

A vision for intermediaries

Professional Diploma in Intermediary Studies

*An interfaculty programme
School of Law and School of Allied Health*

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A vision for



Equal access to justice



Building capacity



Sharing Knowledge



Leading Intermediary Scheme

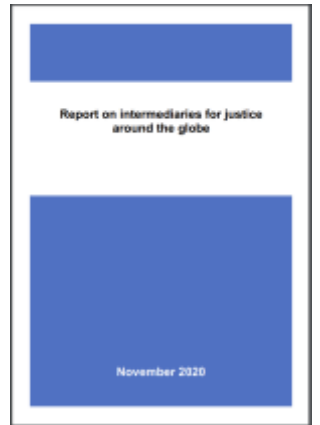
Speech Language & Communication Needs (SLCN) in the CJS

- Risk of violence
 - Adults with disabilities = higher risk of violence than are non-disabled adults
 - Adults with mental illnesses could be particularly vulnerable
(Hughes et al. 2012)
- Adults with ID face many barriers including communication (McGilloway et al 2020)
- Participation of children and vulnerable adults in an **adversarial criminal process** (Cusack, 2020)
- Mental disorders* are over-represented
 - in prisoners (Fazel et al. 2016)
 - adolescents in juvenile detention and correctional facilities (Beaudry et al. 2021)
- High prevalence of TBI among criminal justice population (McKinley and Albcini, 2016)
- Language difficulties in young offenders (Bryan et al. 2007, Bryan et al. 2015, Anderson et al 2016)



Equal access to justice

Intermediaries – international picture



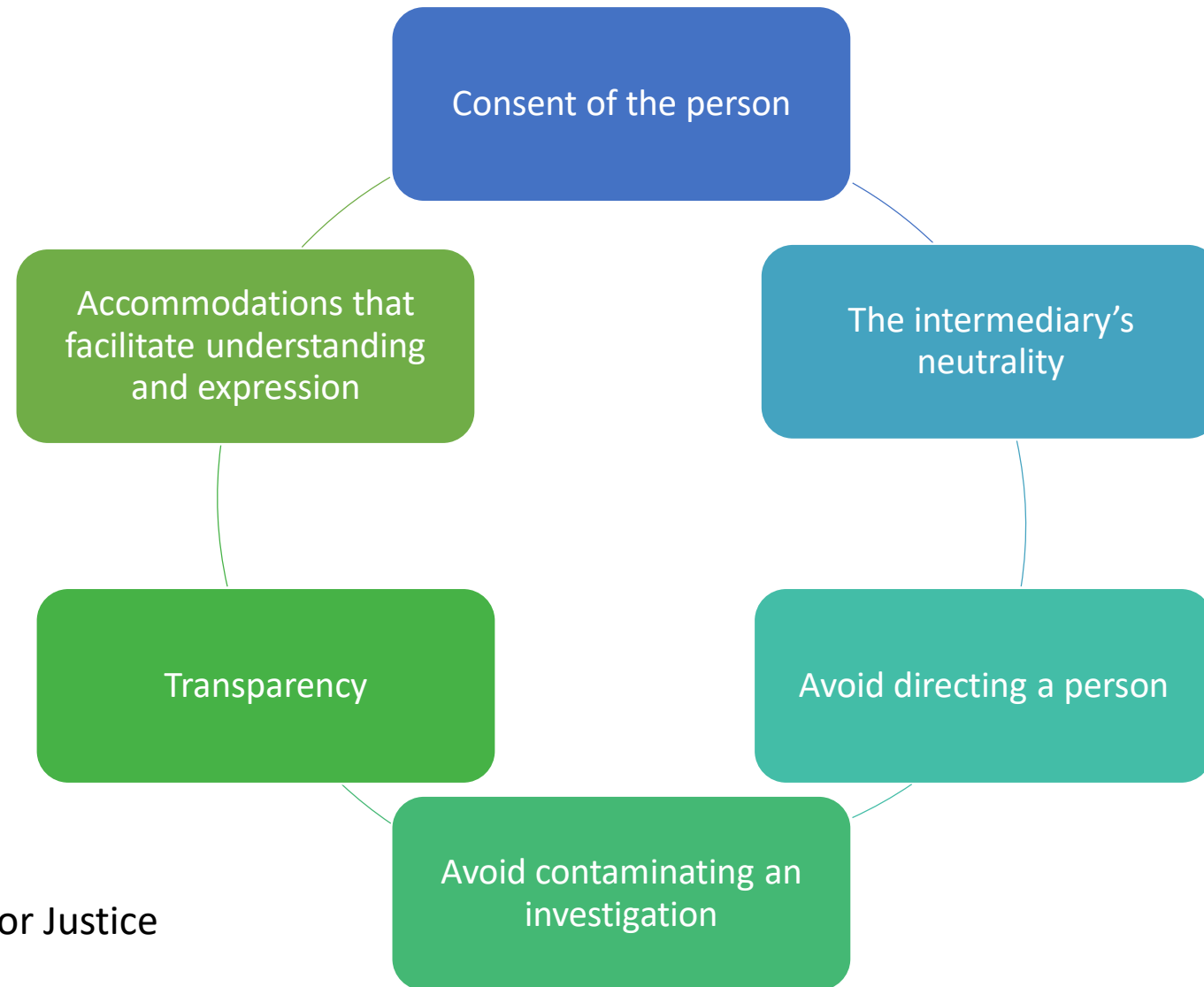
Report on Intermediaries for justice around the globe

