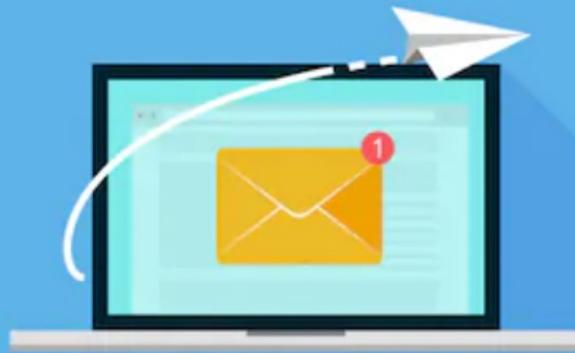


IASW NEWSLETTER

September 2020



Welcome to the Autumn edition of **IASW Newsletter**,

I am so proud of our members as we continue to struggle through the difficulties of Covid-19 and I am confident that social work is continuing to make a great difference across all the various service groups despite the emphasis and reliance on medical approaches and responses. IASW membership is growing as a result of all the hard work members are doing. Remember IASW is a place for you, as a social worker, to have a voice, collaborate on raising issues with key agencies through the Special Interest Groups, and shape the ongoing development of the profession.

At this time, I want to particularly welcome all the Social Workers that graduated from courses in UCD, TCD, UCC, NUI Galway, and Sligo IT. I congratulate all of you and especially welcome the first graduates from the course in Sligo IT. I had the pleasure to meet just some of those students over the past year as they struggled with issues particular to their situation as students of social work. In that interaction I concluded that the future is bright for Irish Social Work. I encourage you to continue membership of the IASW and bring your knowledge, youth and innovation to bear on a profession that you will benefit from being a part of over many years.

I especially want to welcome Brideen Murphy who graduated this summer and has been elected to the Board of IASW. The contribution of the newest qualified to the business of the IASW is very important.

There has been so many good news about social work over the past few months that shows the great effort IASW members are making during these difficult times. IASW is about its members. Nothing can happen without them.

Thank you for all your work. I look forward to meeting more of you over the next few months.

Stay well and thank you for your continuing support. Please spread the good news that IASW is growing and seeking to grow further!
Aine McGuirk, Chair, SW004099



***Life is simple
You get what you put in***



****WE NEED YOUR HELP****
Card Payment System & PCI Compliance



Dear Members,

Next week you will receive a letter via post with the below information in further detail.

The Board of Directors is delighted to confirm that *for the third year running there will be no increase to the membership fees in 2021.*

**** WE NEED YOUR HELP! ****

We have upgraded our Card Payment System to comply with data security requirements within the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the new EU directive regarding the PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard). **In order for your payment not to fail, we are asking members to update their card details on our system on/before November 1st.**

**** IMPORTANT ****

Members who joined or re-joined after the 1st of June 2020, **DO NOT** need to update their card details.

Update your details: Login using the link below and update your account information.

[Issues updating yourself or logging in?](#)

Email: administrator@iasw.ie / Call: 086 024 1055

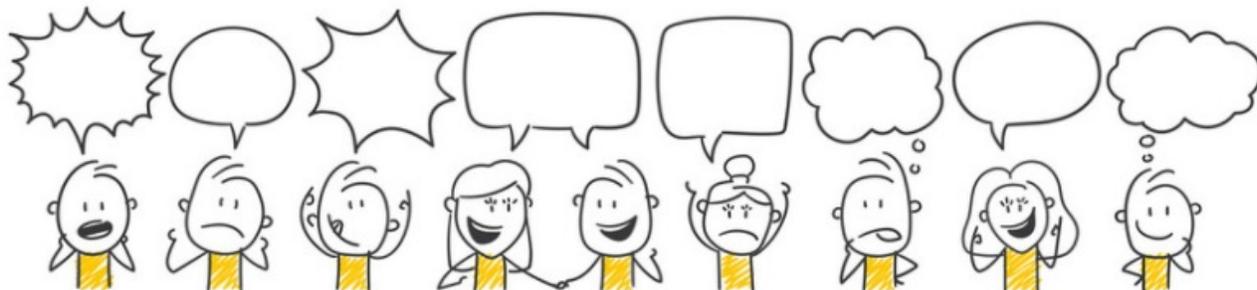
Remember that keeping your IASW membership **is vital**. IASW provides Fitness to Practise Legal Expenses Cover Insurance which **IS NOT provided by your employer or CORU**.

Members Login

**Getting to The Heart of The Matter
The 2020 Member Survey**

Past Editions of The Irish Social Worker

The Voice of Social Work



The IASW continues to respond to the concerns and issues raised by social workers and represents those concerns at a national level through correspondence with key stakeholders as well as through the media. During lockdown, the IASW has worked intensely to lobby for the inclusion of social work expertise to inform the development of national policy in response to the impact of the pandemic and associated lockdown restrictions. Social work is uniquely positioned to influence and inform the development and design of psychosocial responses to meet the needs of the most marginalized and vulnerable. This work also serves to enhance understanding of the role of social work. We have been successful in securing that social work expertise is included on a number of groups at national level. To see all the correspondence and documents visit the downloads section in the link below.

