

INVITES YOU TO

'Getting the Balance Right; Children and the Court'

*A Training Event jointly organised by the Judicial Studies Board and
the Health & Social Care Board*

On: Thursday 22nd January, 2015

At: Upper Bar Library, Royal Courts of Justice

OBJECTIVE

*"A lecture by Professor Judith Masson on getting the balance right;
children and the court"*

Programme

4.00pm	Registration
4.30pm	Introduction by Paul Morgan, Director of Children & Young People's Services and Executive Director of Social Work, Southern Health & Social Care Trust
4.40pm	Lecture by Professor Judith Masson, Professor of Socio-Legal Studies at the University of Bristol
5.30pm	Question & Answer Session
6:00pm	Close

Please note that a buffet will not be served after this event.

Please note that the Judicial Studies Board is an accredited course supplier under the Bar's Continuing Professional Development Regulations. Solicitors may apply to the Law Society to have relevant Judicial Studies Board training accredited to their continuing professional development record.

Biographical Details

Paul Morgan

Director of Children and Young People's Services and Executive Director of Social Work

Paul Morgan was appointed as Director of Children and Young People's Services in May 2011. Paul has over 30 years' experience in a range of Child Care Services and over 12 years senior management experience. He qualified in 1979 with a BA Hons Degree in Social Work. He was Acting Director in the Craigavon & Banbridge Community Trust from 2004-2007 and was the Southern Trust's Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Family Support from April 2007 – May 2011.

Paul is a member of the Regional SBNI Safeguarding Board for NI and chairs the Southern Outcomes Group, established to take forward integrated planning and service delivery for children and families. He has significant experience of service reform and represents the Trust on the Regional Children's Services Improvement Board.

Professor Judith Masson

BA (Cantab), PhD (Leic)

Professor of Socio-Legal Studies, University of Bristol

Professor Judith Masson studied at Cambridge and Leicester Universities in England, and at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, USA. Between 1991 and 2005, she was Professor of Law at Warwick University, specialising in child law and socio-legal research. She joined the University of Bristol as Professor of Socio-Legal Studies in January 2006. She teaches Family Law and International Child Law.

Judith combines legal expertise, particularly doctrinal analysis in child law with empirical work on child and family law; her empirical work uses mixed methods, quantitative and qualitative of litigation and other legal documents. For the last 15 years Judith's empirical work has focused on child protection, with studies of children's guardians and the legal representation of children (J. Masson and M. Winn Oakley, *Out of Hearing*, Wiley 1999); family relationships for children in long term care (J. Masson et al, *Lost and found*, Ashgate, 1999); emergency intervention by the police and local authority children's services in two studies funded by the NSPCC and the Nuffield Foundation, J. Masson et al, *Protecting Powers*, Wiley, 2007); a study commissioned by the Ministry of Justice and the Department of Children, Schools and Families, [J Masson et al *Care Profiling Study MoJ 2008*](#)); an ESRC funded study jointly with Julia Pearce on Parents' legal representation in care proceedings, [J Pearce, J Masson and K. Bader, *Just Following Instructions?* 2011](#)); and an ESRC funded study with Dr Jonathan Dickens, School of Social Work, University of East Anglia, *Families on the Edge of Care proceedings: the operation and effectiveness of the pre-proceedings process in care proceedings* to be published in 2013.

Judith is currently working on a project for the Family Justice Council on providing feedback to judges about their decisions in public law cases.

Judith is an expert on the Children Act 1989 and on Adoption Law. Judith has always sought to ensure that those in practice as lawyers or social workers can benefit from the insights developed through her research. She has acted as an advisor to Voice for the Child in Care and Women's Aid; a consultant for the Department of Health, Department for Constitutional Affairs, the Department for Education and the Legal Services Commission, Coram and various local authorities. She has been a specialist advisor to Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiries into the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (2003) and the Family Justice System (2011); and served on the Judicial Studies Board and as the academic member of the Family Justice Council (2004 - 2011).