- **Explores the role of the intermediary in 8 jurisdictions**
- **Variation in:**
 - Terminology
 - Legislation
 - Professional background
 - Training
- **Outlines some basic operating principles**

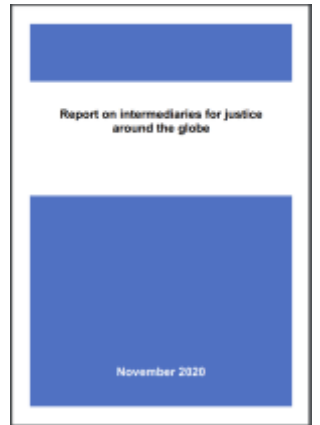


Equal access to justice

Basic operating principles

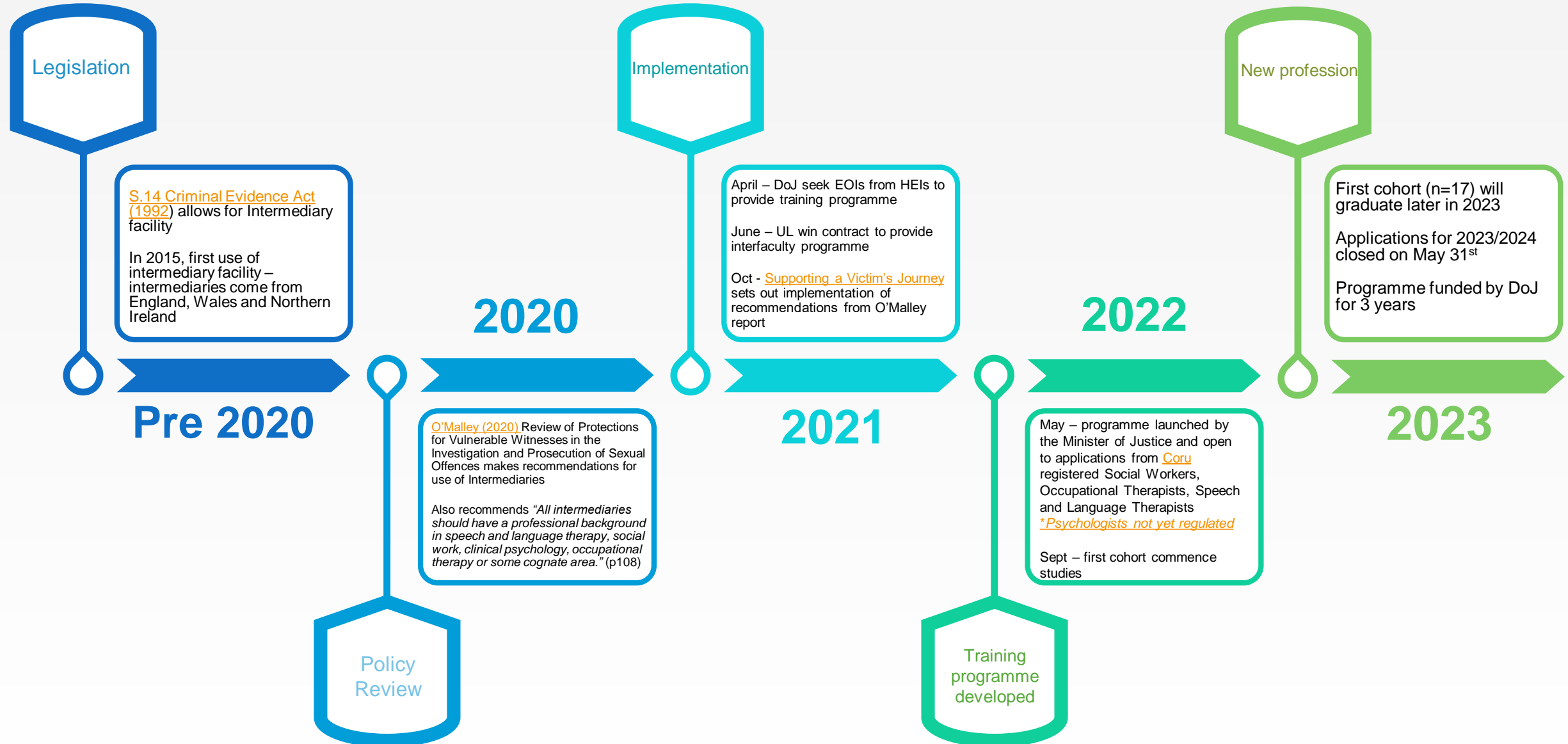


(Report on Intermediaries for Justice around the Globe, 2020)





Building capacity



Timeline of the Professional Diploma in Intermediary Studies (PDIS), University of Limerick



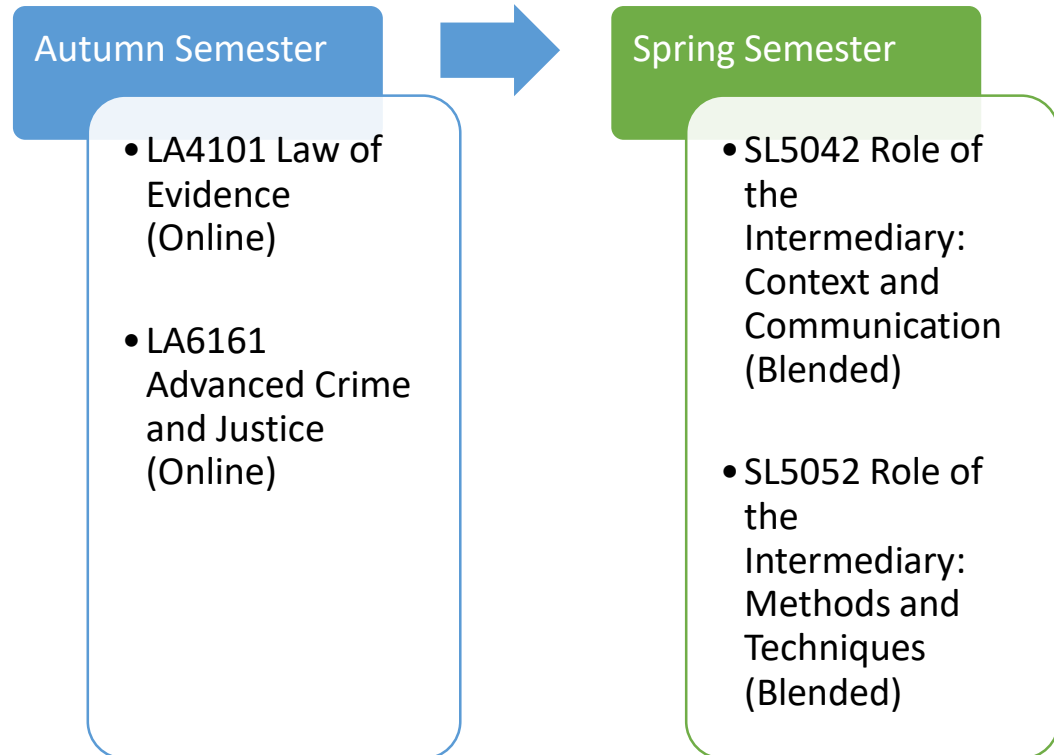
Professional Diploma in Intermediary Studies (PDIS)

