

The British Psychological Society

Promoting excellence in psychology

Network and Interest Groups

Your local and interest-based home

One of the most exciting opportunities of growth in the Division's life is the energy evidenced in the national branches and English regional branches and in the Division's many networking groups. This is where the Division comes alive through shared vision and collaborative endeavour for many of our professional and trainee members.

Please contact DCoPnetworkslead@bps.org.uk for any general enquiries regarding the network and interest groups (NAIGs).

Details of all Division of Counselling Psychology (DCoP) branches, networks and interest groups can also be found on the DCoP website at www.bps.org.uk/dcop.

The following pages provide a taster of the groups on offer.

Please read more about our National, Regional, and online Networking Groups.

Ask more – and then join!

National branches

DCoP Scotland

DCoP Scotland provides a link between the Division and the membership in Scotland. The Branch was formed in 2006 and succeeded the informal network of counselling psychologists in Scotland, known as COPS. Its main aims are to promote counselling psychology in Scotland, generate CPD, training and networking events, support trainees and those interested in a career in counselling psychology, and to support qualified counselling psychologists in their professional lives. DCoP Scotland aims to support all members, whatever their place of work or location in Scotland.

Please contact the group at DCoPScotChair@bps.org.uk

Website: www.bps.org.uk/dcop/scotland

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Division-of-Counselling-Psychology-Scotland-327736181023431

Twitter: twitter.com/DcopScotland

www.bps.org.uk/dcop



The British Psychological Society

Division of Counselling Psychology

DCoP Wales

DCoP Wales provides a link between the Division and members in the whole of the principality. It was re-established at the 2012 Annual Conference and elected a full committee at its 2013 AGM. It meets approximately four times a year, generally in locations South Wales, where the majority of members are based. The Branch focuses on promoting counselling psychology in Wales. It organises networking and CPD events and has representation on the Society's Welsh Branch and other relevant groups in Wales.

Please contact the group at dcopwales@bps.org.uk

DCoP Northern Ireland

The Northern Ireland Branch was launched in April 2010 during the Society's Annual Conference. It aims to promote counselling psychology and support all of its members within Northern Ireland and the island of Ireland generally. This is achieved through close collaborative working with the Northern Ireland Branch of the BPS (NIBPS), with the main Division of Counselling Psychology, and with our colleagues in the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI). The Branch works closely with the NIBPS on local and national issues pertinent to the profession of psychology in Northern Ireland and Ireland, organising events such as CPD, local conferences on themed areas such as trauma, suicide and working with children and young people, and discussing relevant programme developments at the local Ulster University; and, liaising with other local BPS divisional branches.

Please contact the group via: dcopni@bps.org.uk

English branches

North West Branch

The North West Branch is a group which allows counselling psychologists working or living in the north west of England to make connections, learn and develop their practices. The branch committee organises multiple activities and events each year, usually including: one or two CPD/training events, networking brunches, a monthly reflective practice group, topical presentations by members of the Branch, and an annual general meeting (AGM), usually held at the University of Manchester.

Please contact the group at dcopnw@bps.org.uk, or follow us on Twitter (@NWBranchDCop). Closed groups are also available on Facebook and LinkedIn.

South West Networking Group

The South West Networking Group works to raise the profile of counselling psychology in the South West region. It meets quarterly at the University of the West of England Frenchay campus.

Please contact the group at dcopswnetwork@bps.org.uk.

North East Networking Group

The network of qualified and trainee counselling psychologists and was set up in June 2007 by a small group of counselling psychologists who wanted to maintain links with their core profession. Its members work in a variety of settings within the NHS and private practice. The Network meets on a bi-monthly basis, on the last Friday of the month from 10.00–12.00pm at Teesside University.

Please contact the group at dcopnortheast@bps.org.uk.

Networking and interest groups

Black and Asian Counselling Psychologists Group (BACPG)

BACPG is dedicated to raising the profile of black and Asian counselling psychologists in the UK. Valuing our identities, culturally and professionally. We share experiences as academics, clinical practitioners, and researchers who contribute to the counselling psychology profession. Aligned to the values of the Division, this group promotes the ethos of working ethically and effectively; being reflective scientist practitioners; and working creatively, compassionately and collaboratively.

BACPG is committed to:

- Influencing and shifting the dialogue on race, ethnicity and difference.
- Increasing the visibility of BME practitioners in order to improve access to appropriate resources for the BME community.
- Promoting critical thinking and the invitation of different narratives.
- Consistently highlighting the experiences and impact of racial and ethnic discrimination.
- Eliminating silence around issues of racial and ethnic discrimination.

And so BACPG attends to recognise and promote the awareness and understanding of different identities and cultures in the UK, as well as their intersections, to enriching our academic, clinical and research practice as well as consultancy, and to preserve the integrity of BME counselling psychologists.

Please contact the group at BACPG@bps.org.uk.

Social Justice Network

The Social Justice Network welcomes colleagues who wish to participate in action towards advocating for Social Justice in every aspect of psychological work across individual, community, and institutional levels. Forums, events and actions are debated, agreed and supported. The Network keeps in touch via email and via events organised by its members and relevant groups throughout Britain.

Please contact the group at dcopsocialjustice@bps.org.uk.

Cancer and Palliative Care

This is an online network for qualified counselling psychologists and trainee counselling psychologists, committed to promoting and developing counselling psychology interventions in cancer, palliative and end of life care. The Network operates as a knowledge exchange for both developments in best practice and in research to enhance both public and professional psychological knowledge and skills to navigate meaning of the intersections between everyday life and cancer and palliative care health.

Please contact the group at dcoppalliative@bps.org.uk.

Intellectual Disabilities

Counselling psychologists working in the field of disabilities are considered to be enthusiastic and passionate individuals who are inspired towards innovative ways of working with individuals who may have complex difficulties and very often dual/multiple diagnoses. The purpose of the special interest group is to bring together those who work in this field, so that all have an arena to share their experiences, innovative ways of working, published or unpublished articles, and difficulties and successes, and indeed have a place where we are all able to learn from each

other. In these changing times sharing information and good practice with each other and in a wider context may help counselling psychology stay on the map in the field of disabilities.

Please contact the group at dcopdisability@bps.org.uk

Network for NHS Counselling Psychologists

This network group meets in the BPS London Office, but mostly keeps in touch via email. It is open to all applied psychologists. The rationale for setting up this network is that there are unique aspects to working within the NHS for all psychologists (such as the current cuts to services, payment by results, the changing culture within the NHS), which means that they are under a lot of pressure to adapt to changes and new ways of working. This group is a discussion forum where these issues and others can be discussed.

Please contact the group at dcopnhs@bps.org.uk

Spirituality

Special interest and networking group for trainee and qualified counselling psychologists who share an interest in spirituality and its influence on practice and related contexts. The group, which operates primarily through email and teleconferences, plus occasional face-to-face meetings.

Please contact the group at dcopspirituality@bps.org.uk

YoungWork Networking Group

A network group for counselling psychologists working therapeutically with children, adolescents, and families. YoungWork meets every two months at the Society's London Office on Tabernacle Street, where there are also facilities for teleconferencing.

New groups might have started up since we reviewed this booklet. For an up to date list, please check DCoP website. If the group you are interested in does not exist, feel free to contact the Networking and Interest Groups Lead at DcoPnetworkslead@bps.org.uk to discuss the potential for creating a group.

The British Psychological Society

**St Andrews House
48 Princess Road East
Leicester LE1 7DR**

t: +44 (0)116 254 9568

e: enquiries@bps.org.uk

Booklet updated in March 2019. A review will be due in March 2021.

