Recent FMC Developments

PPC Code and Guidance

The FMC has published its PPC Code and Guidance. The FMC would like to thank Adrienne Cox and all the members of the joint FMC/FMSB for their time and effort spent developing these documents, as well as everybody who responded to last autumn’s consultation regarding the draft documents. The working group considered every consultation response and found the comments very valuable; a number of amendments to the drafts were made as a result of the consultation.

PPCs are asked to give early attention to these documents to ensure that they make arrangements to comply with the requirements of the Code.

The FMSB is considering whether consequential amendments to the Code of Practice for mediators are necessary, as well as considering whether to produce a template consultancy agreement for PPCs and mediators to use.

2019 Registration

Registered mediators have all been sent registration forms for 2019. If you are registered with the FMC and have not received an invitation to register with the FMC for 2019, please e-mail register@familymediationcouncil.org.uk as soon as possible. For mediators unable to access the links in the e-mails, these are on the FMC website.

Standards Review

The FMC will shortly be circulating a questionnaire for completion both by registered family mediators and people who have considered/are considering becoming family mediators. This survey will help us identify the particular pain points in the current process. We encourage mediators to complete the survey when this is circulated and to share with others who also have experience of the accreditation process,
particularly those people who have started the process but not completed it. The survey should take about 20 minutes to complete, and the more responses we can gather, the more informed those conducting the standards review will be.

Reducing Family Conflict Consultation Response

In December, the Family Mediation Council submitted its response to the Ministry of Justice’s Consultation, Reducing Family Conflict, which sets out the government’s proposals for ‘no-fault divorce’.

Appointment of FMC Chief Assessor

The FMC is pleased to announce that Juliette Dalrymple has been appointed to the role of FMC Chief Assessor.

Juliette succeeds Dominic Raeside, who has been the FMC’s Chief Assessor since its formation in 2007, having previously carried out the role for the UK College of Family Mediators. The FMC would like to thank Dominic for his many years of service and wish him well in his future endeavours.

Juliette is an experienced mediator and PPC. She has been a member of the assessment panel assessing portfolios leading to Family Mediation Council Accreditation and was a member of the Family Mediation Standards Board, a role she has resigned given her new appointment.

Juliette said “I am delighted to have been appointed to the role of Chief Assessor. I am looking forward to building on the excellent work that Dominic has done and to the challenges that the role will bring.”

The outgoing and incoming Chief Assessors are working together to ensure a smooth handover of the role during this busy period for portfolio submissions.

Appointment of new independent FMSB members

Laurence Nicholson resigned his role as an FMSB member in November, due to new work commitments that meant he would be working abroad. The FMC and FMSB would like to thank Laurence for significant and valuable contributions to the FMSB during his time as a member. Fortuitously, the FMC was already in a recruitment round for new independent FMSB members, and as a result has appointed three new FMSB members. The FMSB is very pleased to welcome its new members, who have a wide variety of relevant skills and experience. They are:

Ian Hamer OBE Ian was formerly the Chair of the Air Transport Users Council, Member of the General Optical Council and, latterly Board Member and Chair of the Scrutiny Committee of the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care. He has been a Magistrate for more than 30 years, sitting as a Family
Magistrate. Ian’s commercial background has been in the plastics industry working for multinational companies before forming his own group of companies.

**Dr John Hobson** John is a Principal Safety and Risk Consultant working with high hazard industries, and has extensive experience in conflict resolution and the development and implementation of robust and fit for purpose Standards for assuring high quality in performance and competency management.

**Douglas Morgan** Douglas has experience in assessments and developing and monitoring quality standards for various programmes. He has conducted external quality audits at a national level for organisations which award qualifications and those receiving public funding. In addition, Douglas has sat on youth and education panels supporting families, is a co-founder of an international charity supporting children abroad and has supported international school twinning partnerships.

### Developments from Elsewhere

**Department of Work and Pensions Challenge Fund**

As part of the Reducing Parental Conflict Programme, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has launched a £2.7m Reducing Parental Conflict Challenge Fund that will provide grant funding to innovative projects, to gather learning on what works to reduce parental conflict. The fund is open for eligibility checks until 5pm on 8 February, with the deadline for applications being the 15 February. More details can be found here.

### Upcoming Events & Training

The FMC aims to bring you information about training, courses and workshops related to family mediation, to aid professional development. Courses are also listed on our website, where you will find more details about submitting events to be included.