Interfaculty programme

- School of Law
- School of Allied Health

Eligibility Criteria:

- Minimum of a second class honours primary degree (2.2)
- CORU registered
 - Speech and Language Therapist,
 - Occupational Therapist or,
 - Social Worker





Building capacity

Law of evidence

Examination of the main topics within the Law of Evidence

Crime and criminal justice

Critical insight into crime and criminal justice & the reality of the criminal justice process

Special measures

Special measures and accommodations for individuals with SLCN

Intermediary practice around the globe

Critically reflect on the scope of the role

Vulnerable population

Differentiate SLCN across the lifespan, making critical choices in assessment approach and recommendations

Roles and responsibilities

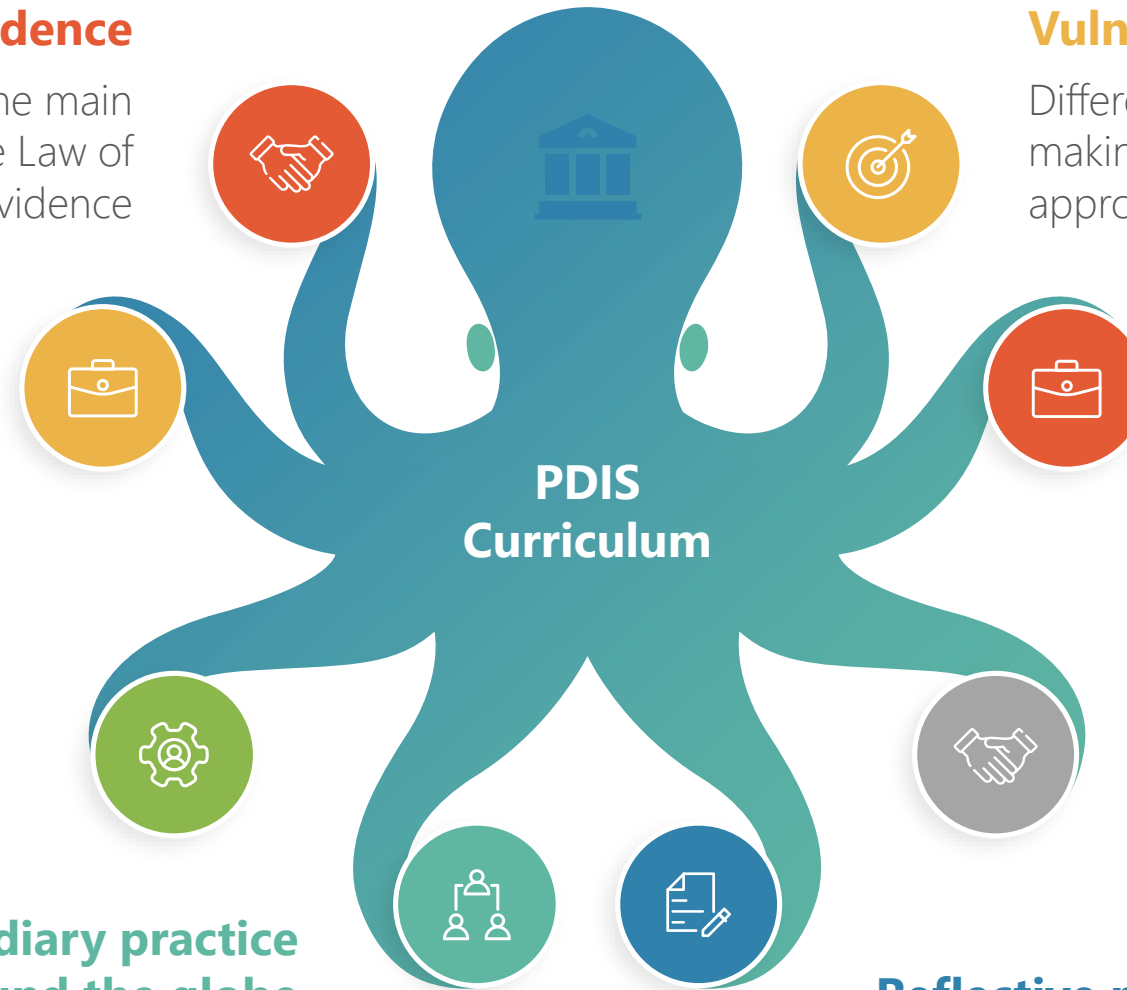
Differentiate different practitioners within the judicial process and appreciate the importance of effective multi-disciplinary working

