



# Division of Counselling Psychology

Newsletter – March 2021

Dear members,

We hope that this March 2021 edition of the DCoP E-Newsletter finds you well. This month we have included further details of our upcoming annual DCoP conference. Submissions for poster presentations are still open so there is time to submit before the deadline on **6 April 2021**.

Below you can also access the recently published [Best Practice Guidelines in Psychology Recruitment](#) - recommending recruitment by competency rather than only by protected title. We also have various online networking opportunities coming up over the next month and we hope you can join us for any that feel suited to you.

Best wishes,

**Charlotte Haylock**

DCoP E-Newsletter editor



## Best Practice Guidelines in Psychology Recruitment

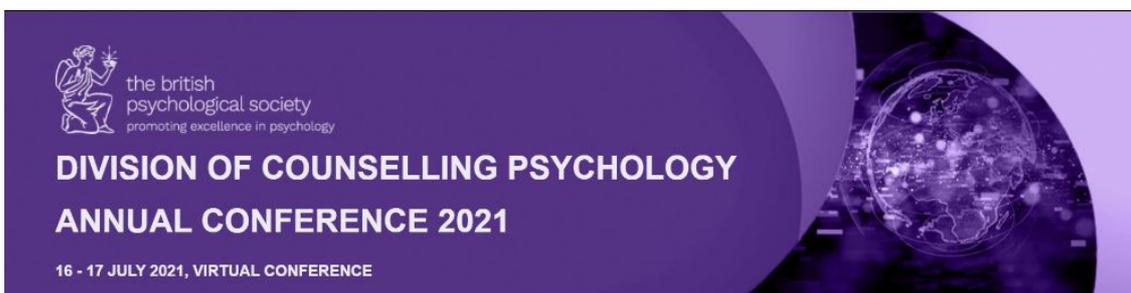
The Division of Counselling Psychology welcomes the society's new recruitment guidelines for practitioner psychologists which recommend recruitment by competency rather than only by protected title.

Practitioner psychologists may have skills obtained prior to qualification, and will certainly have skills obtained afterwards. While we are rightly proud of our identity as counselling psychologists, we are an extremely heterogeneous group; as are our colleagues who hold other protected titles.

Accordingly, we are delighted that the society recognises the importance of recruiting the best person to help a client group according to the needs of that group - rather than recruiting only using a single title which may not reflect the skills and qualification of any given candidate.

Access the guidelines on the [BPS website](#).

**Professor Christina Richards**  
DCoP Past chair and practice lead



## DCoP annual virtual conference: Age of Anxiety

16 - 17 July 2021

The conference team is working hard to make our virtual conference a huge success. This year will make two years since we last saw each other and although we will be meeting online there will be plenty of opportunities for networking. Watch this space for more details of our exciting virtual conference platform. Registration is now open so head over to the website to book your place.

Submissions for presentations, workshops, symposia and discussion/panel sessions are now closed and the conference team is busy going through your abstracts. Final decisions on abstracts submitted will be made early April after which full details of the programme will be available.

Submissions for poster presentations are still open so there is time to submit before the deadline of **6 April 2021**. A comprehensive guide and further information about submitting is available on the [conference homepage](#). Please read this carefully.

Trainee counselling psychologists who have at least a poster accepted for presentation will be eligible to apply for a fully funded bursary to attend the conference. Please [see the website](#) for more information and further details.

Here's a reminder of our keynote speakers. Keep an eye open for more information on each of our speakers:

Professor David Uzzell  
Professor Simon du Plock  
Christine Parrott

Join us in making this exciting enterprise a success.

[Find out more](#)

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## Report of DCoP Neuropsychology networking meeting

Our networking meeting was held on Wednesday 17 February 2021 and our focus was on the opening up of neuropsychology training to counselling psychologists. We had 21 attendees including the two presenters: Dr Susan van Scoyoc and Professor Ingram Wright.

Ingram took us through the changes which have taken place within neuropsychology training. Approximately three years ago universities in the UK began to offer training in both the knowledge base and the practice components required for eligibility for entry onto the BPS Specialist Register of Clinical

Neuropsychologists. The Qualification in Clinical Neuropsychology also continues to provide a route onto the Specialist Register of Clinical Neuropsychologists.

These routes are now opening up to counselling psychology applicants. Interested candidates should apply to accredited higher education providers (Glasgow, Bristol, UCL and Salomons) or to the British Psychological Society (QiCN).

