

**DISMISSED? EMPLOYERS EVENT
WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH
2 – 5 PM
GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL, GLASGOW**

BRIEFING FOR SAMH STAFF

AIMS OF EVENT

- To promote new research on workplace mental health (attached) to target audience of employers, employability professionals and mental health professionals
- To develop productive relationships with key employers in Scotland across relevant SAMH teams
- To secure support for the Dismissed? campaign from employers

SCHEDULE FOR EVENT

12:30

Access to venue. Graeme, Vicki and Jamie Smyth (volunteer) to set up.

13:45

SAMH staff to arrive at venue. Name badges will be on registration desk.

14:00

Event attendees begin arriving at venue. Graeme and Jamie welcome and provide attendees with name badges and event packs. Attendees already supporting the Dismissed? campaign will have a pink spot on their name badge.

14:00-14:25

Refreshments and networking.

14:20-14:30

Welcome from Billy Watson. This will welcome attendees and briefly recap the importance of workplace mental health and the Dismissed? campaign. A schedule for the event will be displayed on the screen behind.

14:30-14:55

Introduction by Billy Watson: Presentation by Dr James Richards from the Centre for Research on Work & Wellbeing at Heriot-Watt University. The last ten minutes can be given over to Q&A.

14:55-15:10

Introduction by Billy Watson: Short film, titled *What Works? Mark's Story*, which tells the story of BSKYB employee Mark Todd and the support he received from SAMH's Evergreen service in Kirkcaldy. Mark suffered a long period of severe depression, and after a lengthy absence was supported by Evergreen and BSKYB to return to work in his previous position.

Note: Mark's case is unusual – he was absent from work for a total of 2-3 years, but retained his position with BSKYB. Mark's story, though unusual, provides excellent insight into the experiences of managing a mental health problem at work and on how employers can work with a wider support network to help an employee successfully return to work, no matter how long they are absent for.

15:10-15:30

Introduction by Billy Watson: Judith Mackinnon will give a presentation on SAMH's employer services and how SAMH works with employers to promote workplace mental health, support employees with mental health problems and help people with mental health problems to return to work.

15:30-15:50

Introduction by Billy Watson (bio to be sent): Kevin Friery, Clinical Director at Right Management, will talk about the importance of workplace mental health from his experience of working for one of the UK's largest workforce management companies.

15:50

Thanks from Billy Watson. Reminder that drinks and canapés will be held in the adjoining room until 5pm.

16:00-17:00

Drinks and canapés in adjoining room.