Inclusive communication

Understand principles of inclusive communication & analyse communication barriers and facilitators

Reflective practice

Acknowledge influence of own attitudes and values



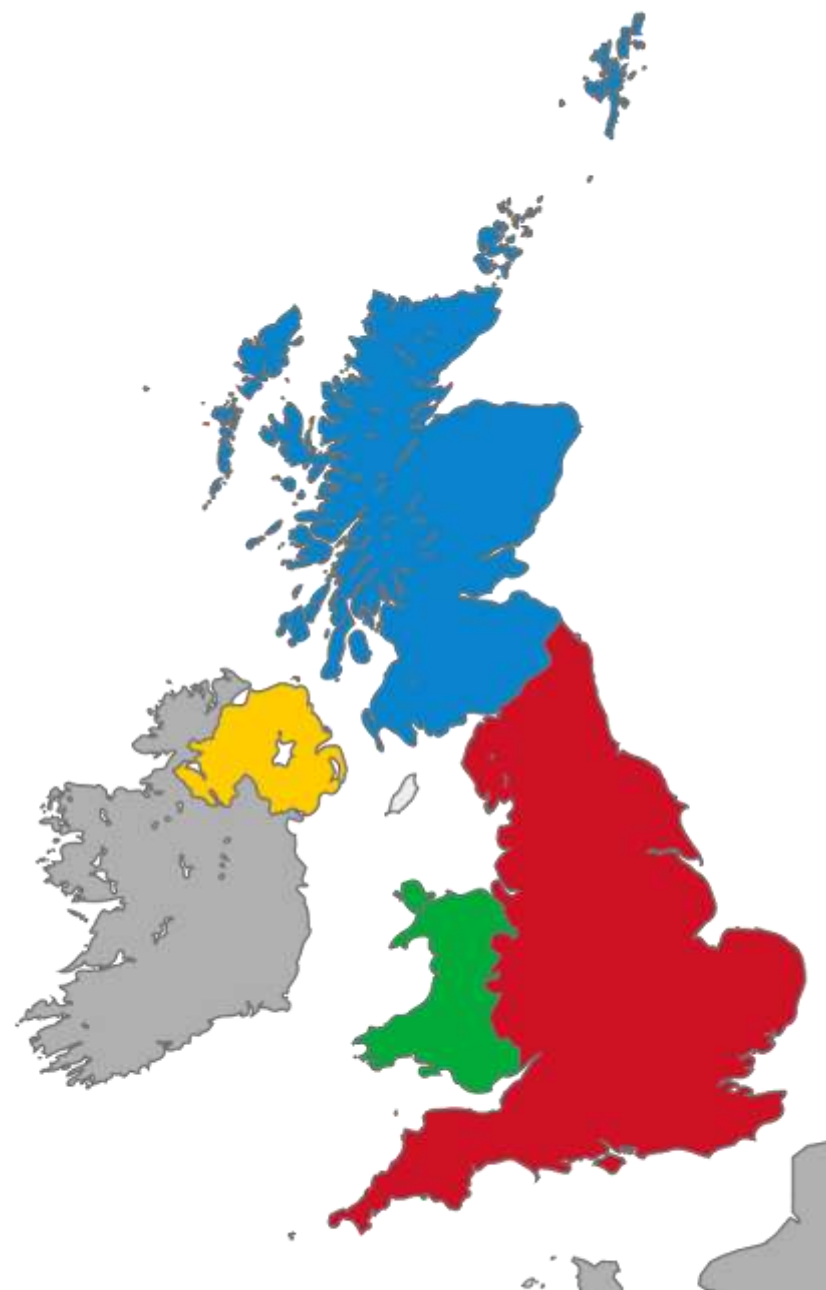
Our close neighbours

England and Wales

- Witness Intermediary Scheme
- HMCTS intermediary services
 - “two-tier system” Henderson, 2015)