The Division of Neuropsychology have kindly made their [video available on YouTube](#) which explains in detail training developments in clinical neuropsychology

I am pleased to say there was a real sense of everyone coming together. Some of the attendees exchanged contact details to stay in touch so this was truly a networking opportunity for all.

**Dr Susan van Scoyoc**  
DCoP Neuropsychology lead



### **Networking Event: DCoP Northern Ireland Branch**

**Friday 26 March 2021 from 12.30pm - 14:00pm**

The Division of Counselling Psychology Northern Ireland Branch invite you to a free member online networking event: 'Developing in your role as a newly qualified counselling psychologist'.

We invite trainees and current members of DCoP NI to join us to discuss your aspirations to develop into leadership/senior roles, how you can tailor your placement experience to your future career aspirations, how to engage more in

research/impact, and to take advantage of CPD opportunities. This event is aimed at broadening your experience post qualification.

[Find out more and register](#)

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### **Psychopharmacology: Guidance for psychologists working therapeutically with clients prescribed or withdrawing from prescribed drugs**

**26 April 2021, 9.30am - 3.00pm**

This is an interactive webinar for a small group in which attendees will be able to see, hear, and interact with other attendees. The event content includes:

- The History and Purpose of Prescribing: critical issues for counselling psychologists and implications for therapy.
- Essential knowledge of 'mainstream' drugs and new drugs on the horizon.
- Collaborative working with clients and their drug prescriber.

[Find out more and register](#)

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### **Online trainee support sessions**

Thursday 22 July 2021 - 18.30 - 19.30

Thursday 23 September 2021 - 18.30 - 19.30

Thursday 18 November 2021 - 18.30 - 19.30

Following the successful sessions in 2020, this is a space for trainees around the country to get together, network, share ideas and their experiences of their training journey thus far.

The sessions are aimed at all counselling psychology trainees. These events will be hosted by Ben Amponsah. [Find details for joining here.](#)

## Online trainee support sessions: An opportunity to have your say

For the trainee support sessions coming up in 2021, trainees are invited to pick from a list of previously proposed topics that were not covered in the 2020 sessions due to time constraints. If you wish to have your say, please pick two topics from the list below and email them to our trainee rep [Ben Amponsah](#).

He will collate the two most sought after topics and arrange for them to be covered over the summer.

Couples work

Working with ASD in children & adults

PTSD/ Trauma presentations

Balancing CoP training with personal life

Intersectionality in CoP practice and research

Advocacy as a CoP/trainee

LGBT+ training

Hearing Voices Movement

Leadership and how to

apply/obtain roles in the NHS

Body psychotherapy/somatic

approaches

Sex workers rights

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## Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority Therapists' Experiences of microaggressions within therapy with white clients

My name is Alisha Sinclair and I am a counselling psychology doctoral student researching Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority therapists experiences within counselling with white clients.

I am looking for psychologists, psychotherapists and counsellors who identify as being from a Black, Asian, Dual Heritage or Ethnic Minority background to complete a one-hour long interview. If you are interested in participating please [email me](#) or contact me on Twitter [@lishsinclair](#)

**Alisha Sinclair**

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## The perceptions of counselling psychology & clinical psychology (UK)

The chair of the Australian Association of Counselling Psychologists would like to bring our attention to an international survey been undertaken by colleagues in Australia looking at the nuanced similarities and differences between counselling psychology and clinical psychology. This research is interested in counselling psychologists' views about the similarities and differences between the two fields.

Have you completed postgraduate training in counselling psychology? If so, please consider completing the online survey.

The research will benefit our understanding of the role of counselling psychologists internationally - and will hopefully support the profession.

**Take the survey**

## International survey on psychological testing

On the initiative of the International Test Commission (ITC) and the European Federation of Psychologists Associations (EFPA) Board of Assessment, a survey is being carried out in countries all around the world in order to find out the opinions on various aspects related to psychological tests and testing.

The British Psychological Society is proud to be working in partnership with the ITC and EFPA to administer this survey within the UK to all our members and beyond.

Your responses will be of assistance in making decisions to improve test use in our

country. We would greatly appreciate you devoting a few minutes to giving us your sincere opinion about a series of matters related to tests. Your responses should relate to your understanding of the situation in your area of professional specialisation. Survey closes **26 March 2021**.

[Take the survey](#)

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## Next Issue

Next E-Newsletter is due to be with you on the 24 April 2021

Please send all inclusions to the editor by 12 April 2021.

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