

# FMC Self-Regulation Framework

## FMCA Launch Conference

London 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014

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**Stan Lester Developments**  
*education and training systems*

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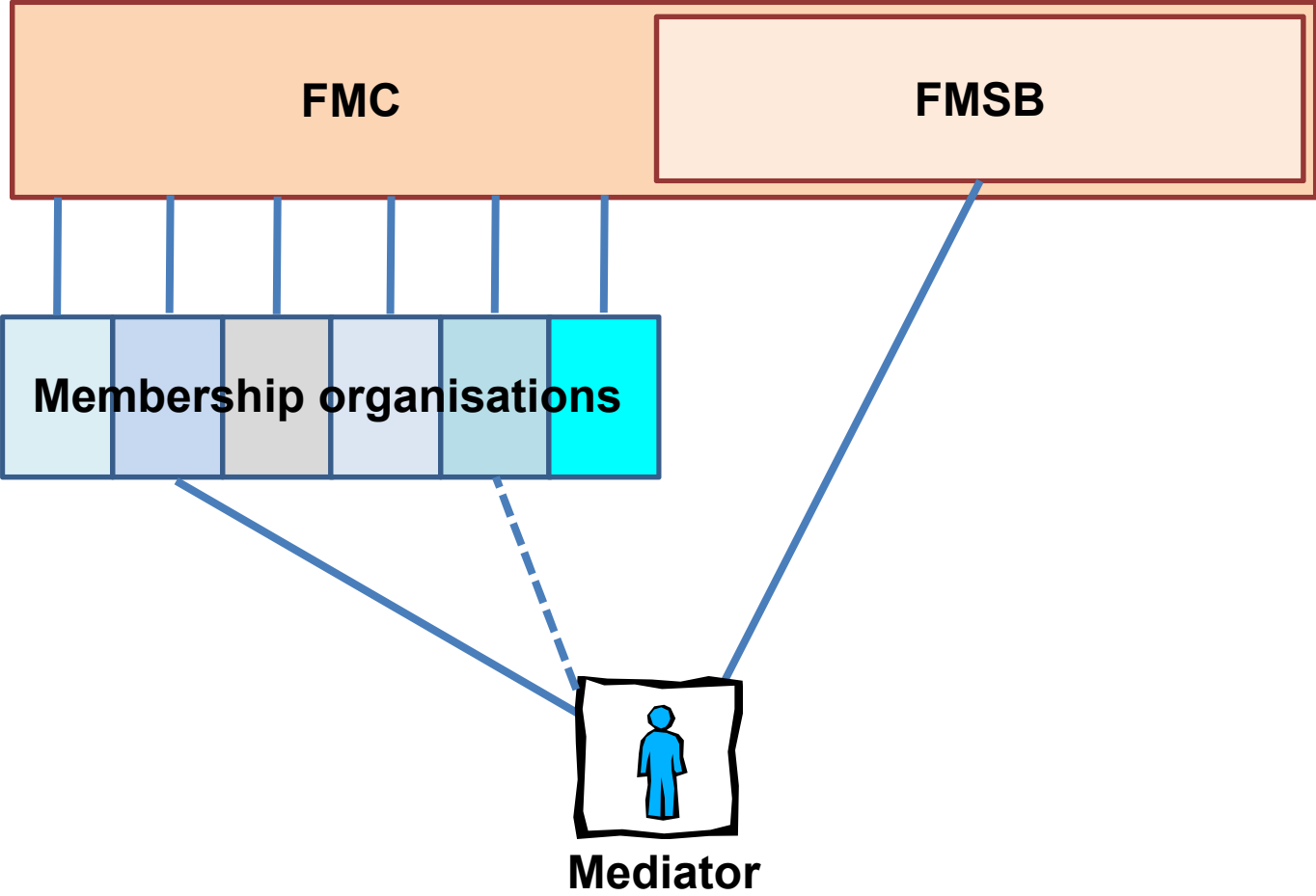
## Single qualified status and self-regulation framework

- ❖ 2011 Family Justice Review.
- ❖ 2012 John McEldowney's review of FMC.
- ❖ 2013 scoping study.
- ❖ 2014 framework development.
- ❖ 2015 implementation.

