

September 2021



## The Association of Clinical Psychologists UK

You'll have seen in the last Buzz that we are **updating our website and now we need your help!** The last thing we need to do before we get the new version up and running is to test out a member directory feature that we hope you will find useful for contacting and keeping in touch with each other. If you are a member of any of our networks then your network leads may contact you to ask you to respond on behalf of the network, but if you'd like to volunteer on your own behalf then contact us on [members@acpuk.org.uk](mailto:members@acpuk.org.uk) and we'll send you details of how to help. Please do only contact us if you can complete this quickly though as we are keen to share the new site with all of you as soon as possible.

As ever we have a varied **Webinar programme**, and I'm particularly looking forward to my first go at hosting for the **Media Training on October 5<sup>th</sup>**. I'm particularly pleased that we have a waiting list for this as you know how keen we are to improve the media presence of qualified psychologists. As this has been very popular, we will look into running a second event at some point. Other upcoming events include:

- **18th October 6.30-8pm Under-representation and career progression in clinical psychology**, presented by Nargis Islam and Annette Schlosser, the third in our original Equity, Diversity and Inclusion series. Please note that the date for this webinar has been changed.
- **3rd November 2:30-4:30 How can Clinical Psychologists respond to the climate and ecological crises?** presented by Annie Mitchell and Tony Wainwright with Paul Hoggett.

Many of you alerted us to the potential change in **HEE funding for clinical psychology training places**, where training places would not be funded until two years after any other HEE funded course. We are very pleased that HEE were very responsive to the feedback and is putting these funding changes on hold, pending further discussion with key stakeholders.

Our Director for Northern Ireland, David McCormack, recently submitted **a response to the consultation on the introduction of a statutory Duty of Candour in Northern Ireland**. This response supported the need for a statutory organisational duty of candour, with sufficiently robust sanctions for providers who do not fulfil their duties, but questioned the requirement for an individual duty of candour with criminal liability. We feel that there are other routes for professional accountability, and this requirement could have unintended consequences and undermine progress in creating a culture of openness and learning. Given that what is currently lacking is an organisational duty of candour, it would appear sensible to keep the policy tightly

focused on this. We would like to see a health service where staff feel able to openly report on adverse events and near misses. What needs to be cultivated is a culture of openness and not blame; an environment of continuous learning in order to improve systems of care and services.

Once the new website is live, we are looking forward to supporting the **member networks** to have a direct say on social media. In the meantime, ACP-UK's **Climate Action Network** will be taking over the ACP-UK twitter account during October to follow the United Nations 26th Climate Change Conference of the Parties, more commonly known as COP-26. Look out for their tweets and for the accompanying blog on our website. The **Complex Mental Health Network** has also been busy and have jointly published Guidelines for Acute Services with the British Psychological Society. This is where you can find the [Acute Care Briefing Paper](#), [the Literature Review](#), [the References](#), [the Acknowledgements](#) and [the Pathway Service Guidelines](#). This network is also currently working on guidance on team formulation. Finally, following a poll of its members the ACPUK Network for Older Adults is changing its name to **the ACPUK Network for the Psychology of Ageing**, which I think is a much better representation of their interests, so hope you'll agree. Please do get in touch with us if you are interested in being involved with any of our member networks. We continue to look for a lead/s to set up an ACP Network for Independent Practitioners. To find out more about this role please contact [members@acpuk.org.uk](mailto:members@acpuk.org.uk)

Finally – in the not too distant future we will be holding **elections to the Board**. I warmly invite you to consider putting me out of a job! I feel our strength as a Board lies in our diversity, with representation across many of the settings and career paths that clinical psychologists follow. Please do consider standing in the elections – there will be more details on this in due course.

So, there's plenty going on and for you to be involved with. Thanks for all your support and I hope that things are going well for you all.

Sally Morgan, Director ACP-UK

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If you do not wish to receive such emails please contact The Association of Clinical Psychologists UK at [admin@acpuk.org.uk](mailto:admin@acpuk.org.uk) or reply to this email.