

The independent voice of the sector

Welcome...

Welcome to EATA's membership briefing. Our aim is to ensure that people affected by substance dependencies get the treatment they need. By being part of the umbrella body of the sector, our members are able to contribute to improvements in access and quality in the provision of treatment.

EATA news

EATA membership breaks through the 100 mark

EATA are pleased to announce that our membership has now broken through the 100 mark. We are happy to welcome the following new members:

BAC O'Connor (Burton Addiction Centre)
West Glamorgan Council on Alcohol and Drugs Abuse (WGCADA)
South Coast Recovery Centre
City Beacon
Rebecca Cheshire
Lifeline Project Ltd

Peter Martin, CEO: "We are really excited by the number of new members EATA is attracting at the moment. EATA will be a much stronger voice for the sector the larger the membership becomes and we welcome all new members into the EATA fold. We hope that they enjoy the benefits EATA membership can bring."

EXCITING STAFF CHANGES AT EATA

PETER MARTIN CEO

Peter Martin has over 30 years experience of drug treatment and rehabilitation.

Earlier in his career he was a counsellor and group work facilitator prior to training in management. He worked for the Rainer Foundation and Phoenix House in London. He was the Director of the London Phoenix House from 1984 until 1989 prior to being appointed to the post of Regional Director where he developed several rehabilitation and family centres.

He was appointed CEO of Addaction, formerly APA (the Association for the Prevention of Addiction) the national drug charity. Over his period of stewardship he helped the organisation grow from £150k turnover to £26 million with approximately 70 services around the country. He left Addaction after 15 years in 2005 and became an independent consultant in substance misuse.

He studied drugs and HIV/Aids having won a Winston Churchill Fellowship and was a member of The Parole Board for England and Wales 1994 -2000. He is qualified in social work and in youth and community development work. He is a member of the ACMD and a Non Executive Director for the Kent and Medway NHS Partnership Trust.

KATIE HILL – Communications and Development Manager

Katie Hill has recently joined EATA as the new Communications and Development Manager. Katie Hill joined EATA in July 2009 as the Communications and Development Manager, having worked in the communications field for over six years. She previously worked as an Account Manager for a leading public relations company Green Issues Communications who specialise in community consultation. Prior to Green Issues Katie spent four years organising events and running election campaigns for The Labour Party at a national and local level. Katie gained a degree in Government and History from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Over the coming months Katie will be working with Peter to develop an effective communications strategy aiming to raise the profile of EATA and providing an effective voice for members in influencing policy within the drug treatment field.

LOUISE WALSH – Membership Services Officer

Louise Walsh also recently joined EATA as the Membership Services Officer. Louise Walsh joined EATA in June 2009 as the Membership/Office Administrator, having worked in the drug and alcohol sector previously as an Administrator for Addaction Brent. She previously worked for the Institute of Child Health GOSH /ICH and East London and City Mental Health Trust. Louise gained a degree in Sociology and Social Policy at the University Of Liverpool. Louise will be your contact for any queries regarding membership and in addition will be processing Criminal Record Bureau checks. She will be the first point of contact for EATA members and if you have changed your details or have any queries please contact her.

EATA have also been advertising for a full-time office administrator and hope to have him/her in position as soon as possible to help with the smooth running of the office.

HOT OFF THE PRESS

EATA welcomes Steve Broughton, who has started as our new Finance and Administrative Officer and Naomi Plasky, our new intern who joins us from the University of Pittsburgh.

INDEPENDENT SAFEGUARDING AUTHORITY – WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU

In October 2010 the new vetting and barring scheme will replace the current system of CRB checks with the aim of strengthening the system to protect children and vulnerable adults.

There are three key differences between the current system and the new one.

Firstly, an individual employer will now have the power to obtain a check on a carer or their child's trumpet teacher. Secondly, the ISA will have the power to decide whether to register the person or not, something the current CRB check does not do; and thirdly, in theory the scheme will keep up-to-date records of people's convictions so employers will be able to continually check on the status of their employees without the need to request a fresh CRB check.

So what is the history behind this new level of bureaucracy? The ISA has come out of recommendations from the report 2002 Bichard Inquiry into the deaths of Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman at the hands of Ian Huntley, their school care-taker who had secured employment with the school despite having previously been investigated for sexual offences and burglary. The ISA was brought

into existence by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. The recommendations identified a need for a single body to oversee checks for employers who are recruiting in sectors working with vulnerable people. The ISA will fulfil this role across England, Wales and Northern Ireland with Scotland setting up their own similar authority to work in partnership with the ISA.

