

**Notice is hereby given that the FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of  
The British Association of Social Workers will be held at Titanic Belfast, 1 Olympic Way, Queens Road,  
Titanic Quarter, Belfast BT3 9EP commencing at 9.00am.**

**Unless you will be present at the beginning of the AGM, instruments appointing proxies must, by Article 27,  
be lodged at BASW, Wellesley House, 37 Waterloo Street, Birmingham B2 5PP  
by 4.00pm on 14th June 2019.**

## GENERAL NOTES

### 1 Notice of Meeting

Notice of the Annual General Meeting was given in PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK in February 2019.

### 2 Annual Report

The BASW Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the period 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 will be available on the BASW website during May: [www.basw.co.uk/agm](http://www.basw.co.uk/agm) or by email: [governance@basw.co.uk](mailto:governance@basw.co.uk)

### 3 Participation in Annual General Meeting

Members may attend, speak and vote or appoint proxies to vote for them.

### PLEASE BRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH YOU

### 4 Proxies

All members unable to attend the AGM are encouraged to use the proxy voting provision.

Holders of proxy votes should collect proxy vote cards from the Annual General Meeting registration desk.

### 5 Structure of the Annual General Meeting

The first session of the Annual General Meeting on Friday 21st June will include the Chief Executive's Report, and approve the minutes of the 2018 AGM.

The next session will consider the Annual Report and Accounts. The debate on the accounts will be introduced by the Chair of the Finance & Organisational Development Committee.

AGM Resolutions will commence following the above session.

### 6 Amendments to Resolutions

Notices of proposals to amend any ordinary motion by adding to or leaving out or submitting other words in the terms of a motion must be signed by a proposer and seconder and no fewer than eighteen other members of the Association, or by an Officer of a Branch on the authority of a resolution passed at a duly convened meeting of the membership of the Branch. Proposed amendments must reach BASW, Wellesley House, 37 Waterloo Street, Birmingham B2 5PP by 14th June 2019.

### 7 Emergency Motions

Emergency motions will be admitted only at the discretion of the Chair and must relate to issues which could not reasonably have been foreseen. An emergency resolution is not binding upon the Association. Voting will be by a show of hands. There is no provision for a ballot.

**This is the official notice of the 2019 Annual General Meeting required under the Articles of Association of  
The British Association of Social Workers. Any amendments to ordinary motions will be made available at the meeting.**

**Members are encouraged to attend the AGM.**

**There is no charge for admission and members are asked to bring this notice with them.**

## ◆◆◆ Ordinary Motion 1

This AGM recognises the growing impact of changing and inadequate economic and social policies and practices resulting in an increased prevalence of people who are homeless or living in situations of acute housing stress. It also recognises that these circumstances not only have extreme debilitating effects across age and needs groups, but may also arise as a symptom of other issues including mental health, substance misuse, domestic abuse, social exclusion and poverty.

This AGM is deeply concerned by the extreme housing and homelessness crisis across the UK, and commends the work that BASW has been developing in this area. Given the extent of the crisis, this AGM agrees that BASW will intensify work in this area, in particular by:

- reaffirming that social workers should never be required to undertake practice contrary to the BASW Code of Ethics or their registration requirements or that contravenes disability and equality legislation
- developing a clear policy and position statement in relation to homelessness
- providing practice guidance for social work practitioners, managers and commissioners on how to respond to issues arising from homelessness
- working with employers to address policies that are contrary to the developed code of ethics and guidance; and to provide practical support, training and encouragement to social workers to challenge policies, practice and decisions which adversely impact upon people and increase homelessness and housing stress
- working, alone and in partnership with others, to support research and other initiatives that promote and develop social, economic and legislative practice and procedures which will reduce the prevalence of people who are homeless or living in conditions of acute housing stress
- building alliances with Shelter, Crisis and other relevant housing and homelessness organisations across the UK, and with service user, disabled people's and tenants' organisations
- lobbying national and local government for a housing policy that ensures people can be housed or accommodated within their own communities

Housing is a social work issue.