- **20 February, Family Matters Mediate:** [PPC Event](#), Doncaster
- **25 – 27 February (and later dates), FMA:** [Family Mediation Foundation Training](#), London
- **27 February, College of Mediators:** North West Mediation Network Event, Manchester. For more information, please contact [info@solutiontalk.co.uk](mailto:info@solutiontalk.co.uk)
- **27 February (and later dates), Resolution:** [Family Mediation Foundation Training](#), London
• 28 February, FMA: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Awareness and Understanding Day, London

• 28 February and later dates, FliP Faculty: Parenting Coordination Programme, Birmingham

• 1 March, FMA: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Update Day, London

• 1 March (and later dates), NFM: Family Mediation Foundation Training, London

• 6 – 8 March, FMA: Refresher Training, London

• 11 March, NFM: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Awareness and Understanding Day, London

• 11 March, FMA: PPC Update of Theory and Practice, London

• 11 – 13 March, Resolution: Refresher Training, London

• 13 March, College of Mediators: South East Mediation Network Event, London. For more information, please contact magrob521@msn.com

• 13 March, NFM: Introduction to Mediation, London

• 15 March, NFM: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Update Day, London NB This course is subject to obtaining FMSB approval

• 19 March, FMA: Mini Conference – Our friends in the North, Durham 2019

• 28 March, LADR: CIM Awareness and Understanding Day, Exeter. For more information, please contact allport@ladr.net

• 29 March, LADR: CIM Update Day, Exeter. For more information, please contact allport@ladr.net

• 3 – 5 April, FMA: Child Inclusive Mediation, London.

• 9 April, NFM: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Awareness and Understanding Day, Birmingham

• 10 April, LADR: CIM Awareness and Understanding Day, Birmingham. For more information, please contact allport@ladr.net
• 10th April, Adrienne Cox (Devon and Exeter Mediation Training): Effective Screening for Domestic Abuse in Mediation, Exeter

• 11 April, LADR: CIM Update Day, Manchester. For more information, please contact allport@lard.net

• 16 – 17 April & later date, LADR: CIM Training, Birmingham. For more information, please contact allport@lard.net

• 1 May, Resolution: CIM Awareness and Understanding Day, London

• 2 May, NFM: Introduction to Mediation, London

• 2 May, Resolution: Secrets and Lies, London

• 8 May, FMA: Dealing with Conflict, London

• 8 – 10 May (and later dates), Ataraxy Mediation Training: Family Mediation Foundation Training Course, London

• 9 May, NFM: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Awareness and Understanding Day, London

• 9 – 10 May, Resolution: PPC Foundation Training, London. For more information, please contact sullivan@resolution.org.uk

• 14th May, Adrienne Cox (Devon and Exeter Mediation Training): Effective Screening for Domestic Abuse in Mediation, London

• 29th May, College of Mediators: North West Mediation Network Event, Manchester. For more information, please contact info@solutiontalk.co.uk

• 1 June (and later dates), NFM: Family Mediation Foundation Training, London

• 5 June, FMA: Learning from your own doubt, stuckness and frustration as a mediator, London

• 5 – 6 June and 18 September, LADR: Professional Practice Consultancy Training, Birmingham. For more information, please contact allport@lard.net

• 6 June, Adrienne Cox (Devon and Exeter Mediation Training): Effective Screening for Domestic Abuse in Mediation, Bristol
- 11 June, NFM: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Update Day, Birmingham NB This course is subject to obtaining FMSB approval

- 12 – 14 June, NFM: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Training, London NB This course is subject to obtaining FMSB approval

- 18 June, FMA: Motivational Interviewing, Leeds

- 19 June, FMA: How to Talk with Children in High Conflict Divorce and Separation Cases, London

- 21-22 June, College of Mediators: Annual Conference, London

- 4 July, FMA: Parental Alienation: Recognition and Appropriate Responses in Mediation, Leeds


- 7 September, NFM: Introduction to Mediation, London

- 9 September (and later dates), FMA: Family Mediation Foundation Training, Leeds

- 9 September (and later dates), Resolution: Family Mediation Foundation Training, London

- 9 September, FMA: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM) Awareness and Understanding Day, Leeds

- 10 – 12 September, FMA: Child Inclusive Mediation (CIM), Leeds

- 13 September, FMA: CIM Update Day, Leeds

- 16 September, FMA: PPC Update of Theory and Practice, Leeds

- 17 September, Resolution: CIM Awareness and Understanding Day, London


- 25 September, College of Mediators: South East Mediation Network Event, London. For more information, please contact: magrob521@msn.com

- 1 October (and later dates), NFM: Family Mediation Foundation Training, London

- 4 October, FMA: Systemic Theory and Practice in Separation and Divorce Dilemmas, London

- 16 October, College of Mediators: North West Mediation Network Event, Manchester. For more information, please contact: info@solutiontalk.co.uk

- 17 – 18 October, Resolution: Dispute Resolution Conference. For more information, please contact sullivan@resolution.org.uk

- 7 November, NFM: Introduction to Mediation, London


- 18 November, FMA: PPC Update of Theory and Practice, London

- 21 November, FMA: Parental Alienation Advanced Day, Leeds

- 26 November, FMA: Motivational Interviewing, London

- 2 December, FMA: PPC Update of Theory and Practice, Manchester

- Ongoing, NFM Training: Professional Practice Consultancy Training, Distance learning

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