



Survey & Proposal – Regulation 44 Network

7th July 2020

Background

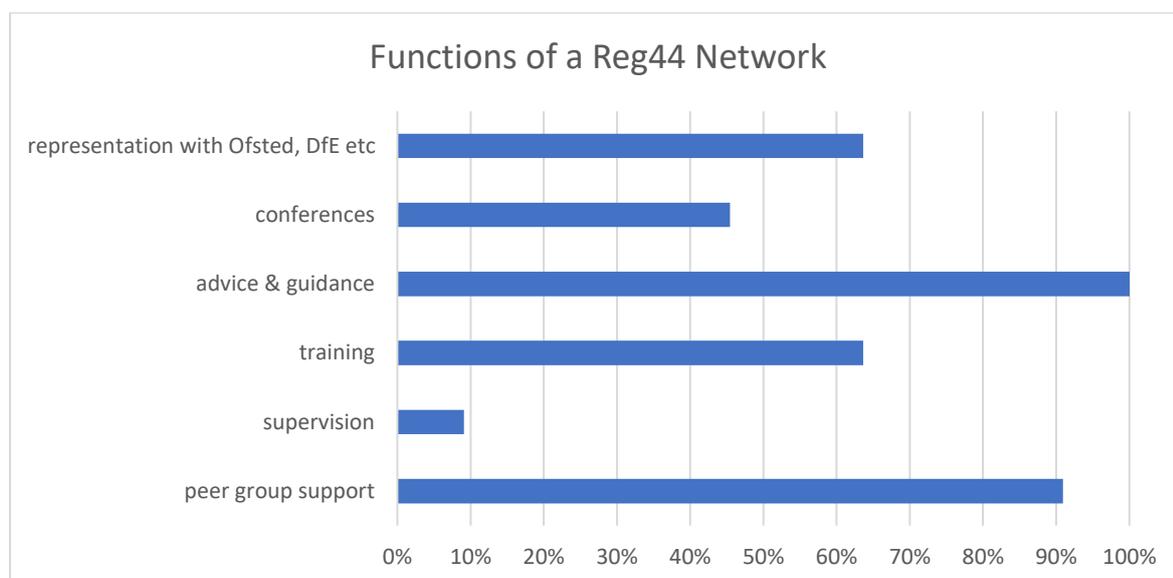
Marie Tucker has supported a Regulation 44 forum in the south west for a number of years. Some time has passed since the last meeting, exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. John Woodhouse and Marie Tucker arranged an online session for visitors initially from the South West, but we quite quickly reached out to other areas of the country.

At the same time ICHA have been exploring the needs of Regulation 44 visitors to have more peer support.

25 visitors met on 16th June 2020 for an hour and a half. There was a consensus such meetings were useful and 11 of those present completed a survey on the best way forward.

This report summarises the findings and builds a proposal on the results.

Functions of a network



The core aim of the group must be to provide advice and guidance with peer group support. Two thirds of respondents would value sector representation with the regulator and government. A majority also would value training opportunities, with 45% thinking a conference would be of value. One participant would like access to supervision.

Respondents could add free text about other things they want:

Creative ways to check against the standards

I would like to link up with other reg 44 visitors who are working with children homes caring for children with learning disabilities, it would be good to share how we are hearing their voice.

I think sharing of feedback received from Ofsted during inspection to the homes specifically around the Reg 44 process would be really helpful. What visitors are doing which has been highlighted and recognised by Ofsted and similarly what has been criticised.

interpretation of standards would be helpful

feedback please can you share todays power point and regional protocol - thank you for today!

Covid 19 - forward planning

Reg 44 training

Links with Ofsted

supportive discussion

Tools and resources that can be used and considered

Frequency & format

Two thirds of respondents wanted quarterly meetings, with two participants electing for three times a year and two proposing bimonthly meetings. Two participants want a solely online format, but 82% wanted a blended approach with some online and some face-to-face activity.

Funding

At the meeting we discussed the merits of a non-funded approach, but all participants who spoke and respondents to the survey felt a low-cost model would be more effective. 55% of respondents agreed to contribute a small amount to fund a Reg44 network (e.g. £99 a year) with the remainder agreeing they would possibly contribute depending on work approval or the nature of the offer.

Proposal

dialogue is happy to support a national Regulation 44 network on this basis. We propose a low-cost annual membership model as this has been very successful in supporting registered managers and responsible individuals in the south west.

Membership would be £99+vat and run August-August to include:

- Four 3-hour online sessions a year. These would include:
 - Regulatory, guidance and research updates
 - Small group peer support around semi-structured questions
 - Speakers on areas of interest to Reg44 visitors
- One regional or national forum event, dependent on local demand and the impact of the pandemic
- An online forum for on-going discussion of issues and notification of new guidance and similar
- Free initial safeguarding or regulatory advice
- A register of Regulation 44 visitors who consent for their contact details to be shared with registered managers and RIs of children's homes seeking a visitor
- Discounted training places with **dialogue**
- Discounted advertising arrangements at the ICHA conference
- Other benefits achieved through the year, such as sector representation with the regulator or DfE