



Association for Family &  
Systemic Psychotherapy

# Publishing committee report

## 2026 AGM

**Report period:** 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

**Committee:** Publishing

**Chair:** Carole Payne

**Committee members:**

**Context editor-in-chief:** Ged Smith

**Context deputy editor:** Carole Payne

**Student and board rep:** Jasmin Izagaren

**Members:** Chip Chimera, Stuart Delve, Amy Doyle, Katie Drew, Dimitris Mouzas, Judy Sutton, Yoko Totsuka, Caroline Wriglesworth

**Emeritus member:** John Hills

**New members:** Abiola Johnson, Sana Katan, Eleanor Osman, Josie Reeder, Matt Selman, TK Vincent, Susan Whiteley

**Retiring members within period:** Liz Burns, Abiola Johnson, Charlotte Schembri

Supported by **publications manager:** Louise Norris

## Review of activities during the last 12 months

Over the last year we have:

Published 6 issues of *Context*, four on important themes and two general issues containing many varied articles, relevant to practice:

197 February: General issue edited by Ged Smith

198 April: 'The art, craft and application of systemic questioning' edited by Matt Selman

199 June: 'Past, present and future: AFT at 50' edited by Abi Jordan, Judith Lask and Hannah Sherbersky

200 August: General issue edited by Carole Payne

201 October: 'Pride: Celebrating queer lives and telling queer stories' edited by Sarah Favier and Rosie Buckland

202 December: 'Ecotherapy, environment, dystopian futures' edited by Hugh Palmer and Chiara Fortina Santin

We have held four committee meetings, three online, one hybrid (face to face/online).

New committee members have been recruited, to increase diversity of committee membership and in anticipation of possible increased workload in relation to publishing.

Six issue editor/author/reader discussion groups have been held, following each issue, facilitated by committee members.

*Context* individual issue sales have significantly increased year on year.

We were represented by some committee members at the annual conference where we were able to meet readers and authors.

We received positive feedback about the 'Context is everything' T-shirts which were successfully sold at conference and afterwards.

A complaint about lack of acknowledgement of a source was well managed.

Policies have been reviewed and revised in relation to the use of AI, plagiarism, and consent and confidentiality, and submitted to the board for ratification.

Having been informed that the *Journal of Family Therapy* will no longer be publishing book reviews, *Context* has been considering requests to undertake these, forwarded by *Journal* editor Sarah Helps, in addition to book reviews which have historically submitted to *Context* from other sources.

## Plans for the next 12 months

Over the next 12 months we will:

- Continue to publish *Context* magazine at the established high standard:
  - 203 February: General issue edited by Ged Smith
  - 204 April: 'Looked after children: Heart, hope and home' edited by Mark Chidgey and Jo George
  - 205 June: 'Neuroscience and family systems: You've got another think coming!' edited by Chip Chimera and Rudi Dallos
  - 206 August: General issue edited by Carole Payne
  - 207 October: 'Developments in NVR' edited by Pete Brown and Lydia Stafford
  - 208 December: 'Passion projects: Working with couples and other adult intimate relationships' edited by Nicola McCarry and Katrina Waller
- Continue with regular meetings
- Focus on strengthening active and involved committee membership
- Continue with author/reader discussion groups relating to each issue
- Further amend/agree revised policies, depending on approval/comments/suggestions from the board
- Represent the publishing committee at the annual conference in Glasgow.

## General comments

We are now achieving stability and calm after a difficult period, which is a credit to the commitment and professionalism of all those involved.

We send good wishes to previous members who have stepped down.

Thanks to all those involved in the collaborative endeavour which is *Context*.