Assessing Fitness To Plead and Fitness To Be Interviewed

‘Essentials’ – building blocks for the development of healthcare professionals

Dr Jim Isherwood, Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist and Medical Director, North Yorkshire and York Community Mental Health Services and; Malcolm Taylor, Special Casework Lawyer, Yorkshire and Humberside Complex Case Unit, Crown Prosecution Service

Thursday 26 April 2012

12.30pm Registration and buffet lunch; 1.00pm Welcome and Introduction; 4.15pm Close

Weetwood Hall Conference Centre, Otley Road, Leeds LS16 5PS

Psychiatrists are increasingly being asked to comment on fitness to be interviewed and fitness to plead. The outcomes and accuracy of these assessments greatly impact on the Criminal Justice process and clinicians may be asked to justify their findings in court.

This seminar is designed to enable you to understand the difference between the assessments of fitness to be interviewed by the police and fitness to plead in court. You will also learn about the safeguards and consequences for people found unfit. The aim of this seminar is to enable fair, robust and legal procedures on behalf of mentally disordered detainees and allow you to give reliable evidence in court.

After you have attended this seminar you will:
- Understand the processes of assessing fitness to be interviewed and fitness to plead
- Understand the safeguards for those found unfit
- Be able to give evidence in court to support your findings

Comments from previous delegates:
“Useful and concise information that is practically valuable to my work”
“Speakers were experienced, clinically relevant and friendly/approachable”

About our speakers: Dr Jim Isherwood has been a consultant forensic psychiatrist in North Yorkshire since 1996 and Medical Director since 2004. His service provides low secure and community care for patients from North Yorkshire. His interests also include clinical governance and risk management and he is currently the lead on governance for the Trust. He has participated in two homicide inquiries on behalf of NHS and is an independent clinical advisor in NHS complaints procedures. He has also completed clinical governance reviews on behalf of CHI/The Healthcare Commission and is occasionally seconded to the CQC Investigations Team. Malcolm Taylor became a solicitor in 1973 and began prosecuting in 1974 in Humberside and has done so ever since with a three year break at the Bar. Malcolm has been with the Crown Prosecution Service since its inception 1986. He is most recently based in the Complex Case Unit for the Yorkshire and Humberside group of CPS. His areas of expertise include homicide, shaken and battered babies, corporate manslaughter, large and complex fraud, undercover investigations, and unusual and sensitive cases. He most relevantly took a case on fitness to plead all the way to the House of Lords shortly after the current legislation came into force.

Who should attend? This course is suitable for mental health professionals including psychiatrists, police and appropriate adults.

Study methods: Lectures and discussion.

Course fees: £95. All learning materials, lunch and refreshments are included.

Reservations: Please complete the reservation form overleaf and either post to: Events Administrator, Andrew Sims Centre, The Mount, 44 Hyde Terrace, Leeds LS2 9LN or fax to: 0113 305 5632. If you are paying by debit or credit card, why not BOOK ONLINE?
**RESERVATION FORM**

**Assessing Fitness to Plead and Fitness to be Interviewed**

**Thursday 26 April 2012**

### YOUR DETAILS

- **PLEASE PRINT YOUR DETAILS IN BLOCK CAPITALS**

  - **Dr**  [ ]  **Mr**  [ ]  **Mrs**  [ ]  **Miss**  [ ]  **Other**

- **First name:** 
- **Surname:** 
- **Job Title:** 
- **Speciality:** 
- **Trust / Organisation:**
- **Preferred mailing address:** 
- **Postcode:** 
- **Telephone No:**
- **Fax No:**
- **Email address:**
- **Any special reqs:**
- **Signature:**  

### COURSE FEES

- [ ] £95

### PAYMENT DETAILS

- **By Cheque** – I enclose a cheque (made payable to Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust) for: £

- **By Credit Card** – Please debit my VISA / MASTERCARD / MAESTRO (please delete as appropriate) for: £

  - **Card no:** 
  - **Expiry date:**
  - **Security number:** (last three digit number on signature strip)
  - **Cardholders name:** 
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  - **Start date:**
  - **Issue no (Switch):**

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**By Invoice** – Requests to pay by invoice must be accompanied by a copy of your Trust or organisation’s official purchase order.

- **Please send an invoice for:** £

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### HOW TO BOOK

Please send your fully completed reservation form to: Events Administrator, Andrew Sims Centre, The Mount, 44 Hyde Terrace, Leeds LS2 8LN or fax to: 0113 305 5632. If you are paying by credit or debit card, why not BOOK ONLINE?

### PAYMENT METHODS

We prefer to receive payment by cheque or credit card. If you would like us to invoice your organisation, a copy of your Trust’s or organisation’s official purchase order must be enclosed with this booking. **Payment must be received before the conference date.** If payment is not received by the day of the conference, you will be asked to guarantee your place with a personal credit card on the day. Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust staff must provide a budget code and budget holders authorisation.

### ACCREDITATION

This course is eligible for 3 CPD hours subject to your peer group approval and in line with the Royal College of Psychiatrists’ guidelines.

### THE VENUE

Weetwood Hall Conference Centre is situated approx. 3 miles north of Leeds city centre on the A660 just off the A6120 ring road and is accessible from the city centre or Leeds train station by bus or taxi. Free car parking is available on site.

### OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION

A delegate accommodation booking service is available from Calder Conferences by calling 0113 204 3600 or emailing enquiries@calders.org.uk quoting reference ASC1.

### CONFIRMATION OF RESERVATIONS

All reservations will be confirmed immediately in writing. Further details including programme times and venue information, will be forwarded approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference date. Please ensure you have provided an email address as all booking confirmations will take place by email, alternatively correspondence will be forwarded by fax or post.

### RESERVATION & CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations must be received in writing at least two weeks prior to the course date to be entitled to a refund, which will be subject to a 20% administration fee (minimum £10). We regret that cancellations received after this date cannot be refunded, and refunds cannot be made for failure to attend the event. However, a substitute delegate will be welcomed in your place at any time.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information visit [www.andrewsimscentre.nhs.uk](http://www.andrewsimscentre.nhs.uk) or call 0113 305 5638. If you are visiting our website, why not book online?

Your personal information will be held on our database and used to process your application and to keep you informed of our events and activities. If you do not wish to receive information about our events, please tick this box.

Your personal information may be made available to selected partners and collaborating organisations of the Andrew Sims Centre in relation to the event you are applying to attend. If you do not want your details to be made available to our third party partners, please tick this box.

The Leeds Partnerships NHS Foundation Trust (hereafter referred to as “Leeds PFT”) reserves the right to change the programme without prior notice. Where for any reason beyond its reasonable control the Leeds PFT cancels an event, the liability of the Leeds PFT shall be limited to a refund of the fee payable to the Leeds PFT for that particular event.

**FOR ASC OFFICE USE ONLY:**

- **Booked in:**  
- **Date:**  
- **Payment ref:**