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## A Note From the Chair

Greetings again, colleagues, As we face into the autumn and beyond, I hope you all had a chance to enjoy some time off over the summer and to recharge your batteries, following what has been a challenging year or two. Given the success of the country's COVID vaccination programme and the fact that COVID-related restrictions are lifting, there is more promising light on the horizon and increased reasons to be optimistic. At the same time, we need to continue to be cautious and to prioritise public health. We also remember all those who have suffered and continue to struggle, because of the pandemic, and applaud all those, including social workers, deliver critical services, in the face of great difficulties. As we emerge from the worst of the pandemic, social work will be to the fore in helping our society and especially our most vulnerable citizens, to navigate their lives forward. I am delighted to have already chaired productive meetings of our IASW Board and Council in the past few weeks. Both Board and Council are currently dealing with a range of issues at national and local levels. There is an exciting programme of CPD and other IASW events lined up for the remainder of the year. We continue to contribute to media and policy developments in various areas and ways, progressing issues of concern to social work and our service users. And our office team is working harder than ever to further increase our growing IASW membership numbers – among other things! As a major part of preparing for the future, the IASW is currently in the process of preparing our Strategic Plan for 2022-2024. This is one of our most important actions this year. The Plan will set the direction for where we want to go in the coming few years and what goals we want to prioritise. Many thanks to all of you who responded to our survey over the summer. I look forward to seeing the process of drafting our plan for the next three years completed and to working with all of you to achieve our shared goals.



**Vivian Geiran, IASW Chair, SW00319**

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### IASW Events

- Nov 2nd: [Practice Teaching: Report Writing Essentials](#)
- Nov 4th: [Reflective Spaces: Challenging Racism in the Workplace](#)
- Nov 11th: [Making Safeguarding Personal in Everyday Practices](#)

Upcoming Events

### IASW in the News

- [1 in 5 children in care did not have social worker - HIQA](#)
- [Reform in the Nursing Home Sector](#)
- [Tusla staff and children in care identified in attacks on social media](#)

IASW News

**Half a Century has gone by and the IASW is still thriving with over 1550 members.** As we enter the final quarter of 2021, our aim is to **get the IASW to over 1600 members.** To do that, we need your help! 😊 We are asking our members to spread the word today and recruit **One New Member a Day.** **In October and November, we will be running draws every fortnight.** Referrer(s), referee(s) and all new members will be entered in our draw to win vouchers, books and more. Prizes will change every fortnight! The prizes for our first Draw on Monday 18th of October will be

- 2 x €40 One-4-All vouchers and
- 2 x copies of Reni Eddo-Lodge book 'Why I'm no longer talking to white people about race'.

Keep an eye on our social media for competition updates!



## Refer, Reward, Repeat



**Refer and Win!**



**The National Practice Teaching in Social Work initiative** is the collaboration of social work education providers in the Republic of Ireland led by Practice Learning Coordinators, funded by DCEDIY and supported by the IASW. This is a rare opportunity to shape the development of social work student placements and Practice Teaching. Lyn Dorney was appointed Project Coordinator in July 2021.

For more information on NPTSWI contact:

**[lyn.dorney@ucc.ie](mailto:lyn.dorney@ucc.ie)**

A series of CPD events in collaboration with IASW will run throughout the year.

**Events**



All of us will know someone, or may even become someone, who requires residential care at some stage. As RTE Investigates and our ongoing campaign with Care Champions shows, current policies and services fail to support residents' rights and fails to adequately protect them when harm occurs. Nothing will change until the law changes. It is clear fifteen years after Leas Cross & seven years after Aras Attracta, that political action will only be forthcoming with sustained public demands for legislative reform. Residents and family members cannot do this alone, please support, sign and share this petition.

**Sign the Petition Now**

The IASW would like to take the opportunity to thank all those that took part in our Strategic Plan feedback survey. Your feedback has been invaluable for the strategic plan, planning process. Keep an eye on the IASW website and socials for updates on the strategic plan.

**IASW Website**



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Since March 2021, there have been a variety of submissions and communications with the HSCPA, Law Reform Commission, Tusla, HSE and others. To download all submissions and communications, please visit the links below:

[Submissions](#)



[Communications](#)



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