So what is the Independent Safeguarding Authority? It is a non-departmental public body made up of nine board members who are publicly appointed plus the Chair – Sir Roger Singleton. The ISA has a staff of 250 highly trained and experienced employees to help make decisions about individuals who are likely to pose a risk to children or vulnerable adults.

So what happens to the CRB? The ISA will work in partnership with the CRB, which remains as an executive agency of the Home Office. The CRB will act as the administrative wing supporting the ISA's primary function of barring. The ISA will report directly to parliament and means Ministers will no longer be involved in making decisions on individual cases.

Other key points to be aware of:

- POCA, POVA, List 99 and disqualification orders will be replaced by a list for those barred from working with children and those who are barred from working with vulnerable adults.
- Pre-employment vetting checks will have to take place before an employee can start work. ISA will decide who is placed on the barred lists before an individual is employed.
- Continuous checking – where an employer has already checked on an employee's status that employer will be notified automatically if their employee's status changes.
- Reduction in bureaucracy – once people are registered future employers can check their status online and free of charge.
- Organisations must start referring information about former employees who they have concerns about to the ISA from October 2009 onwards.

Brian Arbery former Chief Executive of ADAPT dies

Former Chief Executive of ADAPT, Brian Arbery passed away on the 4th August 2009. The funeral was held at St Mary's Parish Church in Saffron Walden on the 18th August. Brian was a well-known and respected figure in the drugs and alcohol field and was never afraid to speak his mind.

He is survived by three daughters and one son. He also owned Ickleton Antiques in Saffron Walden. Collecting antiques, postcards and military memorabilia was his hobby but his real passion was helping people with addictions and providing them with the help they needed to turn their lives around.

He spent a lot of his life working in the charity field and was a key player in establishing social care organisation Turning Point into the national charity it now is.

Peter Martin, Chief Executive EATA said: "Brian's death comes as a shock to us all. I first met him at Turning Point when he was Chief Executive – he was a larger than life character with bundles of energy. I knew him for over 30 years. When it comes to being counted he did make a huge contribution to the sector. Our hearts go out to his family and close friends."

EATA - REGULATORY UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2009

Further consultation event at Care Quality Commission

Prepared by David Finney Associates

Katie Hill and I attended a further consultation event for the substance misuse sector at the Care Quality Commission on 7 September 2009. Also in attendance was Pete Burkinshaw from the NTA and a representative of the Department of Health as well as other providers of substance misuse services. The purpose of the meeting was to engage the substance misuse sector actively in the development of the Guidance about Compliance which will apply as from October 2010.

Nicola Vick who has the policy lead for substance misuse services within CQC outlined the scope of registration. The focus is on the activity that is to be regulated. Those relevant to the drug and alcohol sector are:-

- Accommodation for people who require treatment for substance misuse
- Treatment of disease, disorder or injury.
Disorder includes mental disorder, which, in turn includes dependence on drugs or alcohol.

Nicola clarified that this means that "where the acceptance of treatment is a condition of residence, even if it takes place elsewhere" is to be included within registration. Therefore "quasi-residential services" will be included if they provide both treatment and accommodation together.

Nicola also clarified that for treatment to come within the scope of registration it had to be provided by – a healthcare professional, or a multi-disciplinary team that included a healthcare professional. Therefore community prescribing services whether NHS or independently provided and staffed are included in registration.

Issues about scenarios where treatment was provided by non-healthcare professionals were raised and will be considered by CQC and the Department of Health.

There was then a discussion about whether the Guidance truly reflected issues in the drug and alcohol treatment sector. Thoughts were given to CQC to consider along with other consultation responses already received. This analysis of responses is being undertaken by CQC over the coming weeks with a final deadline for publication in December 2009. Some of the thinking specific to the drug and alcohol sector may be clarified in the "further guidance" which will be sector specific but will not have the same legal standing as the "Guidance about Compliance", i.e. it will be "taken into account".

The person in CQC who is involved in devising the application process, Joan Plant, outlined issues to do with timing and process. She said that it will be the summer 2010 when currently registered services will apply to be registered under the new arrangements. There will be no fee, but there will be an application process involving an electronic application form to confirm provider details, the regulated activities that are provided, the locations in which activities are provided and a declaration form to confirm the extent to which they consider that meet the new registration requirements.

