



DCP England

Newsletter

March 2019

Welcome to the second DCP England Newsletter. We hope that this new publication is keeping you up-to-date and informed on the issues surrounding our profession. In this issue we hear from some members of the DCP Executive Committee, learn about the activities of our West Midlands Branch, and get an update on the NHS Long Term Plan and its implications.

England Chair's update – Roman Raczka

I ATTENDED a very busy two-day DCP Executive Committee meeting in York on 25 and 26 February, in my new role as DCP England Chair. This was the first meeting of the newly-formed Executive Committee and the focus was on setting out strategic priorities for the next year, agreeing objectives and leads. A number of important topics were discussed and, to improve communication from the Executive Committee to our members, I have summarised some of the headline actions to give you an insight into the areas that we are working on.

Supporting members and developing the profession

Workforce and training – Tony Lavender is heading up a DCP Workforce and Training Subcommittee focusing on a range of topics including future funding models for clinical psychology training, Clinical Associate Psychologist roles, and the consultation on the proposed apprenticeship standards for the role.

Membership strategy – We want to increase our membership, and Sheelagh Rodgers (Membership Support Unit Director) is exploring ways of encouraging psychologists at all stages of their careers to join and benefit from DCP membership.

Co-production and working in partnership

Experts by Experience strategy – Jo Hemmingfield (Expert by Experience National Representative) is leading on refreshing this strategy.

Inclusivity – The DCP Inclusivity and Diversity Policy is due to be updated. Meanwhile read Appendix 1 of the existing Diversity Strategy for background information (www.bps.org.uk/dcpinclusivitystrategy).

Population wellbeing and the professional voice

Prevention – Richard Pemberton (Professional Standards Unit Director) is leading a working group to agree priorities and develop a strategic approach to prevention and public health.

DCP publications – There are currently around 35 DCP publications scheduled for review or to be developed, and this will be a major part of this year's programme of work.

NHS Long Term Plan – All DCP branches in England are encouraged to have this as a standing agenda item, and to consider delivering local workshops on the plan.

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Get in Touch

🐦 @UKDCP

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Edited by:

Lawrence Moulin DCP
Communications Lead

England Chair's update, *continued*

Communications – Lawrence Moulin is the new DCP Communications Lead and has mapped out a work plan to develop our approach to communications with all members, including strengthening our use of social media. Twitter users can follow @UKDCP to see this progress.

I hope to have a two-way conversation with members. If you have any questions or comments, or you would like to contribute to the work we are undertaking, please contact me, Roman Raczka, at DCPEngland@bps.org.uk



Dr Roman Raczka

Consultant
Lead Clinical
Psychologist, Chair
of DCP England

Focus on the DCP UK Executive Committee

I thought it would be helpful for members to know more about the DCP Executive Committee – who they are, what they want to achieve, and generally just a little more about them. Over the next few issues of this newsletter, committee members will be introducing themselves to you.

Focus on Esther Cohen-Tovée

What is your role on the DCP Executive Committee?

My role has been that of DCP Chair since the AGM on 24 January 2019. I have previously served as Vice Chair in 2018, and as DCP Chair (May 2016–January 2018).

What do you hope to achieve in your role during the next year?

I hope to work collaboratively with DCP and BPS colleagues, Experts by Experience and other stakeholders so that we can collectively make a tangible impact on behalf of our members and the people we are here to serve. I think we can use our DCP core purpose strategic objectives as a guiding framework, and I see my role as providing leadership, support, encouragement and facilitation, and keeping a focus on the big picture as well as short term goals, joined up thinking and processes.

Where else do you currently work?

I am the Director of Allied Health Professions and Psychological Services in Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust.

What are your interests outside of psychology?

Singing and amateur dramatics are my main hobbies, and I may be found on the amateur stage in the Newcastle upon Tyne area at least twice a year! (See www.gosforthmusical.org).

Focus on Julia Faulconbridge

What is your Role on the DCP Executive Committee?

I am now Vice Chair, having served as Interim Chair in 2018. I see my role as supporting the Chair and taking the lead on agreed priorities. I will be continuing to work on developing the Minorities

Subcommittee, together with the Minorities Group, and to act as Faculty Lead for the time being. I will also be involved in the prevention and public health priority, and the children and young people campaign with the BPS Policy Team.

What do you hope to achieve in your role during the next year?

We laid the groundwork last year to enable the DCP to function as a viable organisation within the BPS. The coming year will be one of transition for both the DCP and the BPS. Working towards a positive ongoing relationship is going to be key, and I hope to be able to continue to play an active role in achieving that. The DCP Executive Committee is a very collegiate grouping and we have been developing much better links across our faculties and branches, so another significant aim for me is to continue to strengthen these links across the whole DCP to really enhance our effectiveness for members, those who use psychological services and the general public.

Where else do you currently work?

I took early retirement from the NHS 11 years ago and continued to work in a variety of roles after that. However, I have been reducing my work activities over the last few years and, apart from a small number of medico-legal assessments, my work is now mainly for the BPS, the DCP and the Faculty for Children, Young People and their Families.

What are your interests outside of psychology?

My major hobbies are gardening and the environment, both practically and politically. I love being outdoors and a real benefit of retirement is not being office-bound, and able to travel when I wish! I am a parish councillor and take on the environmental brief in our local village as part of that. I am lucky in having all three of my sons still living close by, and spending time with and supporting my family is very important to me. I have a baby grandson now too, and my husband and I will be doing a day a week childcare once his mum goes back to work – so that will certainly keep us busy!



