

EATA e-bulletin

August-2009

The monthly e-bulletin from the European Association for the Treatment of Addiction (EATA) to keep our members up to date on the latest developments and news in the drug and alcohol treatment and aftercare sector. If you have any comments or questions about our articles, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Coming up in this month's e-bulletin...

- Big changes for the EATA team
- CRB latest
- Care Quality Commission – consultation on new registration requirements
- Stop Press – new members e-group and EATA tweets for the first time
- And Finally...

Big changes for the EATA team

A big welcome to Peter Martin CBE took over from Sharon Carson on the 1st July as Interim Chief Executive whilst Sharon is on maternity leave. Sharon gave birth to a healthy baby girl on the 20th July so congratulations to Sharon and her new addition to the family. Peter has an extensive background working in the drugs treatment field and will bring invaluable experience to the role.

Peter is joined by Louise Walsh, our new Membership/Office Administrator who started at the end of June, and Katie Hill, our new Communications and Development Manager who started on the 20th July. The team will be working to improve EATA's profile and services to members, pushing hard to get members voices heard by government and the NTA. Peter has in fact already met with Paul Hayes Chief Executive of the NTA and will be arranging meetings with Civil Servants responsible for the field over the coming months.

Peter has outlined what he sees as the priorities for the sector over the coming months including 1 The inevitable downturn in public service spending, 2 The election next year with the high probability of a new Government intent on radical changes in policy, 3 Care Quality Commission's standards being introduced into the residential treatment sector then possibly into community services. To see more on Peter's thoughts click [here](#)

To see biographies of the team please click [here](#)

The team is keen to hear your views on what you would like EATA to consult on and what services are useful to members. <mailto:secretariat@eata.org.uk>

CRB latest

There are changes to The Vetting and Barring Scheme currently being rolled out by the Home Office. The Independent Safeguarding Authority has been set up to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children and vulnerable adults. Applicants are assessed from data gathered by the CRB and then decide on a case-by-case basis whether the said applicant is suited to the work. The ISA was set up largely in response to the murders of Jessica Chapman

and Holly Wells in 2002 and the recognition of the need for a specific agency to deal with the background of job applicants working with children and vulnerable adults.

For a timetable of how these changes will be rolled out please [click here](#)

Reminder: EATA offer an online CRB application process, which is quicker and more efficient than traditional pen and paper. Advantages include a much faster response from the CRB; and an easy-to-use process which prompts you on missing areas and reduces the number of mistakes made speeding up the process.

CQC Consultation on new registration requirements

You may be aware that the Care Quality Commission is currently consulting on new registration requirements and guidance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008. These changes will have an enormous impact on the drug and alcohol treatment sector and we are keen to hear your views and experiences.

I was lucky enough to attend a consultation event held by the CQC on the 28th July at Fairfield Halls in Croydon. The day was incredibly useful and provided an opportunity to input into the consultation and ask questions of the CQC staff facilitating the event. We will be sending out a briefing pack in the next couple of weeks and hope you are able to feed back into the consultation process. The deadline is the **24th August** and we will be sending through a briefing by David Finney, an expert in the field and the consultation questions.

Stop Press!

In response to the members' survey carried out earlier this year we are launching a members e-group to address the need for members to be able to talk to each other and share good practice. The e-group will allow members to upload policy questions and share ideas with each other in a relatively secure environment. Unlike the current online forum where members of the public can view the posts the e-group will be invite only **so look out for your invite or email Katie.hill@eata.org.uk to request to join.**

EATA are also twittering or tweeting on the networking website twitter. Make sure you follow us at www.twitter.com/EATAUK

And Finally,..

We want to jazz up the website by including more images of the work that many of you are doing. If you have any images that you are happy for us to use of projects and people then please send to secretariat@eata.org.uk

Have a great summer!