Importantly the current legislation i.e. Care Standards Act 2000, still applies until 30 September 2010. As from 1 October 2010 the Health & Social Care Act 2008 and associated regulations and guidance will apply.

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POLICY ROUND-UP

A key role of EATA is working on behalf of its members with government departments and other agencies. By representing the interests of its members on working groups and at consultation events, EATA continually raises the concerns and needs of the independent sector. We also engage our members so that they contribute to the impact we make on policy and practice.

EATA making your voice heard on CQC

These changes affect many of our members. The changes are wide-ranging and affect services in the community as well as residential providers. The only providers falling through the gap are those who provide structured day care. You will need to register with the CQC from next summer, and for those unfamiliar with the inspection process you should start thinking about what evidence you can provide to meet the new guidelines for compliance. For those who are already registered under the existing Care Standards Act it is simply changing the language in which you report to the CQC. The new guidelines are now outcome-based for example, "What should people who use services experience?"

EATA will be holding a number of regional events in November – January, which will provide further guidance on preparing your facilities for the new inspection regime. Look out for your invite!

Skills for Justice Consultation on review of governance

After 5 years of existence the Skills for Justice Board has decided it is time to review the make-up of the board and how Skills for Justice is governed. They believe it is time to make sure that the governance remains as effective as it has been in the past. EATA currently sit on the Skills for Justice Community Justice Committee and in this role have been asked to contribute as they are keen for employers and stakeholders to shape the direction of the business and holding them to account.

This exercise will help to ensure continued effective governance and decision-making while opening up arrangements to engage a wider range of interests.

EATA will be submitting a response on behalf of our members please click here for the questions and further details. Please send your thoughts and any concerns to mailto: katie.hill@eata.org.uk.

NTA release business plan for 2009/10

The NTA business plan focuses heavily on outcomes and encouraging partnerships to develop a more business-like approach to selecting and contracting providers, in order to deliver improvements to productivity and efficiency in the sector.

The NTA's priorities for 09/10:

- reorientating the treatment system

to focus on helping service users achieve and sustain recovery

- improving the treatment system's capacity to predict, measure and report beneficial outcomes
- challenging local partnerships to integrate their treatment systems with mainstream structures of social support - employment, housing etc
- enhancing the skills of practitioners to equip them to deliver evidence-based, recovery-focused interventions
- ensuring the adult treatment system rises to the challenge of playing its full part in safeguarding the children of drug misusing parents
- promoting the value and reputation of drug treatment to the public

News from our members

Oak Lodge celebrates 25 years of service

Oak Lodge has recently celebrated 25 years of service with a reunion event for past and present clients, workers from the field and staff from the care management system. The event is not a usual event for Oak Lodge but with celebrating 25 years of helping people rebuild their lives was something to celebrate. It was a great opportunity to bring together different peer groups from different eras and included poetry readings from ex-residents. The centre has also had its fair share of talented musicians some of whom came back to play for the enjoyment of all those who attended.

Dave Hoy, Service Manager said: "We all had a great day. For those current residents it was inspiring to meet residents from 10 and 20 years ago who have successfully rebuilt their lives and gone on to have successful careers and live normal lives. I am proud to say that Oak Lodge has been delivering effective treatment for the last 25 years and despite

significant changes in the length of treatment our approach has produced significant numbers of success stories. What we do does work."

Oak Lodge is part of Cranstoun Drug Services, and is a residential rehabilitation service based on West Hill in Wandsworth, serving up to 14 people at any one time. They aim to meet the diverse needs of drug and alcohol users providing intensive group work and individual support in a safe and secure environment. They work with users who are aim to be drug-free and who are working towards abstinence. Services include: assessment and care planning, weekly one-to-one key work and group work incorporating activities such as relapse prevention; life skills and social skills and assertiveness skills training.

Addaction appoint new Chief Executive

Simon Antrobus has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of Addaction replacing Deborah Cameron and taking up the post on the 1st October 2009.

Simon comes to Addaction with an extensive array of experience, having worked as the UK Director of Community Services at the Parkinson's Disease Society and Partnership Manager at Scope. He is currently the Chief Executive of Clubs for Young People and has overseen the progression of the organisation over the last 5 years. It is now one of the leading authorities on club based youth work.

