**PSW Update December 2022**

* The Local Government Association have launched the Social Workers’ annual Health Check and in North East Lincolnshire this went live on 25th October. This year the survey is open to occupational therapists, other adult social care professionals as well as social workers. The closing date for completion is 20th December and if you have **not** received the link to complete this, please contact me ASAP and I will forward to you. The survey asks questions as to how your organisation is meeting the standards laid down for employment of social workers. This year’s result will assist in forming some baseline information for CQC review/inspection, so please take the time out of your busy days to complete.
* BASW have also launched their annual survey for social workers on 8th December, which all social workers are invited to complete. The closing date for this survey is Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

<https://www.basw.co.uk/media/news/2022/dec/basw-annual-survey-social-workers-and-social-work-2022>

* Recruitment has now taken place for the post of Director of Adult Services (DASS) and Katie Brown will be joining North East Lincolnshire on 18th January 2023. This means that sadly Simon Galczynski will be leaving on 25th January 2023 and I am sure you will all join with me in thanking him for his work with North East Lincolnshire and wish him all the best for the future.
* Nick Fripp started as an interim Assistant Director for Adult Services at the end of September, which was a newly created post in the Care and Independence team. Nick has brought extensive experience to North East Lincolnshire and has been working on preparedness for CQC review/inspection as well as many other work streams. Recruitment has now taken place for a permanent post holder and the outcome will soon be announced.
* The Government announced in the Autumn Statement, a delay in implementing the Adult Social Care charging reforms, which are now proposed to take place in October 2025. Work is well underway in North East Lincolnshire but this will provide greater time to plan and implement the changes.
* Social Work England will be providing an update at the forum but I am pleased to say that it is looking like all adult social workers in North East Lincolnshire renewed their registration on time. Thank you.
* I am once again appealing for a social worker from the voluntary sector to be involved with the working group which organises the Social Work Forum. The work is not onerous and I urge colleagues to please think about putting your name forward as your input would be invaluable. If you would like to have a chat about this please contact Sinead Harle on sinead.harle@nhs.net or alternatively catch her at the forum.
* Please put the 21st March 2023 in your diary as Siobhan Maclean has been booked for the Social Work Forum on World Social Work Day. This will be held on Teams to enable Siobhan to ‘spread herself about’ on the day. More information will be forwarded with the invite.
* This Social Work Forum will be my last as I am retiring and my last actual working day will be 23rd December. As yet the PSW role has not been recruited to, but as this is a statutory role, interim arrangements will be in situ. Information in this regard will be made available as known. I would just like to thank everyone for their help and support over the years and I hope to see as many of you as possible at the forum.
* Merry Christmas and hope 2023 is kind to you all.

**Christine Jackson**

Adult PSW NEL