

# NAWRA

## Committee meeting – 5 March 2020 – Swansea

**Present:** Alan (chair), Daphne, Corin, Tom, Atif, Gareth, Julie, Juan, Kelly (minutes)

**Apologies:** Michael, Zoey, Maureen, Craig, Terry

### Communications and publicity

- **Alan** to continue to re-organise website resources.
- **Tom** to draft FAQs on UC and send link to Kelly for circulation.
- **Corin** to write an edition of the NAWRA newsletter on safeguarding provisions.
- **Gareth** to write an edition of the NAWRA newsletter on pension changes, especially mixed age couples
- **Tom** and **Daphne** to look at revising the benefits updater chart.
- **All** to consider topics for future editions of the NAWRA newsletter.
- **Alan** to contact Lindsey Poole at Advice Services Alliance to discuss the possibility of a NAWRA stall at their April conference.
- **Kelly** to arrange for NAWRA leaflet to go into a future mailing of CPAG's Welfare Rights Bulletin.

### Governance

- The CPD scheme will be launched in June 2020. NAWRA will be its own awarding body. We will award 4 CPD points to members who attend a full day conference. **Kelly** to keep attendance records and email members.
- Committee elections in London took place in February 2020. There was a tie for the second place on the committee. **Kelly** to contact both candidates to suggest a second election.
- The meeting agreed to trial a committee meeting by Skype, Zoom (or similar) in May 2020. **Gareth** to circulate instructions. **Kelly** to run a Doodle poll to find a suitable date and time.
- The committee agreed to meet in person in March and September each year.
- Changes to expenses policy agreed. **Kelly** to circulate new version of the policy.
- **Alan** to finalise annual report and upload to the website.

### Policy and campaigns

- **Atif** to speak with Jay Shah at Maggies about his work on 'special rules' and send to Daphne for her to raise with the APPG on terminal illness when it is reconvened.
- **Alan** to consider potential role for NAWRA members in ASA's peer-review project and speak with Lindsey Poole at ASA.
- **All** to read and comment on Alan's draft research brief circulated by email on 3 March.
- **Julie** to circulate information about the NAO's latest consultation.
- **Alan** to circulate letter from Feeding Britain about their request that the Parliamentary and Health Ombudsman launches an inquiry into the way the DWP

treats complaints about UC. **All** to send Alan details of any client who may be keen to pursue a complaint.

#### Finance

- **All** to send expense claims to Kelly promptly.
- **Daphne** to talk to Leigh Day about becoming members.
- **Kelly** to talk to Public Law Project about becoming members.
- **Kelly** to invoice NAWRA members for their 2020-2021 membership fee in early April.

#### Future meetings dates and locations

- Friday 12 June 2020 at University of Staffordshire, College Road, Stoke on Trent ST4 2EF (hosted by the University of Staffordshire)
- Friday 11 September 2020 at Renfield Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JP (hosted by Glasgow City Council)
- Friday 4 December 2020 at City Hall, St. Peter's Street, Norwich NR2 1NH (hosted by Equal Lives)

For 2021, we have offers from Greenwich (Corin), Coventry (Alan), Durham (Julie) plus a standing arrangement to return to Edinburgh in Sep 2021. **Alan, Corin** and **Julie** to liaise to arrange dates.

#### Ideas for speakers and workshops

- Stoke on Trent:
  - **Daphne** to invite Victoria Todd (LITRG) as guest speaker
  - **Gareth** and **Atif** to provide workshop titles and blurbs to Kelly.
  - **Julie** to speak to Jennifer Cowen at Durham Council about running a workshop and send workshop title and blurb to Kelly.
  - **All** to send ideas about potential workshops to Alan.
- **Michael** to contact The Children's Society about presenting their work on local welfare assistance schemes in Norwich. **Corin** to provide contact details.

**Next meeting:** video conference in May 2020 – details TBC.