**On the authority of the London Branch,  
and seconded by Worcestershire Branch, Birmingham and Solihull Branch,  
Suffolk and Ipswich Branch, Greater Manchester Branch, North East Branch,  
and Lincolnshire and Newcastle networks**

## ◆◆◆ Ordinary Motion 2

The UK Home Office 'hostile environment policy' is a set of administrative measures designed to make staying in the UK as difficult as possible for people without leave to remain. This is intended to encourage people in this situation to leave voluntarily. The policy was first announced in 2012, when Theresa May was the Home Secretary. It was designed to help fulfil the election manifesto proposal that immigration levels should be reduced. In the words of the Home Secretary "The aim is to create, here in Britain, a really hostile environment for illegal immigrants".

This AGM notes the government's inhumane hostile environment immigration policy runs in direct conflict with social work principles and values and is contrary to the BASW Code of Ethics.

We condemn the discrimination and oppression of people who are experts through experience through their immigration status. This affects in particular, but not exclusively, people who have NRPF (No Recourse to Public Funds).

Accordingly, this AGM instructs BASW to challenge and actively campaign to remove this "hostile environment policy" from government policy, in pursuit of BASW's ethical principles and values to uphold human rights and social justice.

This AGM instructs BASW to:

- Condemn the use of the NRPF condition as an anti-immigration tool
- Campaign in the areas of the UK where local authority policy and practice fails to support those with NRPF
- Work with NHS colleagues to abolish discriminatory healthcare charging for people (adults and children)
- Advocate for free school meals and pupil premium support for children whose carers have NRPF where this is not current practice
- Oppose the use of embedded Home Office staff in local authorities.

BASW will proactively support social workers to advocate for the human rights of NRPF clients and to challenge decision-making and practices that are counter to the BASW Code of Ethics.

**On the authority of the Immigration, Asylum & Trafficking (IAT) Special Interest Group**

## ◆◆◆ Ordinary Motion 3

The Worcestershire Branch notes that New Zealand has recently (July 2018) passed a bill that those experiencing domestic abuse can take up to ten-days paid leave to find safety and a place to live. In addition, the Branch notes that trials of this policy are underway in Ayrshire in Scotland (Feb 2019) and on the Wirral (March 2019) in England, as well as there being a company initiative by Vodafone UK (March 2019). Moreover, the adoption of this policy has been pledged (Sept 2018) by Dawn Butler MP on behalf of the Shadow Cabinet, and will be implemented in the UK in the event of a Labour Government coming to power. This AGM agrees that this is a progressive legislative initiative which BASW should press for at Government level in each country of the UK as a matter of urgency.

**On the authority of the Worcestershire branch**

## ◆◆◆ Ordinary Motion 4

This AGM notes that social workers like other professionals are nominated and receive Queen's Honours, some of whom are or have been BASW members and some not. The Queen's Honours may be controversial to some members. Nomination for and receiving a Queen's Honour is recognition of our profession and the valuable services social workers are providing.

Whilst recognising this complexity, this AGM agrees that, in principle, BASW committees (with the support of Council) can nominate social workers for a Queen's Honour.

**On the authority of the Wales National Standing Committee**

## ◆◆◆ Ordinary Motion 5

There are a significant number of Social Work qualified Heads of Service and Directors, educators, regulators and researchers who choose not to be registered with the Welsh Registration Body - Social Care Wales. This situation exists due to a gap in the regulations and governance arrangements when the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 was enacted.

Heads of Services and Directors are appointed because of their experience and skills within the Social Work profession they belong to, as are educators, researchers and regulators. Their role requires drawing on professional skills and/or knowledge in the course of their work. For example, if they are working in education, management or research, they are still considered to be practising their profession. This is particularly pertinent whenever circumstances arise in respect of referrals under 'fitness to practice' responsibilities as the current omission could be described as incongruent.

BASW Cymru works to promote the registration of these groups in order to support and strengthen the role and reach of the profession in Wales. We ask this AGM to support this work, and to support promotion of similar work where relevant in the other nations of the UK.

**On the authority of the Wales National Standing Committee**

## ◆◆◆ Ordinary Motion 6

Birmingham and Solihull Branch and Worcestershire Branch commend the "All Birmingham's Children" initiative to promote the best interests of all Birmingham's children and young people. This AGM calls upon the Association to encourage and support similar initiatives across the four countries that will encourage the promotion of the best interests of all groups supported by social work and social care services.

