

Scottish Tribunals & Administrative Justice Advisory Committee (STAJAC)

Stakeholder Event

Tuesday 1st April 2014

Caledonian Room, COSLA Conference Centre

Registration and breakfast from 9.15

Event : 10.00 – 13.00, followed by a networking lunch

PURPOSE OF EVENT

The purpose of the event will be to inform stakeholders of the existence of the committee and its remit, and to build relationships with a wide range of stakeholders. The Committee wants to discuss with stakeholders the reach and impact of administrative justice, and seek their views on the concerns and issues arising for users in the delivery of administrative justice. In particular, STAJAC is looking for input into work priorities for the Committee for the period April 2014 – December 2015.

PROGRAMME

9.15 – 10.00	Arrival, registration & breakfast
10.00 – 10.25	Introduction to the day; The STAJAC - background and remit
10.25 – 11.00	Session 1: Administrative Justice – what is it? Why does it matter, and to whom?
11.00 – 11.20	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.20 – 12.10	Session 2: Administrative justice from the user perspective – What are the issues? Areas of concern?
12.10 – 12.50	Session 3: The Committee – priorities – what should it focus on?
12.50 -13.00	Conclusions, next steps and continuing engagement
13.00	<i>Networking lunch in the Caledonian lounge</i>

The event will be facilitated by John Sturrock QC, Founder and Chief Executive of Core Solutions, and committee member of the STAJAC.

There will be contributions from the Chair and members of STAJAC (please see the attached biopics), and from researchers from Justice Analytical Services in Scottish Government, as well as poetry readings from Jo McFarlane.

We are seeking the views and input from our stakeholders, and very much encourage you to participate in the discussions on the day!

STAJAC BIOPICS:

CHAIR

MARIEKE DWARSHUIS

Marieke's career in Scotland spans over 20 years in the public and voluntary sector in a wide range of roles including Director of Consumer Focus Scotland and positions at the Scottish Government, Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, Citizens Advice Scotland and Shelter Scotland.

MEMBERS

JOHN STURROCK

As the founder and Chief Executive of the Core Solutions Group, John has pioneered mediation and high quality training in business, the professions and commerce in Scotland and elsewhere. John became a Queen's Counsel in 1999.

PROFESSOR TOM MULLEN

Tom Mullen is Professor of Law at the University of Glasgow and a non-practising solicitor. His research and teaching interests include constitutional law, administrative law and he has written and edited numerous books on these subjects.

SARAH O'NEILL

Sarah is a non-practising solicitor, with experience in the private, public and voluntary sectors. She is currently an independent consultant specialising in legal and consumer policy, and has many years' experience of working on civil and administrative justice issues.

SHABEN BEGUM

Shaben is the Director of the Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance (SIAA) with an advocacy background stretching back many years. Shaben has helped the SIAA develop a strong national voice for independent advocacy organisations, helping to influence services and legislation. Shaben received an MBE for services to health care in 2011.

PAUL MCFADDEN

Paul is a member of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO) Senior Management Team and heads up its Complaints Standards Authority. Paul also oversaw the transfer of prisons and water complaints to the Ombudsman's office and helped establish the Police Complaints Commissioner for Scotland.

LAUREN WOOD

Lauren is Access to Justice Policy Officer at Citizens Advice Scotland. She is responsible for influencing decision makers and opinion formers in Government, the public and private sectors and the media. Lauren holds a Masters Degree in Law and Governance.

DOUGLAS PROUDFOOT

Douglas is a Chartered Accountant with 21 years' experience in Local Government Finance. He has also worked for COSLA and on the Scottish Welfare Fund implementation. Douglas is currently a Policy Manager with East Lothian Council.

TOM DRYSDALE

Tom Drysdale was in private practice as a solicitor until 2004 and was a Director of Edinburgh Solicitors' Property Centre. He was a part time first tier tribunal judge in social security appeals until 2013 and also worked with the Registers of Scotland.

CONTRIBUTORS

JO MACFARLANE

Jo is a poet with lived experience of psychiatric care and the Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland. She is passionate about the role of independent advocacy and has been described as 'the poet laureate of recovery'.