

Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 December 2023

On Zoom

AGENDA

Day 1: Wednesday 6 December (1.00pm to 4.00pm)

1.00 Introductions and welcome

Alan Markey, Coventry Independent Advice Service and NAWRA chair

**1.10 Severing the link between need and entitlement: reflections from the Benefit Changes and Larger Families project [Professor Ruth Patrick](#),
Professor of Social Policy, York University**

In this presentation, Professor Ruth Patrick will share findings from a major three year Nuffield Foundation funded research project [exploring the impact of the benefit cap and two-child limit on larger families](#). She will set out the core findings from this work, and the implications for policy and practice. Ruth will also reflect on what is needed to effectively prevent families from poverty, and her hopes in this regard for 2024 and beyond.

[Slido #1515297](#)

2.10 Break

2.20 Affordable credit and wider support available through local authorities

Gareth Evans, Financial Inclusion Centre and Cash Perks

Gareth is leading authority on financial inclusion, community finance and local welfare provision, with over 20 years' experience. He specialises in undertaking research/evaluation studies and implementing initiatives for diverse clients from banks and building societies to local authorities and social housing providers. In 2020, Gareth founded Cash Perks – an award-winning cash payment solution enabling emergency hardship payments to be sent via SMS text message that can be instantly collected at local ATMs nationwide.

This session will make the case for local authorities maximising the availability of funding for households struggling with the cost of living by engineering greater access to fair and affordable credit provision as well as amplifying the impact of emergency hardship grants for those in financial crisis. It will highlight examples of good practice and evidence from available research.

[Slido #3442802](#)

3.00 **Break**

3.10 **Dangos**

Tom Messere, Big Book and Gareth Morgan, Ferret

[Dangos](#) is the Welsh Government funded initiative to raise awareness and knowledge about the financial help that's available to people in Wales. It provides free online information sessions for front-line workers and gives them an information pack and access to eLearning courses about welfare benefits. Tom and Gareth will describe how Dangos works and how it could be replicated in the rest of the UK.

[Slido #1536625](#)

4.00 **Close**

Day 2: Thursday 7 December 2023 (9.30am to 1.00pm)

9.30 **Welcome and introductions**

Alan Markey, Coventry Independent Advice Service and NAWRA chair

9.40 **Managed migration to UC: early experiences**

Tom Bidmead, Bristol City Council

An overview of the managed migration process and how transitional protection works, with a look at some early experiences of how it can go wrong from Bristol.

[Slido # 4008878](#)

10.50 **Break**

11.00 **Trauma informed practice at the DWP**

Rebecca Joyce (preferred name Bee) is Trauma Informed Integration Lead for the Department for Work and Pensions.

Bee's background is in mental health and psychology and she joined the DWP from roles in education, safeguarding and the NHS. Bee then spent a few years in policy within the DWP before she took on the role of driving the integration of Trauma Informed Principles into the business. Bee is a passionate advocate for compassionate service design and person-centred approaches and very keen to engage with stakeholders to shape the direction of the programme.

Bee will be providing an overview of the rationale, scope and design of the programme as well as opportunities to get involved with this new initiative. There will be 30 minutes for the overview and then some time for Q&A.

[Slido #5296998](#)

12.00 **Break**

12.10 **Autumn statement updaters**

Daphne Hall, rightsnet and Corin Hammersley, Greenwich Council

Brief overview of highlights from the Autumn Statement and their possible impacts going forward.

[Slido #2200497](#)

12.30 **Information Exchange**

[Slido #1733030](#)

13.00 **Close**

The conference is free to attend but open to NAWRA members only.

[Find out more about joining](#)

If you have any queries about the conference please contact

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