**ASaP SIG Meeting**

**Weds 14th Feb 2024**

**12.30 – 2pm**

Att:

Jacinta Barrett – KARE - ASaP Chair

Louise Casey

Eimear Kennedy – UHL HG

Anne O Loughlin –

Anne O Loughlin – NRH

Philomena Butler – NRH

Liam Keogh – AVISTA

Mary Griffith – AVISTA

C Winter

Ger Farren – RCSI HG – ASaP Secretary

* **Minutes/Updates from previous meeting**

JB ran through minutes from last SIG meeting. JB updated SIG on recent contact with Vivian Gueran IASW and discussion re potential IASW statement/position paper re ADM, Advocacy & SW Role etc…Vivian has suggested a scoping paper outlining issues and suggestions.

Action: SIG to follow up with same

* **Public Consultation - Policy Proposals on Adult Safeguarding in the Health & Social Care Sector.**

Discussed recent multiple safeguarding stakeholder events and year of significant change re safeguarding. Discussed public consultation of safeguarding policy. ASaP acknowledge importance of all social work and stakeholder groups taking opportunity to feed into same. Agreed small working group within ASaP to meet next week **Weds 21st Feb at 12.30pm** to discuss key issues, concerns, compliments, suggestions from SIG.

* LK highlighted his concerns re this public consultation possibly jumping the gun and potentially undermining the Jackie McIlroy report which has yet to be released. “More of the same”?
* AOL – queried timing of this public consultation and further highlighted that the Law Reform Review has also yet to be completed.
* JB informed SIG that IASW had very positive engagement with Law Reform.
* LK stated that the definition of abuse needs to be widened.
* GF expressed significant concern re scope of policy excluding abuse that occurs within home and community – this requires correction, safeguarding must be inclusive of all areas.
* EK highlighted need for increased Designated officers within agencies and services.
* **Planning AGM** – AGM planned for April, discussed potential for skill based workshop and or external presentation. GF encouraged SIG to make suggestions for AGM. LK – highlighted Elenor Flynn from Law Faculty, NUIG as an excellent speaker.
* **ASaP Committee** – JB & GF spoke re significant challenge in running SIG with a committee of three. It is a voluntary role managed alongside fulltime work for committee members. Acknowledged untenable nature of same without increased committee members. Committee will be discussed and new members voted in April. MG noted lack of representation from SPT teams within SIG. AOL acknowledged that challenges for SIG were experienced across the board in all SIGs. Encouraged the ongoing use of burning issues to draw increased interest and involvement.
* **Questionnaire** – highlighted poor response to questionnaire, will circulate again in the lead up to AGM
* **IASW Updates**

JB updated SIG on

* upcoming UCC webinar on Decision making, Assessment & Risk – link circulated by SIG.
* IASW cohosting Domestic Violence Conference with BASW at end of month
* Fed Vol running an upcoming webinar on Cyber Safety and Risk with Safeguarding Ireland
* **Assisted Dying Presentation:**

Anne O Loughlin gave a very comprehensive and thought provoking presentation on “***Assisted Dying: Complex, Nuanced & Highly Emotive Issues”***

Anne covered multiple aspects including Joint Oireactas Committee sessions, Legislation, International Perspectives, Human Rights & Social Justice, Safeguards, Consent & Capacity, Conscientious Objections, Advanced Healthcare Directives, palliative Care and the requirement of Codes of Practice.

SIG had a robust discussion re issues highlighted and many questions were fielded by AOL. Resoundingly positive and appreciative feedback given to AOL

Next Meeting: ASaP SIG AGM – May 1st 12.30pm – 2pm