Dr Esther Cohen-Tovée

Chair of DCP



Julia Faulconbridge

Vice Chair of DCP



Dr Annette Schlosser
Chair of DCP Yorkshire
and Humber

Focus on the DCP UK Executive Committee, *continued*

Focus on Sheelagh Rodgers

What is your role on the DCP Executive Committee?

I am the Membership Services Unit Director, so I lead on a range of work including membership recruitment and helping with CPD. I also have a key role in developing our annual conference, and in supporting the Minorities in Clinical Psychology and the Power Threat Meaning committees.

What do you hope to achieve in your role during the next year?

The main areas of focus for me are increasing our membership, and to make sure that we deliver a high quality conference this and every year.

Where else do you currently work?

I currently work as an independent practitioner.

What are your interests outside of psychology?

My main areas of interest are sport, reading and gardening.

NHS Long Term Plan

The NHS Long Term Plan creates major opportunities for our profession. We hope to support local events across the country over the coming year, but some of the headlines in the plan are:

- The development of integrated care organisations across England. This will create the potential to bridge the gap between primary and secondary care, and between physical and mental health services. This plays to the strengths of psychologists as being able to work with people of all ages and those with physical and mental health problems.
- Investment in primary medical and community health services to develop fully integrated community-based healthcare. There is a commitment to grow investment in mental health services faster than the NHS budget overall for each of the next five years, and that funding for children and young people's mental health services will grow even faster. There will be a focus on increasing access, community-based services and eating disorder services. In addition, there will be support for children and young people embedded in schools and colleges.
- Increasing access to evidence-based care for women with moderate to severe perinatal mental health difficulties.
- There will be integrated models of primary and community mental healthcare which will support adults and older adults with severe mental illnesses, and an expansion of services for people experiencing a mental health crisis.
- A mental health safety improvement programme, which will have a focus on suicide prevention and reduction for mental health inpatients.
- A workforce implementation plan is under development and due to be published later in 2019.
- There will be increased career development opportunities, and progression through increased CPD.

Why join the DCP?

Annette Schlosser, Chair of our Yorkshire and Humber Branch, has written a piece on the value of membership of the DCP, and I thought it would be good to share some of it with you.

'As a clinical psychology trainer I talk to a lot of trainees and newly-qualified colleagues, some of whom question what the DCP can do for them.

'The DCP is our discipline's home – It is where you remain connected to the values and ethos of your training; it is how you can stay in touch with buddies from training courses or previous jobs; it is a place where you can make new friends with whom you instantly have the

language of psychology and the practice of clinical psychology in common; it creates a support network in extremely challenging times both within and outside of the NHS.

'I think this all links back to the idea of what 'the DCP' is – It is you and me; it is people in the profession who seek connections with each other and with Experts by Experience. We find support, reflect on the work that we do, find more information on how to advance what we do, and stimulate debate about the future and what we ought to do. This is a community, and the only way 'the DCP' can grow is if people join and take part in this community.'

Spotlight on the West Midlands Branch

Lawrence Moulin, Chair of our West Midlands Branch, gives an overview of their work.

In the West Midlands Branch, we're committed to supporting, enabling and empowering psychologists across our region, and to being an effective channel for two-way communication between DCP members locally, the DCP nationally and national government.

We aim to offer four CPD and development events each year, with one of these being our annual conference. Some of these have a client group specific focus, others are about developing psychology roles and functions, or on psychology in society.

We have an event for newly-qualified psychologists on 13 May, and are planning sessions on whistleblowing, children, young people and their families, as well as our annual conference which will be on ACT. We are thinking about how we can build from one-off events to producing a programme of development for psychologists at all levels.

We are proud of our strong links with our three courses and the heads of services, and we will build on these in 2019, as well as working with the Midlands BPS Branch. We plan to work with our BPS branch colleagues to improve access to advice for BAME students who are studying

psychology or are about to graduate and are considering a career in clinical psychology.

Some branches around England have been active in promoting the psychological wellbeing of citizens through local media and local networks. We plan to link to recovery colleges and to explore how we can increase engagement across the West Midlands.

The NHS Long Term Plan will drive the development of sustainability and transformation plans/integrated care organisations across England, and during 2019 we will work with heads of services to enable the engagement of psychologists with these organisations as they develop. We will look to make connections with the new NHS region and the West Midlands Combined Authority. There are suggestions about creating a Psychological Professions Network from Health Education England, and we are part of these discussions.

We hope that austerity will begin to ease over the coming years, and we are working to support, strengthen and empower psychologists in the West Midlands so they are well placed to seize the opportunities any easing of finance and the long-term plan offer us. We will be strongly linked with the DCP across the UK during 2019, so we can take the initiative and shape our future.



Lawrence Moulin
Chair of DCP West Midlands



Gary Latchford
Joint Programme Director, Clinical Psychology Training Programme, University of Leeds, and Consultant Clinical Psychologist

Workforce and training development

Trainee salary support is being reviewed under the Education Funding Reform Programme in Health Education England for a number of professions, including clinical psychology. Members of the DCP workforce subcommittee, including Jan Hughes, are fully involved in the process and will update when there are developments.

Watch this space for more news!

Gary Latchford
Joint Programme Director, Clinical Psychology Training Programme, University of Leeds, and Consultant Clinical Psychologist

Local DCP branch details

If you are a member of the DCP you are automatically a member of your local DCP branch.

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Two branches are currently in the process of being reinvigorated – DCP North West and DCP East Midlands – if you are working in either of these areas and would like to be involved, please contact me at DCPEngland@bps.org.uk