
London Destitution Advice Network 20 March 2015, 3-5pm

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, 5th Floor, Kings Place, 90 York Way, N1 9AG

1. Welcome and apologies

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

3. Agency news roundup

Members' updates about their organisation and any changes to their services.

4. The Care Act 2014

Shu Shin Luh - Barrister, Garden Court Chambers

Shuh Shin will brief us on the significant changes to health and community care law introduced by the Care Act 2014, insofar as they affect asylum seekers and irregular migrants. The Act, which comes into force on 1 April 2015, replaces existing legislation including s21 National Assistance Act 1948, for those in need of care and attention.

5. Challenge to Southwark Council's homelessness gatekeeping

Lara ten Caten - Solicitor, Hansen Palomares

Lara will report on her successful judicial review challenge to Southwark Council Homelessness Team's 'gatekeeping' policy. The case involved, among others, a homeless refugee family who had been told to look for accommodation in the private rented sector before Southwark Council would investigate whether they were homeless.

6. Successful Article 8 judicial review – ASAP interveners

Deborah Gellner – Solicitor, ASAP

ASAP intervened in a successful judicial review challenge against the Home Office's policy of refusing section 4 support to those with applications for leave to remain based only on Article 8 ECHR. Deborah will report on the success of this JR and how it can be used by practitioners.

7. Asylum Support Update

Anna Dixie, ASAP

Anna will give an update on other developments in asylum support.

8. AOB