



## Welcome to the June /July 2016 NISCC e-News.....

***This bulletin is for our registrants and stakeholders to update you about issues related to professional registration and to share information about our work to help improve and develop the workforce. If you have any comments to improve our e-News, or would like to submit a story for publication please email [comms@niscc.hscni.net](mailto:comms@niscc.hscni.net)***



Colum Conway – NISCC Chief Executive

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### **[Lakeland Community Care Staff Signing Up for Quality Standards – Getting registered for the March 2017 deadline](#)**

Our staff are working alongside organisations to ensure they can prepare their staff to get their registrations completed in time for the March 2017 deadline. Thanks to all the Lakeland Community Care Team for hosting our registration information session in Belcoo. [Read more about the session ....](#)

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- **Registrant Guides to Online Registration** – Our information packs for new registrants explain the responsibilities of being registered and to guide them through their online application. Contact us at [NISCC Comms](#) if you need packs for your staff.
- **Check out the 'How To Guides'** (PDFs and video clips) for registration on our website
- **Manager Resource Packs for Registration** are being developed to keep managers up to date with their role in workforce registration and standards. We will email managers later in the summer when these are available.

### Fitness to Practise – New Guidance Materials Available



Guidance materials for registrants and employers to introduce them to the new Fitness to Practise processes are available from the [Fitness to Practise](#) section on our website. Fitness to Practise offers a wider range of actions for NISCC to apply in cases where registered workers have not met the standard expected by NISCC for their conduct or practice. Sanctions will be more proportionate to each particular case. The regulatory and investigative processes will be streamlined, minimising the impact on all parties involved in the case.

Information sessions will be held in Autumn 2016 around NI. Details will be shared through NISCC website, social media and e-News.

### Social Work Students – Graduating this Summer? – Update your registration status online

If you are Graduating this year, your registration as a Social Work Student will end shortly. You will be required to change your registration status to 'Qualified Social Worker'. [Find out how to transfer your registration status to Qualified Social Worker...](#)

### NISCC Ambassador – Stuart Plant – Promotes Social Work at North West Regional College



NISCC Ambassador Stuart Plant talked to 20 students from the North West Regional College on the role of a social worker.

Organiser Stephanie McGuinness, Lecturer in H&SC, NWRC *“The students really enjoyed looking at the positive aspects of social work. I feel this is such a great tool to improve the social work image”*. [Find out more about the NISCC Ambassador Scheme for Social Care and Social Work ...](#)

### Social Work Awards 2016 – Shortlisted finalists announced

Congratulations to the 93 teams and individuals from social work across Northern Ireland nominated for the 2016 Social Work Awards. Judging is now complete and the winners will be announced at a lunchtime event in Armagh City Hotel on 4 November 2016. [Read the full news story including the list of finalists here.....](#)

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## Congratulations to Successful Candidates –Professional in Practice Awards



**Hearty congratulations to the 135 Social Workers who achieved their Professional in Practice Social Work Awards from the Northern Ireland Social Care Council.**

Joe Blake, Chair of the NISCC Professional in Practice Partnership welcomed the successful candidates, their families, junior guests and colleagues to the Dunadry Hotel to celebrate their awards success. Thanks to social workers Niall Ferguson (BHSCT), Joanne Murphy (Education Welfare) and Andrew Jamison (NHSCT) shared personal experiences of their journey to achieving their Professional in Practice Award. [Read more](#)

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## Lunchtime Seminars – Stay in touch or catch up online



**We provide a series of lunchtime seminars, information sessions and workshops to support best practice in social work and social care.**

**These events are usually free to attend and last between 1 and 2 hours.**

For those who can't travel to the seminars, we will have future seminars streamed live and recorded through 'Zoom' for PCs and mobile devices.

Zoom is free to download and compatible with most devices. Log-ins for streaming will be posted and shared prior to each event. Information,

presentations video recordings from most of our events are available from the [Events section of our website](#).

