

Appraisal Matters

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Winter closure

We will be closing down for a winter closure period from the 19th December 2022 to the 2nd January 2023. Please get in touch before the 17th December if there is something you would like our help with before we close.

During the closure, please share any urgent messages with us via WhatsApp or schedule them to be sent on the 3rd January, to ensure they are at the top of our inbox when we return in the new year.

The mystery of the missing emails



Thank you for letting us know about your emails going missing. It has been frustrating for the victims as well as the Wessex Appraisal investigative team. We have found the two main culprits: Firstly, responding directly to the FFARMS automated emails as replies will not reach us. Our suggested solution: instead of responding directly to the FFARMS email always ensure you forward to one of the Wessex team. Secondly, the spam folder has been abducting emails. As we check ours, please make sure to check yours regularly too! If you include our initials 'WAS' at the beginning of your subject line title, this is set to override the spam filter and will ensure your messages reach us.

Please report all emails that have gone unanswered for more than three working days as soon as you notice they are 'missing in action'. We will continue to use the WhatsApp group, or (especially if it is urgent) just pick up the phone: +44 7538 369444

M	T	W	Th	F	S	Su
12	13	14	15	16 <i>Last Day</i>	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve!</i>	1 <i>Christmas!</i>
2	3 <i>Service Resumes</i>	4	5	6	7	8

December

January

Jersey and Isle of Wight appraiser training

Wessex Appraisal Service ran a successful two day in-person Current Appraiser Skills Assessment (CASA) for Jersey secondary care doctors at the beginning of December. It was a great learning experience, and one that we look forward to repeating! Thank you so much to Sue Bowen and Shehla Jamil who helped facilitate the training. We also want to say a big thank you to Adam Sawyer and Alison Gardiner who facilitated the New Appraiser Training for the Isle of Wight in September 2022. You all did a fantastic job and we really appreciate the work you put into both events. Thank you to everyone who has already indicated that they would like to facilitate training in the future (please get in touch if you are also interested and we are not yet aware). We will be in touch in the new year to set up more training events with you!

We loved welcoming the six Jersey appraisers from Wessex Appraisal Service who also joined us to practice and refresh their skills. It was great that you were able to attend at short notice and took the opportunity to support your hospital colleagues on their assessment day. We hope that you enjoyed meeting some of your secondary care colleagues; your input was valued.



Support for Jersey

We would like to wish all of our Jersey contacts the very best following the recent incidents. We hope you and your families are safe. Please let us know if you require support.

Appraiser Support Unit

Sometimes we all need personal as well as professional support. When there is a professional, personal or family crisis it can be helpful to have a listening ear from someone outside your closest circle. If you would like support, advice, guidance or just need someone to listen, who better than an appraiser?

Don't struggle alone - please contact Susi via help@wessexappraisal.org with 'CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT' in the subject box.



Wessex Appraisal Service Ltd. still maintains an Appraiser Support Unit (ASU) based on the previous NHS Appraiser Professional Support Unit (APSU). You can also continue to find other resources on [our website](https://www.wessexappraisal.org).

CASA for our appraisers

As we think about training for the upcoming year, we asked everyone to let us know when their last CASA training was. We will be looking through this and scheduling regular CASA training for our appraisers in the next appraisal year. Please think about whether this is something you are interested in, especially if it has been around five years since your last training!

We are also running a CASA on 6th February for appraisers who have expressed interest in joining our Wessex team. Those who successfully demonstrate their skills will join us in April 2023 as part of our elite team of Wessex appraisers. Please get in touch if you know of anyone who might be interested appraising for Wessex Appraisal Service Ltd. in the future.

Festive challenge!

During the run up to Christmas the Wessex Appraisal team have been trying to look after our physical and mental health, but with a festive twist, and we'd like to invite you to do the same! Research suggests that exercising your body and mind at the same time is the best way to help future proof your mental acuity. So, we have been taking cosy winter walks with our nearest and dearest, and whilst walking we've been playing the A-Z song game but for Christmas songs and carols.

How to play: work together (or compete!) to find a Christmas song title or first word that starts with the letter "A" and work your way to Z! We recommend weaving in some international festive songs too! Bonus: Sing of as much of the songs as you can remember!

Let us know what festive challenges you've come up with to support your mind and body!



Appraiser support meeting dates, times and links

Wednesday	11 th January	1-2pm	meet.google.com/fgw-jrxa-iqc
Thursday	9 th February	1-2pm	meet.google.com/rzz-isnw-wws
Friday	10 th March	1-2pm	meet.google.com/ubr-gdox-wpj

Have a wonderful festive season!

Here at the Wessex Appraisal Service, we wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of you who have done such a great job of supporting us during our set up this year.

The move over from Health Education England couldn't have happened without you. Thank you for your patience and understanding along with all your hard work! We are delighted to see Wessex Appraisal Service thrive!

All that's left at the end of this newsletter is to wish everyone a joyful festive season and to have a very happy New Year! Please remember to take some proper rest and recuperation to look after yourselves. We look forward to reconnecting with you all soon!

From the Wessex Appraisal Team



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