

OUTCOME OF 20 MAY 2010 AGM MOTIONS

Ordinary Motion 1

This AGM supports BASW Council in its work to ensure that all social workers across the UK and the Isle of Man can have access to a College of Social Work based on BASW principles and within which the increasing number of BASW members can play a fundamental role.

1. In Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man we will enter into discussions with all Governments and all parties to help create a College of Social Work in accordance with the aspirations of our members and our National Committees.
2. In England we will offer our wholehearted support to ensure that the nascent National College is effective and sustainable through the democratic accountability of its interim and permanent Boards and Chairs.

On the authority of BASW Council

Motion Carried

Ordinary Motion 2

This AGM believes that social work organizations need to be united if the goal of a national College is to be achieved. It therefore instructs Council to seek to rejoin the College Development Group. It believes that BASW should take a leading role within the Group and use the consultation to argue for:

- A) a College which is independent of Government financial support by 2012
- B) a College Board which is controlled by social workers but which includes other stakeholders from user and carer groups
- C) a College which actively pursues with the devolved administrations in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and social workers in those countries the possible extension of the College's remit to the whole of the UK.

Proposed by Terry Bamford

Motion Withdrawn

Ordinary Motion 3

This AGM has major concerns about the impact of current proposals for the closure of local authority services and redundancy of members of staff supporting the most vulnerable people in society.

Whilst generally in support of the development of transformation agendas of personalisation and ‘self directed support’, we have major concerns that in some cases these are becoming, in reality, areas for cutbacks as financial savings are made through the closure of Residential Homes and Day Centres, rather than funding being reinvested in social services.

We particularly note with concern that in some areas there has been a reduction in numbers of Social Workers employed to support vulnerable adults.

We have grave concerns about closures of resources that have happened despite the wishes of residents and where the alternatives offered have been of no higher quality, and where service users have been moved without proper concern for their welfare.

We have major concerns that in some cases Registered Social Workers who are employed as senior Local Authority Officers are making public statements supporting such bad practice in local government decision making..

Accordingly:

1. BASW will draw up a ‘name and shame’ list, identifying authorities whose practice in making such financial savings is detrimental to service users and to social workers
2. In line with our Code of Ethics, BASW will encourage the GSCC to hold employers of registered social workers to account in terms of their code of practice. We will also support registered social workers in senior management positions to maintain good practice in the face of cutbacks, including being transparent in their public comments about the reasons and consequences of such cuts.
3. BASW will work with other parties to campaign for good financial practice in transformation agendas

On the authority of the Black Country branch (England)

Motion Carried