

NAWRA

Committee meeting – 6 April 2022 – on Zoom

Present: Daphne, Alan (chair), Gareth, Craig, Dan, Juan, Tom, Corin, Kelly (minutes)

Apologies: Julie, Atif, Maureen, Michael

Communications and publicity

- **Tom** and **Daphne** to look at revising the benefits updater chart to present at the Durham conference on 24 June 2022. **Tom** to send Daphne latest version. **Kelly** to print on A3 for display.
- **Daphne** to email Kelly with text for [web page on equality and diversity](#).

Governance

- Chair (Alan Markey) and Vice Chair (Daphne Hall) re-confirmed in post.
- Recruitment of a second rep for Scotland to take place in Sept 2022.

Policy and campaigns

- Equality and diversity:
Atif and **Daphne** to arrange the next working group meeting.
- **Kelly** to email members with information about benefits for refugees from Ukraine and elsewhere.
- Future-proofing the advice sector:
Alan to initiate work with Advice UK on developing good practice and discussing NAWRA's role, with the possibility of hosting a joint event. The [GLA is starting a programme on a robust safety net](#).
- Early legal advice consultation pilot consultation – no news yet.
- Tara Mulqueen is carrying out some work on the value of a rights-based approach in a city context. This is funded by Nuffield. Alan is on the steering group.
- Energy and cost of living crisis.
- The UC50 is still not routinely sent out to trigger the WCA. Central England Law Centre is pushing with NAWRA for a standard letter to go out to claimants.
- Benefit uprating issue (inc uprating benefit cap and abolition of 2 child limit).
[Gareth's blog](#).

Finance

- As at 31 March 2022, NAWRA had 286 members. Income from membership fees this year totals £22,690. We have spent £1106.33 on IT-related items (Zoom licence,

Mailchimp, Jetpack, SurveyMonkey, domain renewal and web hosting) and £9,200 on CPAG's admin/management fee. **Kelly** to circulate finance report by email.

- **Kelly** to issue invoices for the 2022-23 membership fees this month.
- **Kelly** to email Advice Pro about sponsorship of Durham conference.

Next conference

Our next conference will take place on 24 June 2022 in-person in Durham (hosted by Durham County Council)

Julie has arranged the following workshops:

- PIP – Rule 4 acceptable standard (James DWRS)
- DLA – SMI tactics/evidence (Kathryn DWRS)
- Swearing at a tribunal (being asked to swear on oath at a hearing) (Duncan DWRS)
- Mixed Age Couples (Pamela Carysforth, Housing Systems)

Dan to bring his Owl to Durham so that we can experiment with filming the speakers. We also discussed the possibility of making a promotional video about NAWRA.

Future conferences

- 24 June 2022 (in-person in Durham)
- September 2022 (Bristol?) **Daphne** to ask Olly at Bristol Council
- 7 and 8 December 2022 (on Zoom)
- March 2023
- June 2023
- September 2023 (Edinburgh)

WRAC has offered to host a future meeting.

Other ideas for future workshops and speakers (see attached).

Future committee meetings

- 2-5pm on 23 June 2022 (in-person in Durham). This is a longer committee meeting dedicated to strategic planning to look at where we're going and what we want to achieve. **Alan** to circulate agenda.
- 2-4pm on 13 July 2022 (on Zoom) **Kelly** to send the link by email.
- 2-4pm on 20 Oct 2022 (on Zoom) **Kelly** to send the link by email.

AOB

None.