



Centre for Social Policy

AGM 7th December 2022

Annual Report

This report covers the twelve months up to 1st December 2022 and details three zoom seminars, other Centre activities and fellows membership.

Thanks must be given to all those who have helped maintain the programme: in particular Patrick Diamond, Brian Warren, Ella Baillie, Roger Bullock and Tim Hobbs.

Our Programme

Activities over the past year, activities continued to be affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and we are grateful for the commitment of so many Fellows who have given their time to support the Lab and co-ordination of the events that were able to take place.

Two zoom seminars were held as follows:

December 2021

The December meeting had four contributions. Judith Masson from the Law School, Bristol University, discussed whether adoption has a future and examined recent trends in the use of different types: relinquishment, step-parent, intercountry and adoptions from care. Roger Bullock then offered a tribute to the late Sir Michael Rutter. On the second day Bruce Houlder, a retired lawyer, spoke about the new charity he has founded, Fighting knife crime London, which seeks to help coordinate services designed to tackle the social issues underlying the problem. In the final session Ediane Santana de Lima discussed a new Lab project looking at the trauma informed training delivered in Violence Reduction Units. Judith's, Roger's and Ediane's slides are posted on the CSP website www.centreforsocialpolicy.org

March 2021

A joint CSP/Mulberry Bush Child Care History Network seminar on **50 Years of Early Years Provision (1971-2021)** was organised but could not take place due to Covid. The four presentations: Sonia Jackson, *How the Plowden Report (1967) sent Early Childhood Care and Education in Britain down the wrong path, and why we have never found our way since*; Gillian Pugh, *Transforming the early years 1975 – 2005: a personal perspective*, Naomi Eisenstadt *Sure Start Review*, Teresa Smith, *Narrowing the Gap? EPAs to Children's Centres 1971-2021: 50 years of research on implementation and outcomes*; and Roger Bullock *Day Care: The wider policy context* were published a special edition of the Mulberry Bush online *Therapeutic Care Journal* (www.thetcj.org), June 1st edition, and in the report posted on the CSP website.

June 2021

The June seminar comprised three presentations. Hannah Wilson on Improving Services for Child Victims of Domestic Abuse, Jason Strelitz on Promoting Public Health in an Inner-London Borough - Lessons from Covid and the Dartington Service Design Lab's senior management team on the Lab's Strategy Paper, *An Integrated Approach to Evidence for Those Working to Improve Outcomes for Children & Young People*. The slides of all three contributions are posted on the CSP website. Fellows were also invited to a subsequent meeting with Jason Strelitz to discuss his report *Pandemic* on the management of the Covid pandemic in Newham.

The place of CSP in the WHG Charity

Progress on integrating the work of the CSP and the Dartington Service Design Lab has been affected by the pandemic, but in September 2022, fellows were invited to a discussion with the Tim Hobbs and Julie Harris, the Lab's senior managers, regarding the establishment of a new organisation that integrates CSP more closely with the Lab. These discussions are still on-going and outline proposals have been presented to the Trustees.

Other contributions to the work of the Charity

The Centre has assisted the Service Design Lab in several ways. The Ethics Committee continues to provide an opinion on Lab proposals, fellows have commented on proposals and reports and provided specialist information as needed.

The CSP website

The CSP website, launched in June 2016, was made possible by a generous legacy from former CSP fellow and chair Rupert Hughes CBE and now contains four sections: About the Centre and future events, a list of fellows' professional interests and papers from previous meetings (divided into policy and practice, research reviews, theoretical papers and history).

CSP elected officers

At the AGM in December 2021, John Diamond was elected chair, Brian Warren secretary and Roger Bullock hon. treasurer.

Membership

The current number of fellows is 44, representing eleven disciplines and sub-disciplines: social policy, research, social work, education, early years, mental and physical health, psychology, psychotherapy, health, youth justice and law.

John Diamond

Chair

December 2022