



Welcome to NISCC e-News.....

This bulletin is for our registrants, their employers and our 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



Colum Conway – NISCC Chief Executive

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Social Care Managers Forum – first meetings in Carrickfergus and Omagh

The forum has been created to give our registered social care managers the opportunity to network, share ideas and develop together as a professional group. The first two events included discussions on the manager's role in staff registration, NISCC Standards, Safeguarding and An overview of RQIA current projects and policies. Further events will be scheduled for early 2017 in other parts of Northern Ireland. Watch our website [Events](#) section and our social media pages for information. If you have specific queries about the forum, contact [Diane Boyle](#) from our Workforce Development Team.

Social Care Worker Compulsory Registration – on track for March 2017 deadline

Thanks to the social care workers and their managers working with us to register the 12,000 staff from domiciliary care, day care and supported living settings by the March 2017 deadline. We're over halfway there – with 6400 workers now registered and a further 1500 with applications submitted for assessment.

Registration progress to 12000 social care workers (domiciliary care, day care & supported living)

53%

March 2017

Registration workshops have been held in Derry, Omagh, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Strabane, Limavady, Enniskillen, Antrim and Belcoo. Watch the [Events](#) page of the NISCC website for events near you.

12,000 registration information packs have been supplied for staff and managers to support them in the registration process. [Resource materials](#) and '[How To Guides](#)', and [YouTube presentations](#) are free to access and share.



Make sure your registration is processed before the March 2017 deadline. Go to the [NISCC Online Registration Service](#) now and submit your application. Contact the NISCC Customer Service Team if you need advice. Email: info@niscc.hscni.net or call 028 9536 2600.

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NISCC Registrants Forum – help us to represent your views

Members of the NISCC Registrants' Forum provide advice and representation to the Council on Registrants' views relating to social care registration and regulation.

Updates from the [Forum are shared on the NISCC website](#). We would like your views to help connect our registrants with the Forum and provide new ways for you to share your professional issues with them. Please take a few minutes to answer the five short questions in our online survey. Your views will help the Forum engage with you as a NISCC Registrant. **Survey closes on Friday 2 December 2016.**

Click on the link to share your views. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RegistrantForum>

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#swfreshers16



Welcome to our new social work students setting out on their training here in NI. NISCC staff have been out round the campuses to meet new students and introduce them to the world of professional regulation. Colum Conway, our CEO, had the opportunity to meet students at Belfast Met and wish them well on their social work career.

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Catch up on our lunchtime seminars

Our September seminar "Longitudinal Study of Children in Care in NI", presented by Montserrat Fargas Malet from Queens University Belfast suggests that all long-term placements have the potential to nurture positive relationships and outcomes for children, especially if they are well supported. The Study tracked placements and measured outcomes for a population of looked after children across adoption, foster-care,

kinship foster-care, residence orders and living with birth parents. Our seminars are free to attend. Find out more from our website [Events](#) page. If you can't attend on the day, presentations and video recordings will be available on our website shortly afterwards.

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Fitness to Practise – streamlining the regulation process

The new Fitness to Practise system for workforce regulation has been in place for almost six months; offering NISCC to apply more appropriate sanctions and to resolve minor cases at a local level.



Fitness To Practise
**WHAT YOU NEED
TO KNOW**

Guidance on the Fitness to Practise processes and information for Employers on the Standards of Acceptance for referrals to NISCC are available from the [NISCC website](#). Information about our [Fitness to Practise hearings and sanctions](#) is published on our website.

We are hosting information sessions for registrants and employers around NI. Check the [Events](#) page of the NISCC website for events near you. Watch and share our presentation about the new Fitness to Practise model at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lr4I2zrIBh0>

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Review of the Professional in Practice NI Consolidation Award - social workers and line managers– we need your views

We are reviewing the NISCC PiP Consolidation Award. A survey link has been sent to social workers (and their line managers) who have achieved part or all of the NI Consolidation Award since 2011. If you haven't already, please take 10 minutes to fill out the survey and help shape social work professional development for the future.

[Link to survey for Social Workers who completed the Consolidation Award](#)

[Link to survey for Line Managers of those who completed the Consolidation Award](#)

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Dementia Champions Training



The regional Dementia Strategy places particular emphasis on the need for staff training and to address this, they have developed a Dementia 'Champions' Programme. Their aim is to have at least one 'Champion' in each ward / facility across NI that care for people with dementia and their target is to recruit and train in the region of 250 - 300 people.

The programme is designed to up-skill health and social care staff of different grades and with different roles across a range of programmes of care in both the statutory and non-statutory sectors. There is no cost for this programme, but staff nominated to attend the programme must commit to full attendance and participation.

For those employers who have staff interested in becoming a Dementia Champion please contact Catriona Donnelly, Operations Manager catriona@connected-health.co.uk
Visit bit.ly/2de4hfn to find out more about the Dementia Learning & Development Framework.

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Have you watched the NISCC You Tube Channel?

We have clips and animations to help share news and information about registration, regulation and professional development for social work and social care workers. Have a look at the [Northern Ireland Social Care Council Channel](#).



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Thinking of applying to Social Work for 2017 entry?

Visit Queens University Belfast Social Work Information Evening on 2 November 2016 (18.30 – 20.00) at QUB, Whitla Hall. You can discuss everything from submitting your application to what it's like being a Social Worker. Book your place online at:

www.qub.ac.uk/schools/ssesw/Discover/Events/SocialWorkInformationEvening.html

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Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care (Northern Ireland)

NISCC is pleased to report that the City and Guilds Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care (Northern Ireland) has been approved. The Level 4 Diploma in Adult Care will provide both a practice-based qualification for specific level 4 job roles and will act as a stepping stone towards more senior practice and management. It is particularly relevant for senior care/support staff, front line managers, assistant/deputy manager, team leader, area domiciliary care managers and senior day care workers. If you would like further information on this development please contact [Meta Keenan](#) from our workforce Development Team.

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NISCC Annual Report 2015/16

The NISCC annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016 is available from our website at: <http://www.niscc.info/about/corporate-plans-reports> Highlights from the year include

- Revising the Standards of Conduct and Practise for our registered workforce
- Best Practice: Better Outcomes – Conference to celebrate best practice in social care in NI
- Launch of the Professional in Practice CPD Framework for Social Work
- Review of the NISCC workforce regulation model
- Redevelopment of the NISCC Online Registration website
- Investors in People re-accreditation (Bronze status)

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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 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

- 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

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This newsletter is 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.

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Please help us share this information with your colleagues, service users and those interested in raising standards in social care and social work. Forward it to people who may not have subscribed to NISCC eNews - and for those who don't have regular access to email, please print a copy for noticeboards and staffrooms. Thank you