He has also been Vice-Chair of the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services, and was appointed by Iain Duncan Smith as Chair of the National Inquiry into Youth Crime and Gangs for the Centre for Social Justice.

We wish Simon the best of luck in his new role at Addaction.

The Core Trust celebrate 25 years

The Core Trust, who were supported by Princess Diana have celebrated 25 years of providing drug and alcohol treatment. The Core Trust has been providing life changing support for those endeavouring to become abstinent from alcohol or drugs.

The Garden Party was held on the 24th June at The Core Trust in Lisson Grove, Marylebone and was attended by local councillors from Westminster City council, Cllr Aziz Toki and Cllr Mehfuz Ahmed.

In 1991 Princess Diana became involved with The Core Trust, re-launching it by running fundraising dinners which were vital to keep the service going.

As well as its services for adults, The Core Trust also runs CoreKids, which works with the children and families of people experiencing problems with drugs or alcohol.

The Core Trust is part of Westminster Drug Project, a leading charity providing substance misuse treatment services across London and the south-east of England.



Advertise your jobs online at www.eata.org.uk

We have been busy posting up several job vacancies on our website, both for EATA and for members. Don't forget that it is free for members to have their adverts uploaded here and it is one of our most visited pages. So go and have a look at the current vacancies. For more information, email louise.walsh@eata.org.uk.

Events

Future Proof - How does the UK become a social drinker?

Alcohol Concern National Conference and AGM

Tuesday 4th November 2009

Alcohol Concern celebrates 25 years of campaigning to reduce alcohol harms. Discussion includes the political options that could reverse alcohol harms in the decades ahead.

Confirmed speakers include: Prof Martin Plant, Prof Mark Bellis, Norman Lamb MP, Anne Milton MP, Julia Unwin (Joseph Rowntree Foundation).

For more details contact Catherine Johnson on 020 7264 0520 or email conference@alcoholconcern.org.uk

DDN Workshop – The Pursuit of Excellence in residential drug and alcohol services

Tuesday 12th October 2009

This course will aim to help residential drug and alcohol services to achieve and maintain a 'good' or 'excellent' quality rating from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) which they will need if they are to keep their contracts with Local Authority purchasers.

To book your place please call Ian Ralph at DDN on 020 7463 2081

EATA Regional Events

These events will include workshops held on EATA accreditation and on preparing for inspection. It is also a great opportunity to network with fellow members in your area.

November 3rd – Bristol

November 16th – Derby

January (date tbc) – London

Further details will follow to your inbox, please lookout for your invite.

DrugScope National Conference – Drug Treatment at the crossroads – where next for the recovery agenda?

28th October 2009

For more information please contact Cheryl Farnum on 020 7520 7550

Prisons, Probation and Beyond...2009

8th – 9th October 2009

Oulton Hall, Leeds, Yorkshire

'Prisons, Probation and Beyond... 2009'

...is the fourth in the Prisons and Beyond series of conferences. This year the event focuses on substance misuse treatment within the National Offender Management Service and is targeted at staff and managers working in probation, prisons, criminal justice integrated teams and the wider criminal justice system. The conference will build on the success of previous 'Prisons and Beyond' Conferences but will focus on the opportunities and challenges presented by bringing prisons and probation together. This year's conference will include seminars on IDTS, crack cocaine, improving treatment/order completion rates, housing and employment, enhanced partnership working and planning for recovery. There will also be the chance to unwind and have fun at the conference dinner, with after dinner speaker and dancing.

For more details contact: mala@prisonsandbeyond.org or visit website www.prisonsandbeyond.org

We will be updating the website over coming weeks to help members share good practice and news stories from across the membership. If you have any good models of practice or exciting news stories you would like to share with other members and other interested parties please do contact Katie Hill at EATA - Katie.hill@eata.org.uk or 020 7553 9580.

Contact EATA

EATA is continually improving services for our members. If you would like to voice any concerns within the sector, or want more information on becoming a member, or would simply like to make a suggestion, please contact us at the address below with your query.

We also want to hear what you are achieving and what you have planned for the future, so that we can include it in our next edition of the Briefing (out in the Winter of 2009) and share it with all of EATA's members. Send your news to:

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EATA – helping to ensure that people affected by substance dependencies get the treatment they need.