

Division of Clinical Psychology

February 2021

DCP in Focus

A monthly news digest for our members

Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter that aims to reach our entire membership with relevant news, information and updates.

It is hard for us all to keep up with what is going on in a very fast-moving world, and this has been made far worse by the pandemic. In this newsletter we aim to give you headline links to more detail on our website and elsewhere if you want it. We hope you find it helpful.

In this issue there is information on a number of key professional developments in workforce and training that will affect us all.

We hope people will be able to join our conference and our AGM at the beginning of March. In the next newsletter, we will introduce the new executive committee to you.

We welcome any feedback or comments on this new format - please [get in touch with me](#).

Julia Faulconbridge

Help develop our strategy

The BPS is due to renew its long term strategy. However, due to the ongoing

Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges it continues to present to the society, the Board of Trustees along with the SMT have collectively agreed to develop a shorter-term strategy for 18 months, as this is more appropriate and realistic for the society at this current time. This will be launched at the BPS conference in July.

As part of the development process, there will be strategy development sessions at Senate in early March. The Senate is the democratic forum that brings together representatives from member networks, and these sessions will ensure that the voice of the membership is at the heart of determining the society's priorities and shaping an organisation that members want to belong to.

We will be attending those sessions to represent the DCP and need to understand more about what the DCP membership want to see in this strategy. We hope that you will [complete this very short survey](#) so that your views can be used to inform our input into the discussions.

Esther Cohen-Tovee, DCP Chair
Roman Raczka, DCP Chair Elect

Annual conference

The DCP annual conference is fast approaching, and this year we'll be presenting the conference entirely online, live-streaming our speakers from around the world.

We're delighted to announce that the full programme for the two days, Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 March, are now [available for you to view](#).

We have an exciting and wide-ranging mix of sessions and formats from submissions, invited speakers, and keynote talks by Professor Susan Michie on Covid-19 and Dr Russ Harris on how to survive and thrive amidst grief, loss and crisis.

There will be sessions on the climate crisis, working in primary care, human rights, addressing systemic racism, community psychology, withdrawal from prescribed drugs, a four nations discussion on staff support, and much more.

Attendance for both days costs just £35 for DCP members, and we hope to virtually see as many of you as possible. You can [register now](#).

Annual General Meeting

It would be great to see as many members as possible joining us for our AGM, with it being online making it more accessible than ever. Please see the official notice below for details on how to join:

"The Annual General Meeting of the Division of Clinical Psychology will be held on Tuesday 2 March 2021 at 12pm via Zoom (details below).

Meeting ID: 983 0909 9436

Password: 495995

[Join the AGM](#)

You must be signed-in to access the following material:

- [Download the agenda and reports \(members only\)](#)

If you have any queries regarding the AGM, nominations or resolutions please email [Member Network Services](#)."

DCP reflective practice and wellbeing sessions

The DCP is developing a member wellbeing and support strategy to respond to fast-shifting horizons and support its members. Following on from the positive feedback from the wellbeing meetings last year, we are rolling out the next series.

These sessions provide an opportunity to talk in a supportive environment about the current situation from our different roles and perspectives, and consider what these new circumstances means for us personally, socially and professionally.

Dates have now been confirmed for this year, all sessions from 4-5:30pm - 24

Feb, 23 Mar, 29 Apr, 26 May, 22 Jun, 22 Jul, 25 Aug, 28 Sep, 28 Oct, 24 Nov, 14 Dec.

Sessions will be facilitated by Amra Rao and Sheelagh Rodgers. [Find out more details and access Zoom links on our website.](#)

Workforce and training

Tony Lavender has provided a full update on the workforce and training landscape, which you can [read on the DCP website](#). It includes:

- An update on the work of the joint BPS/ACP-UK national assessor review group
 - Developments in physical healthcare
 - Training commissions news
 - Availability of measures to NHS and social care
 - A new psychology adviser to the Scottish government
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Consultations and white papers

A government consultation on proposed reforms to the Mental Health Act is currently open, with more details available on its scope on the [DHSC website](#). The government published a [white paper](#) on reforming the act in January.

The BPS will be producing a response to the consultation, led by Hannah Farndon. If you're interested in contributing to the response, please [contact Hannah](#) with your comments by 10am on Monday 5 April.

This is a crucial consultation for the future of mental health care, and it's vital that as clinical psychologists we have our say on it, so please do contribute if you can.

DCP projects

We have developed a [new area of the DCP website](#) which gives information on some of the recently completed and ongoing projects funded by the division.

We will also be featuring the projects in this newsletter over the coming months, with the first under the spotlight being...

Clinical psychologists in primary care - Lucy Marks MBE

"I have had more than 30 years' experience developing primary care psychology services in East London, and I am delighted to have started a piece of work for the DCP to:

1. Develop a position paper on best practice in clinical psychology in primary care, which can be used by commissioners, provider trusts and psychologists to develop high quality work in this area
2. Develop a new network for clinical psychologists with an interest in working in primary care.

The work will cover the lifespan and is not just limited to adults. There has been considerable interest from a variety of clinical psychologists who have started to get involved. This is a good time for this work because GPs are particularly interested in developing their capacity to manage mental health issues given the impact of Covid-19 and there are opportunities for innovation with the development of primary care networks.

If you would like to find out more about best practice in primary care clinical psychology, contribute to or comment on the position paper on primary care clinical psychology, or join the network of psychologists in primary care, please get in [contact with me](#)."

A more in-depth look at the project is [available on our website](#). Lucy and colleagues will also be presenting details of the project at our virtual annual conference.

BPS and DCP blogs

The BPS has an [archive of blogs](#) available to read, many of which were written by DCP members. This [includes a recent one](#) by members of our Faculty for Children, Young People and their Families, looking at the impact of pandemic on the mental health and wider psychological development of our children, and one by [FPID on the discrimination faced](#) by people with intellectual disabilities during the pandemic.

News in brief

The BPS was one of the leading organisations in a [joint letter](#) urging the government to maintain the £20 universal credit uplift.

The DCP Power Threat Meaning Framework sub-committee is collating examples of using the PTMF in practice so that they can be shared on the website. If you are drawing on the PTMF ideas in any aspect of your work please [fill in this short form](#).

A new issue of the Clinical Psychology in Europe journal is [now available](#) - we'd love to see more UK submissions in future ones.

An independent review of adult social care in Scotland [has been published](#). DCP Scotland chair Alison Robertson met with the report's author, Derek Feeley, before Christmas.

We are looking to appoint a programme administrator for the DCP Mentorship scheme - [details are available on our website](#).

Upcoming online events

Our CYPF Faculty's Inpatient Child and Adolescent Psychology Services Network is [hosting a webinar](#) on psychological complexity in inpatient CAMHS on 24 February.

The BPS Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce is holding an [online event](#) 'talking about class in psychology' on 25 February.

Our CYPF Faculty's Paediatric Network's [winter webinar series](#) continues on 25 February.

DCP London is running a [free webinar](#) for psychology students and recent graduates on 5 March.

Our Racial and Social Disparities in the Time of Covid-19 workstream has produced a [report](#) and an invitation to us all individually and collectively to be part of the solution by making a pledge. We also now have two strapline email footers (see one of the designs below) which are available for us to use.



