

## **NRCPD Practitioners' Forum**

### **Conference call at 12.00 05 December 2019 - Minutes**

#### **Present**

- Andy Carmichael ASLI
- Vikki Bridson-Vice VLP
- Lesley Weatherson ALAS
- Jayne Oakes Interpreter for deafblind people
- Eileen Bainbridge ANP
- Nicole Harrison BIVR

#### **In attendance**

- Kate Price NRCPD
- Marcus Hawthorn NRCPD

#### **Apologies**

- AVSTTR
- ALS

### **Review of minutes of 28 March 2019 meeting**

CPD review item– is there a target date for implementation? The target is to have the updated policy in place by the end of 2020.

The minutes were agreed.

### **Registration of Notetakers**

ANP had discussed at their AGM the registration of notetakers, EB asked if there were any plans to map existing notetaking qualifications against NRCPD requirements. KP

confirmed that we intend to work with the OCN this year, with the view of mapping the level 3 notetaking course to see if it meets the standards for NRCPD registration for notetakers.

## **Registration Category for level 3 Deafblind Communicators**

LW asked if there were plans to open a registration category for level 3 deafblind communicators. It is part of NRCPD's strategy to open up new registration categories, for example, next year we will focus on opening up a category for deaf relay interpreters, and we will consider opening other categories in the future. LW said she could assist with this work in the future, and JO advised that Deafblind UK and Sense have a list of qualified communicator guides.

## **Operational Update**

KP updated the forum on the CPD review and the remapping of the interpreting courses against the revised NOSI. The recommendations of the CPD working group were agreed by the Board and we will start planning the implementation and communication of the new policy in 2020. The re-mapping work would also continue throughout 2020.

IT infrastructure is now completely separate from Signature, and the new portal is up and running. All work to gain full independence was complete, and a decision by the CACDP Board would be reached soon.

NRCPD staff will move out of the Signature office and into a new office in February.

## **Complaints Review**

Invites to participate in the complaints review had been sent out to the professional associations.

NRCPD has learnt lessons from operating the current complaints process. We will look at the feedback from the participants and organisations and consider options about how we can change the process. We will not change the underlying legal procedures of the process as these are founded in law, but we want people to have more confidence in the process as a whole, so it better serves people.

AC said its important to ensure that if anyone is removed from the register, they are not able to join RSBLI or SASLI. This is something NRCPD has already considered and are having conversations with both of the other regulators about this topic.

## **DSA-QAG**

DSA-QAG will close at the end of 2019 and handing back to the Department of Education.

NRCPD would make contact with DfE about the regulation of communication professionals working in education.

## **NRCPD Public Sector Engagement**

NRCPD are engaging with public sector bodies i.e. Ministry of Justice, Crown Commercial Service and the Police. The engagement is to help galvanise change around frameworks and how markets operate. Feedback from the engagement is that there is an issue with the current frameworks, but contacts are in place so immediate change is not possible. NUBSLI are also involved and are contributing to issues such as availability of information for professionals to prepare for assignments, deaf people's rights and fees.

AC asked if there is a place for the Professional Associations in this work? MH said he would be meeting with the MoJ, CCS and the Police and would ask how best to gather detailed evidence from the 'coal face'.

Part of the problem with the CCS is that it is a very simple process to become part of the list of suppliers, and the large spoken language agencies have a lack of understanding about the deaf sector.

A separate framework for spoken language professionals and communication professionals working with deaf and deafblind people is a better model, however we do not know enough about the contacts yet to know if this is a possibility.

The Police do not yet have a framework, so we do have an opportunity to work with promote the better model, i.e. separate frameworks. NRPSI are representing spoken languages, NRCPD and NUBSLI are representing the deaf and deafblind sector.

## **Points Raised by Members**

NH raised an issue with agencies. Agencies ask registered communication professionals for additional information other than their registered status, e.g. CV, DBS certificate and insurance. It is unclear why this is required if a professional is registered with NRCPD.

Agencies are independent of NRCPD, have their own internal quality assurance procedures and it is legitimate for them to ask for this information/evidence.

AC informed the group that ASLI, VLP and NUBSLI will campaign to seek exemption from IR35 for their members.

Minutes of the meetings should be sent out after the meeting for comment, rather than before the following meeting. It was agreed minutes would be sent out following each meeting, within 4 weeks where possible. Any amends will be made and then minutes will be published.

### **Date of next meeting**

In York – date and time TBC

### **Signed**

**Kate Price**

**Registration Services Manager**

**NRCPD**