

Update from the IASW Board of Directors

MEMBERSHIP

Currently **one third of Social Workers in Ireland** are members of the IASW, with new members joining each week. We are constantly trying to recruit new members and would be grateful if you would encourage social work friends and colleagues to join the IASW. Our target is 4000 members!

Lead by a **Volunteer Board** and supported by a **Volunteer Council**, the IASW is run by MEMBERS for MEMBERS, and we would ask each MEMBER to **recruit just one new member this year**, as this will DOUBLE our numbers.

SUBMISSIONS

Within the last month, two of our Council Groups have made the followings submissions:

- Head Medical Social Workers – Submission to Expert Review Group of Delayed Discharges
- Social Workers in Disability - Review of the Assessment of Need Standard Operating Procedure 14June2018

Copies of the submissions can be found here: <https://www.iasw.ie/Submissions-and-Representations>

Upcoming Submissions from IASW:

1. Public consultation on the Social Workers Registration Board Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics.
2. Draft HSE Adult Safeguarding Policy (2018) and HIQA & MHR public consultation for Draft national standards for adult safeguarding

REPRESENTING THE IASW

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. Over the last three months the IASW has attended the following events and meetings:

- 9th May – attended the HIQA and MHC Adult Safeguarding Seminar
- 16th May - attended 'eMental Health: State-of-the-art & Opportunities for Ireland' event
- 22nd May – IASW Presentation to Trinity College MSW 2 Class
- 24th May – participated in a meeting with the HSE re. Assessment of Need – HSE Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
- 30th May – attended the A Vision for Change Advisory Group Meeting
- 31st May – attended the EAPN Ireland AGM 2018
- 1st June – met with SAGE Advocacy Services to discuss issues of mutual interest
- 5th June – attended the Child Care Law Reporting Project - Research Launch
- 13th June - attended the Ombudsman for Children Dr Niall Muldoon Annual Report Launch
- 25th June - the IASW met with Tusla in June to discuss issues such as; recruitment, retention, staff training, and the HIQA report. Tusla and the IASW will continue to meet each quarter. If you have any issues you would like the IASW to bring to these meetings, please contact officemanager@iasw.ie
- 4th – 7th July - World Social Work Conference, RDS

Upcoming Meetings & Events

1. Meeting with CORU to discuss the proposed new Sligo IT MA in Social Work course <https://www.itsligo.ie/courses/ma-social-work/>
2. Meeting with BASW to discuss a Cross Border Event
3. Attend a CPD Event by National Social Work Vocational Group and Forsa

COMMUNICATIONS AND PR

The Board of Directors recognize that much work needs to be done in relation to the visibility of the IASW in the media, and to address this deficit the Board are currently working on a Comm's & PR Strategy, the next step in the process will be to meet with our Council members on September 24th to get their feedback. An update will be provided to all members after this meeting.

SWSD 2018

The Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development was held in the RDS from July 4th to 7th, over 2200 people attended, and the event was a huge success! The IASW would like to take this opportunity to thank the Local Organising Committee for their hard work, dedication and commitment to this event.

We would also like to thank the IASW International Affairs Committee members; John Brennan, Kerry Cuskelly, Ineke Durville, Anna Deneher & Maria Swan, a tremendous amount of these volunteers' time and energy went into organizing this historical event.

Click on this link https://www.swsd2018.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SWSD2018_Abstract-Book.pdf to view the abstract book, which includes keynote papers.

THE IRISH SOCIAL WORKER JOURNAL

Articles are always welcome and should be emailed for the attention of the editor, email officemanager@iasw.ie for a copy of the Guidelines for Writing an article. The Editorial Committee hope to publish the Autumn/Winter Irish Social Worker Journal in early November. The **deadline for submission of articles in September 30th**.

INCREASING OUR RESOURCES

The Board of Directors recognize the need for additional staff in IASW Offices and are at present drafting a business case for Government Departments to provide the IASW with seed funding for a Development Worker post. A further update will follow in the coming weeks.

CPD EVENTS

Cliona is busy planning the Autumn and Winter training calendar, already several of the events are **booked out** for this term. Please keep an eye on our event emails and the website for information on our upcoming events <https://www.iasw.ie/events/upcoming>.

FREE MEMBER EVENT – To be completed w/help from Cliona

A Fond Farewell – in November of this year, the IASW will say Bon Voyage to Cliona who will be leaving us for a year, as she embarks on a year of volunteering, walking and travelling, we wish her a safe and happy journey!

YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT TO US

The Board are always looking for feedback from members regarding way in which we can improve our services and membership benefits, they would very much welcome any suggestions you may have. Feedback can be sent to officemanager@iasw.ie and FYI the Board of Directors will meet on the following dates in 2018: September 24th, October 22nd and December 10th.