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## Current Surveys – Share your Views

**We need your opinions to help shape our work and to advise us on how best to involve our stakeholders.** We currently have two live surveys we hope you can take part in:

**Six-Monthly Communications Survey – Tell us about the type of information we should send you to keep you up-to-date on important news such as changes to your registration, major policy developments, achievements and issues affecting NISCC.** The survey is made up of 12 short questions and should take five minutes to complete. **Survey closes on Friday 5 August 2016.** Survey link - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CommsJun2016>

**Registrants Forum Engagement Survey – Tell us how the Registrants' Forum of NISCC registered social care workers, social workers and social work students can advise the Council on Registrants' views and issues relating to social care registration and regulation.** Please take a few minutes to answer the five short questions in this survey. Your views will help the Forum engage with you as a NISCC Registrant. **Survey closes on Friday 12 August 2016.** Survey link - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RegistrantForum>

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## NICON Conference 28/29 June 2016

**Our Chief Executive, Colum Conway, chaired the NICON seminar on 'Regulation - Our change supporting your change?'** The Government recently announced a public debate on the future of professional regulation, including how it interacts with the wider systems of healthcare. In this session regulators highlighted the work that is already going on to support change and discuss their vision for how regulation in the future can provide a foundation for supporting change and enabling quality rather than being an obstacle to it! Colum presented with Alan Walker (GMC), Dr David Stewart (RQIA), Jim Livingstone Chair (Pharmaceutical Society NI) and Pauline Shepherd (IHCP). Find out more about the conference at <http://www.nhsconfed.org/events/2016/06/nicon16> Comments from the seminar on Twitter **#NICON16**

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## SHSCT Survey Identifies Demand and Content for a Community Development Training Programme in the Professionals in Practice (PiP) Framework for Social Work



Quality Care - for you, with you

Community Development is a requirement for undergraduate social workers. The SHSCT, through a steering group comprising of health and social care, academic, and voluntary/community sector organisations has completed a study to identify the demand and content for a PiP programme in Community Development for Social Work.

The next step will be a meeting with the project lead, steering group representatives and Ulster University Community Development and Social Work Departments to provide a submission to prepare an accreditation application to NISCC. The target date for the new courses is September 2017. [Read more...](#)

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### Our Priorities- NISCC Business Plan 2016/17

Our Business Plan for 2016/17 is available from our website. The full document is available at: <http://www.niscc.info/news/55-niscc-business-plan-201617-our-priorities-for-the-coming-year>

#### Our key priorities for 2016/17

1. The continued roll-out of Registration to the Domiciliary Care and Day Care workforce
  2. Embedding the new Standards of Conduct and Practice
  3. Embedding Fitness to Practise
  4. Improving Communication and Engagement
  5. Delivering high quality services in all business areas
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### Council Meetings – Open and accessible

You are welcome to come along to our Council meetings. They are usually held in our office at Millennium House. If you would like to attend a meeting, please email [maureen.martin@niscc.hscni.net](mailto:maureen.martin@niscc.hscni.net) or call 028 9536 2952. Minutes from previous meetings are published on our website at: <http://www.niscc.info/about/how-we-make-decisions>



#### Dates for 2016-17

- 6 July 2016
  - 19 October 2016
  - 1 February 2017
  - 26 April 2017
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### Tax Relief on Registrant Fees

Remember to claim tax relief on fees paid for NISCC registration. More information about tax and the forms you need to submit is available from the [HMRC website](#)

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### Customer Service – Here to help

We can help with queries about our work & the services we offer, including advice on your NISCC registration, using your NISCC Online account, routes into education & training and information about our Corporate Management. Call: **028 9536 2600** (lines open Mon-Fri 09.00-13.00 & 14.00-16.00). Email [info@niscc.hscni.net](mailto:info@niscc.hscni.net) [www.niscc.info](http://www.niscc.info)

You have received this newsletter to update you on news and projects affecting the social care workforce in NI. Registrants using the information within the newsletter to develop their knowledge and practice can include the learning and development in their Post Registration Training & Learning record.

If you have received this email in error, please contact the NISCC Communications Team to [UNSUBSCRIBE](#)

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