**On the authority of the Birmingham and Solihull Branch,  
and seconded by Worcestershire Branch**

# 2019 Annual General Meeting

## AGENDA

- 1 To read the notice convening the meeting**
- 2 To receive apologies for absence**
- 3 To welcome representatives of kindred organisations and other guests**
- 4 Minutes**  
To confirm and sign the Minutes of the forty-eighth Annual General Meeting held in Cardiff on 13th June 2018.
- 5 Chief Executive's Report**
- 6 To announce results of election to BASW Council**
- 7 Annual Report and Accounts**
  - 7.1** To receive the report of the Auditors and the Statement of Accounts for The British Association of Social Workers (which will appear in the Annual Report available on the BASW website during May at [www.basw.co.uk/agm](http://www.basw.co.uk/agm)) and to adopt the Balance Sheet and the Accounts for the period 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018.
  - 7.2** To receive the Statement of Accounts for the Social Workers' Benevolent Trust for the period 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018.
  - 7.3** To receive the Statement of Accounts for the Social Workers' Educational Trust for the period 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018.
  - 7.4** To receive and adopt the Annual Report for the period 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018.
- 8 Auditors**  
To appoint Auditors for the year 1st October 2019 to 30th September 2020.
- 9** To report back on 2018 Motions.
- 10** To provide an update on the BASW 2020 50th anniversary heritage and legacy project.
- 11 Resolutions**  
To consider the Ordinary Resolutions which are set out on the previous page of this agenda and any amendments to Ordinary Motions distributed at the Meeting.
- 12 Any Other Business (including emergency motions)**  
(see Note 7).
- 13 Chair's speech**

*By Order of the Council  
Dr Ruth Allen, Chief Executive  
Dated 27th March 2019*

## PROXY FORM

I, the undersigned being a member of The British Association of Social Workers hereby appoint Hilary Tompsett and Shirley Melvin (both persons nominated by Council) of Wellesley House, 37 Waterloo Street, Birmingham B2 5PP or ..... (see Note 3) membership number ..... another member of the Association as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf, as indicated below at the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on 21st June 2019 and at any adjournment thereof.

**Proxy forms must be returned to FREEPOST BASW no later than 4.00pm on 14th June 2019.**

The Motions are numbered in the notice of the meeting.

PLEASE PRINT FULL NAME .....

Signature ..... Membership No ..... Date.....

### Proposed Motions for Annual General Meeting 2019

#### Ordinary Motions (Ordinary Motions need a simple majority to be passed)

Resolution	1	2	3	4	5	6
For						
Against						

#### NOTES

- 1 There is no provision under the Companies Act for postal voting. A member who is unable to be present may record his or her vote by proxy.
  - 2 Only Full Voting Members have votes. Affiliates do not have votes.
  - 3 If you desire to appoint a proxy other than the above named, please delete their names and insert the name and address of the other member, if you do this it is wise to ascertain in advance that he or she is willing and able to undertake the responsibility.
  - 4 If you do not indicate how your votes are to be cast, the proxy holder may vote at his/her discretion. Nevertheless, if one of the Council nominees is appointed, no vote will be cast unless an indication has been given.
  - 5 The instrument appointing a proxy is deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a ballot.
  - 6 If you propose to attend part of the meeting and wish your vote to be exercised only during your absence, since a proxy can be exercised if the membership card of the member who appoints the proxy holder is lodged with the Association, the following procedure should be followed:
    - i) if you WILL NOT be present at the beginning of the meeting, send your membership card with this form;
    - ii) \*if you wish to exchange your vote with your proxy holder (either way) go to the BASW registration desk and there exchange your membership card with the proxy voting cards. It is your responsibility to find your proxy holder to enable the exchange to be made.
  - 7 Those appointed as proxies can collect their voting cards from the registration desk. Make sure you tell your proxy holder of their appointment so that he/she knows to collect the voting cards.
- \* It is your responsibility to ensure that your proxy is collected by your nominee.

**PROXY FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO FREEPOST BASW**

You do not need to add anything else to the address

