

# Family Law Conference 2012 Programme

## Legal Aid Board – Family Law Conference 2013. Conference Programme

**Date and venue: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in NUI Galway**

**Theme** *Does the present process of childcare cases in the courts system serve the best interests of the child?*

### **Timetable**

8.30am – 9.30am Registration & Tea/coffee on arrival.

9.30 am – 9.40 am Introduction by Dr Moling Ryan, Chief Executive (Conference Chair).

9.40 am – 10.10 am Opening Address by Ms. Muriel Walls, Chairperson, Legal Aid Board (Childcare cases: the Legal Aid Board experience)

10.10 am – 10.40 am Ms Catriona Whyte, Head of Legal Services – Civil, Scottish Legal Aid Board (Childcare hearings in Scotland)

10.40 am – 11.10 am Break

11.10 am – 11.40 am Dr Carol Coulter, Director of the Childcare Law Reporting Project and former Legal Affairs correspondent, Irish Times (reflections based on current research of childcare hearings nationwide)

11.40 am – 12.30 pm Nuala Egan BL, Brian Lavery, Guardian Ad Litem and Paula Reynolds, Legal Aid Board – Impact of care orders on sibling relationships.

12.30 pm – 1.00 pm Address by Her Honour Judge Rosemary Horgan, President of the District Court.

1.00 pm – 2.00 pm Lunch & Networking

2.00 pm – 2.45 pm Presentation by Professor Pat Dolan, Child and Family Research Dept., NUI Galway

2.45 pm - 4.30 pm Presentations and discussion on *The Voice of the Child in Family Disputes?*

- Ms Freda McKittrick, Barnardos
- Ms Ann O’Kelly, Family Mediation Service
- Mr. Colm Roberts, Legal Aid Board

Chair for discussion: Ms Muriel Walls

4.30 pm Close of Conference.

**6.5 CPD points available for solicitors.**

<https://www.legalaidboard.ie/en/about-the-board/press-publications/conferences/family-law-conference-2012-programme.html>

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