Northern Ireland

- Northern Ireland Registered Intermediary Scheme
 - Unitary system (Taggart, 2021)



Sharing Knowledge

Sharing knowledge

- Learning from other countries
(Cooper and Wurtzel 2014, Cooper and Mattison 2017, Howard et al 2020, Kearns et al 2023)
- Unique knowledge and transformative impact
 - “...bringing a valuable new body of knowledge into the youth justice system” (Howard et al. 2020, p.275)
 - Benefits for the individual and the system (Plotnikoff and Woolfson 2007, Department of Justice Northern Ireland 2015)



Sharing Knowledge

Leading the way

- Training
- Education
- Research...

- bit.ly/43yoUf5



UNIVERSITY OF
LIMERICK
OILScoil, Limerick



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Department of Justice

#ENGAGEUL2023



ENGAGE 2023
Inclusive Justice Knowledge Exchange
Wednesday, 21st of June 2023

This summer our first cohort of registered intermediaries graduate from the University of Limerick. We are delighted to invite you to this *free* knowledge exchange event focusing on the establishment of the role in Ireland

We welcome practitioners, policy makers and researchers across law, health and social care to this event to learn more and share ideas on how the role can be established in the Irish Justice System.

The event will be held on the **21st of June 2023** at the **University of Limerick**.

About the event

- A combination of talks, poster presentations and interactive workshops
- Lunch will be provided
- Option to attend online

Follow the link or scan the QR code to find out more!

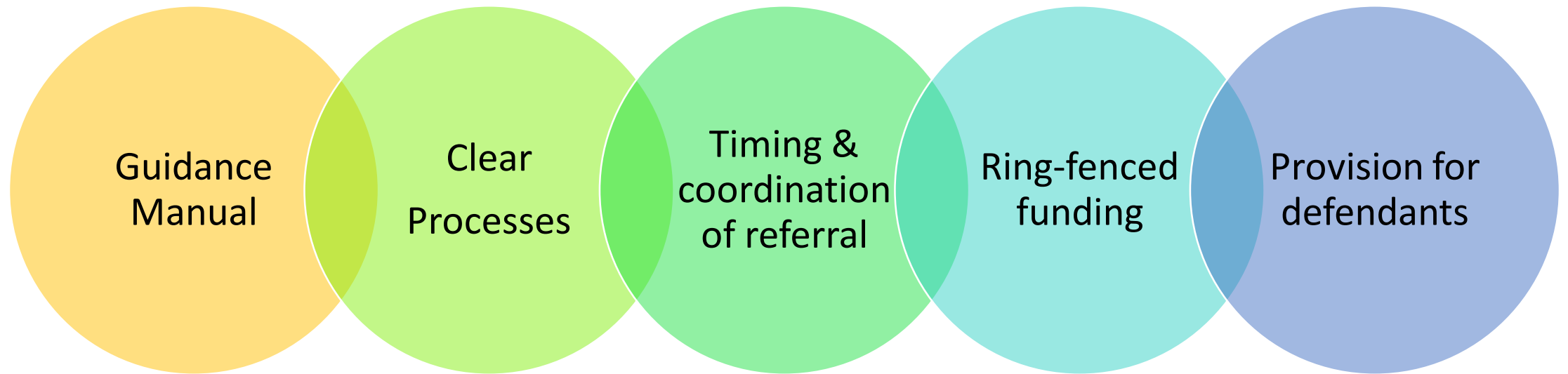


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Leading Intermediary Scheme

Priorities for current cohort of intermediaries



Leading Intermediary Scheme

Thank you from the PDIS programme Team

- Dr Áine Kearns, BSc. MSc. PhD. Lecturer and Course Director in Intermediary Studies, lecturer in Speech and Language Therapy – Aine.Kearns@ul.ie



- Dr Alan Cusack, BCL, LLM, Dip. Emp, PhD, Senior Lecturer in the School of Law



- Dr Aoife Gallagher BSc. MSc. PhD. Lecturer and Course Director in Speech and Language Therapy



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