray Council, Moray College with Yvonne Leathley, Development Manager attending on behalf of Learning Network North.

A meaningful and productive discussion took place which highlighted a number of areas for consideration:

- Delivery of the award at SVQ Level 4 / SCQF Level 10
- Candidate Induction Programmes
- Knowledge requirements – use of workbooks
- Reflective writing skills
- Ability to critically analyse practice
- Perth College initiative
- Standardisation opportunities across the Network

The LMC is one of a range of options for consideration which include:

- The PDA in Care Services Management
- The OU course K303, Managing Care
- Learning Network funding for development of materials

The Group have agreed to share materials, some of which had been developed for the Registered Manager's Award and may be amended for the LMC Award.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 21st August, should you be interested in contributing to this Reference Group please contact the Group Chair, Anita Parker on 01224 346340 or email aparker@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Changing Lives

The latest edition of the Changing Lives bulletin is available as a download, the bulletin provides a mix of strategic and practice material describing work to date and outlining plans for the future.

Click [here](#) to download your copy or join the mailing list by contacting Ben Coburn on 0131 244 7683 or ben.coburn@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

'The Road to Recovery: a New Approach to Tackling Scotland's Drug Problem'

Scotland's new national drugs strategy has been endorsed by the Scottish Parliament, to download a copy click here [The Road to Recovery](#)

National Practitioners Conference - Reminder

This year's conference is to be held on Wednesday, 25th June 2008, at the BLCC, Halbeath, Dunfermline as part of taking forward the [Changing Lives](#) agenda.

Contact Sandra.murray@scotland.gsi.gov.uk tel: 0131 244 3641.

Joint Social Work Education Conference - Reminder

Are you a service user or carer with an interest in social work education? This conference will take place at Homerton College in Cambridge from 9th to 11th July. Find out more about the conference visit www.jswec.co.uk or to obtain more info and a booking form contact Stacey Macdonald on 01382 224505 or at s.z.macdonald@dundee.ac.uk.

Dementia Services Development Centre (DSDC)

The DSDC at the University of Stirling develops services for people with dementia and their carers. It provides **training and information for people working in nursing homes, home care workers, social workers, voluntary sector workers** along with nurses, psychiatrists of old age and police officers.

Attention: Care Home Managers, Senior Care Home Staff, Local Authority Service Managers, Training Officers - the DSDC has launched Dementia: A six-part self-study course for care home staff.

This course has been successful for over a year with Health Care Assistants in hospitals and is formally accredited by the Royal College of Nursing. It has now been adapted for care assistants working in a care home environment. The format of the training is based on a senior member of your staff being trained at the Dementia Services Development Centre in Stirling to facilitate a group of care staff to work through 6 self-study booklets, at your workplace.

All course material is jargon free and easily understood by participating staff, encouraging person centred care through reflective practice.

To obtain more information contact Lynsey Manson or Alan Chapman on 01786 467740 or click [here](#) to complete on on-line enquiry form

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The DSDC's 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference will explore the theme "Celebrating Innovation and Excellence: Making Change Happen" is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2008 at the Stirling Management Centre.

The conference is aimed at all those who support people with dementia, whether their background is in social care, planning / service provision or medicine,. The content will be of interest to those from the public, private or voluntary sector, as well as community representatives such as faith leaders. People with dementia and their carers are also welcome.

The programme will explore a broad range of issues, and features over 70 speakers and 20 symposia. These have been arranged to allow delegates maximum flexibility in planning a programme to suit their needs and interests.

Both Days at the Conference: £250 (book now save £25!) 1 Day at the Conference: £150 (book now save £15!)

Note: there are a limited number of reduced rate places available for People with Dementia and their carers & for the Voluntary Sector in Scotland.

To book your place or to discuss DSDC's facilities, contact Jemma Galbraith on 01786 467740 or email [jemma.galbraith@stir.ac.uk](mailto:jemma.galbraith@stir.ac.uk)

Click [here](#) to go to DSDC's website

## Diary Dates for 2008

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                | Voluntary Sector social Services workforce Unit –<br>Skills Strategy Event, Aberdeen Foyer              |
| Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> &<br>Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June                                    | The Gathering 2008 – SECC, Glasgow                                                                      |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                   | Dementia Update,<br>Dementia Services Development Centre, Stirling                                      |
| Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                | National Practitioners' Conference – BLCC, Halbeath                                                     |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July to<br>Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July                              | Social Work: People, Place & Politics<br>Homerton College, Cambridge                                    |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                 | LNN Executive Group – Moray College, Elgin : 11.00am                                                    |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                 | Learning Network – Moray College, Elgin : 1.30pm                                                        |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept<br>Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept &<br>Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct | The Manager as Leader of Dementia Practice DSDC, Stirling                                               |
| Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September to<br>Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September                     | International Conference: Celebrating Innovation & Excellence:<br>Making change Happen – DSDC, Stirling |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September                                                              | Local Area Network SVQ Assessors & Verifiers - venue tbc                                                |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October                                                               | LNN Executive Group - Aberdeen venue tbc                                                                |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October                                                               | Learning Network - Aberdeen venue tbc                                                                   |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December                                                               | Local Area Network SVQ Assessors & Verifiers - venue tbc                                                |

**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 .....**

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