Voice of Social Work

IASW Code of Ethics and Code of Practice 2020



The IASW Board is pleased to advise you that the process of revising the Code of Ethics and the Code of Practice is now complete. The revisions to the codes were endorsed by the members at our AGM this year. The Board would like to thank sincerely all of the members who contributed to the process.

These codes are, of course, living documents and therefore they are subject to review from time to time. The last revision took place in 2011. The latest editions are designed to meet our current needs and challenges and include, for example, reference to the climate emergency and to social media. Principles of social justice, human rights and respect for persons remain at their core. **We hope that they will be of benefit to you in your practice!**

To see and download the updated codes, visit the IASW web page on the link below.

[IASW Documents](#)

Important Information



Help us keep your information up to date!

The IASW Office has been working for the past few months on updating the database. You might have been receiving emails asking to confirm information. We ask all members to reply to those email and we encourage all other members to **login with their email and password and keep their information up to date.**

DON'T MISS OUT on important emails and on the next edition of the "The Irish Social Worker" 2020.

If you can't log in or you need to change membership category, **contact the Office Administrator** and let us know.

[Members Login](#)



We can make the IASW grow together!

The IASW is run by members for members, seeking to improve the standards and quality of professional social work practice. The more we are, the more work we can do. If **each member recruits one new member**, we would succeed in reaching our next goal of **2000 members**

[IASW Social Work During Covid-19 Survey](#)

The word "SURVEY" is spelled out using wooden blocks. The letter 'Y' block is tilted upwards and has a simple smiley face drawn on its top surface. The background is a solid light blue color.

SURVEY

The second report on the IASW Social Work During Covid-19 Ongoing Survey has been uploaded to the IASW web page (see link below). It presents the findings on the data collected during the first phase of Reopening Ireland/Easing Lockdown Restrictions (19th May – 8th June). 204 responses were received, with social workers in Children and Families being the largest group of respondents, comprising 34% of responses. Some of the key findings were:

- Social workers had more worries as Ireland began Phase 1 of Easing Lockdown Restrictions than they experienced during lockdown.
- The biggest worry for social workers (46%) was how to provide an adequate social work service. 33% said they were worried about their clients.
- The challenges for social workers had also increased.
- Social workers were provided with either the same or less support from their employers than they were during lockdown.

We would like to thank all of those who took the time to complete the survey and share experiences and learning with the IASW and beyond.

[Covid-19 Ongoing Survey](#)

The IASW would also like to send a special thank you to Sinead McGarry for her dedication, enthusiasm and work as Research Assistant on the IASW Social Work During Covid-19 Survey.

IASW Online Events and Training August - September 2020

[IASW Past Events](#)

The Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015

This training which started on the 21st of September, will be delivered using a blended approach. Participants have been invited to complete a 10 hour online learning course over a four week period until the 20th of October. Secondly, the participants will be invited to partake in a 3 hour Zoom meeting. This course will provide participants with the knowledge and skills required to implement the Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act into everyday practice. As this legislation is a key element in the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, it also aims to support the learner to develop an understanding of the Convention. The course is facilitated by Josephine McLoughlin who has over 20 years' experience as a Social Care Leader in the social care sector.

Talktime Online

There have been three Talktime sessions in the last couple of months. A Talktime on Reflective Practice hosted by Dr Carmel Halton on the 20th of August and two Talktime on Anti-Racist Practice in Social Work co-hosted by Colletta Dalikeni and Evelyn Oboh, one on the 26th of August and another one, on the 23rd of September. For a few months, the CPD Coordinator, Cliona Muprhy and Board member, Hilda Loughran, have been using Zoom to bring together social workers and discuss how they are getting on, and how they are coping and adapting to the different ways of working. All the sessions have been very well attended and have worked as a way of supporting each other and sharing issues and ideas.

IASW 50th Anniversary



In 2021 the IASW will have its **50th anniversary!** We are looking for any photographs of IASW social work events over the past 50 years. We would be very pleased if we could borrow them. We also welcome stories that you would like to share, items and historical material of any kind. Please contact the office at: administrator@iasw.ie to arrange collection or you can send them via email if you have them in electronic format. Thank you very much in anticipation.

Submissions and Advocacy

Since March 2020, there have been a variety of submissions advocacy, and communications with the HSCPA, Law Reform Commission, Tusla, HSE and others.

To download all submissions, advocacy, and communications, please visit the following links:

[Submissions](#)

[Advocacy](#)

Representations

The IASW is invited to participate in many advisory, expert review and focus groups. We also receive invitations to a wide variety of events. In addition, we also meet with CORU, Tusla, Ministers, Government Departments and the media.

List of representations since August - September 2020:

1. The Gender Context: Impact on Women's Mental Health
 2. Social Work Education Group and Social Work Education Subgroup Student Placements
 3. Pre Budget 2021 Campaign Consultation
 4. Implementing the European Child Guarantee in Ireland
 5. The State of the European Union 2020
 6. Occupational Social Work Interest Group
 7. HSE Adult Safeguarding Policy Implementation Education and Training Support Work Stream
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