*Last chance for family mediation to work as a self-regulating profession?*

## Family Mediation Standards Board (ex-PSAB)

- ❖ Oversees standards and regulatory functions.
- ❖ Part of FMC but independent for day-to-day operation.
- ❖ Mediator and independent members.
- ❖ Mediator members won't represent MOs.
- ❖ No simultaneous membership of Board and Council – can cross-observe.



# Professional competence standards

## Theoretical underpinning

Theories-in-use  
Principles and ethics  
Methods and techniques

## Professionalism and ethics

Guidelines and capability  
Maintaining competence  
Respect for participants  
Confidentiality and safeguarding  
Integrity and fairness

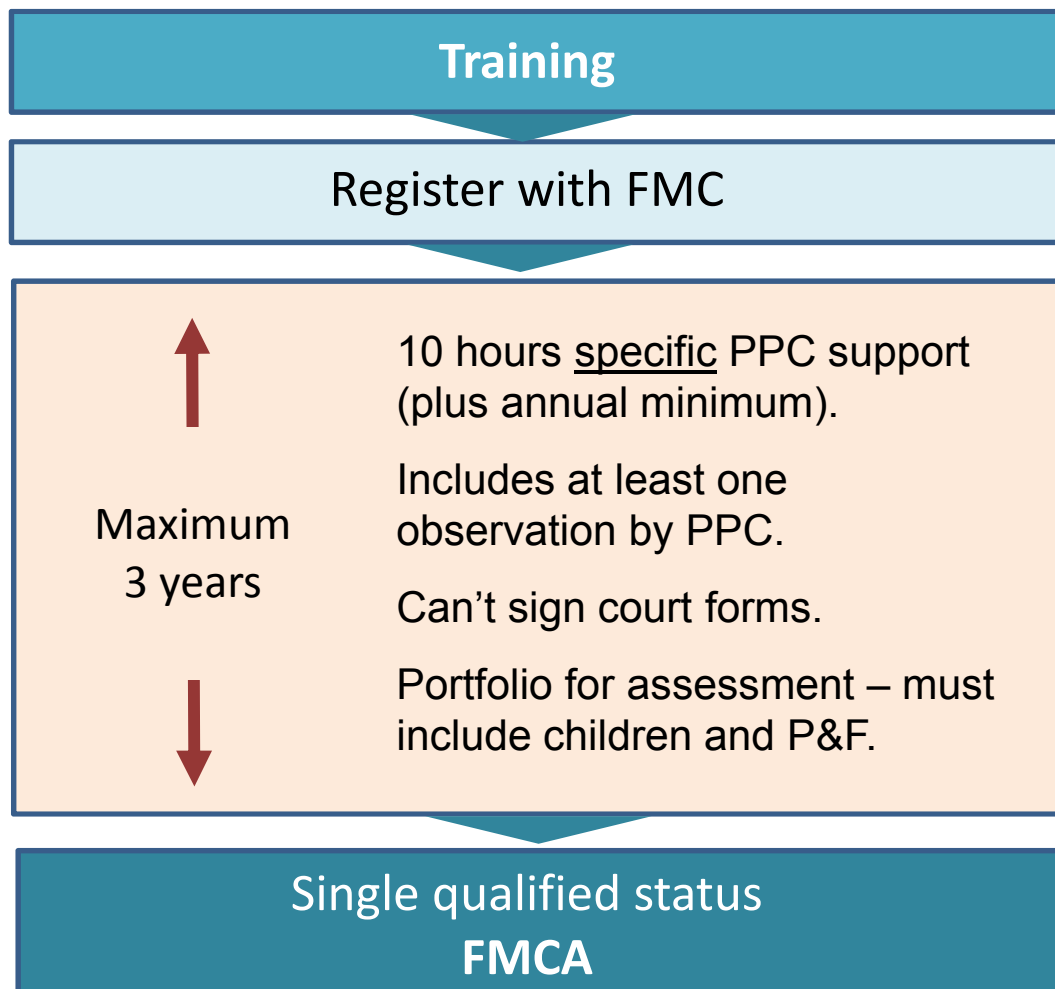
## Mediation practice

Explaining mediation  
Assessing suitability for mediation  
Eligibility for financial support  
Abuse and safeguarding  
Services and options  
Environment, agenda and ground rules  
Skills and interventions  
Maintaining progress  
Outcome statement  
Records and files  
Reviewing cases and practice

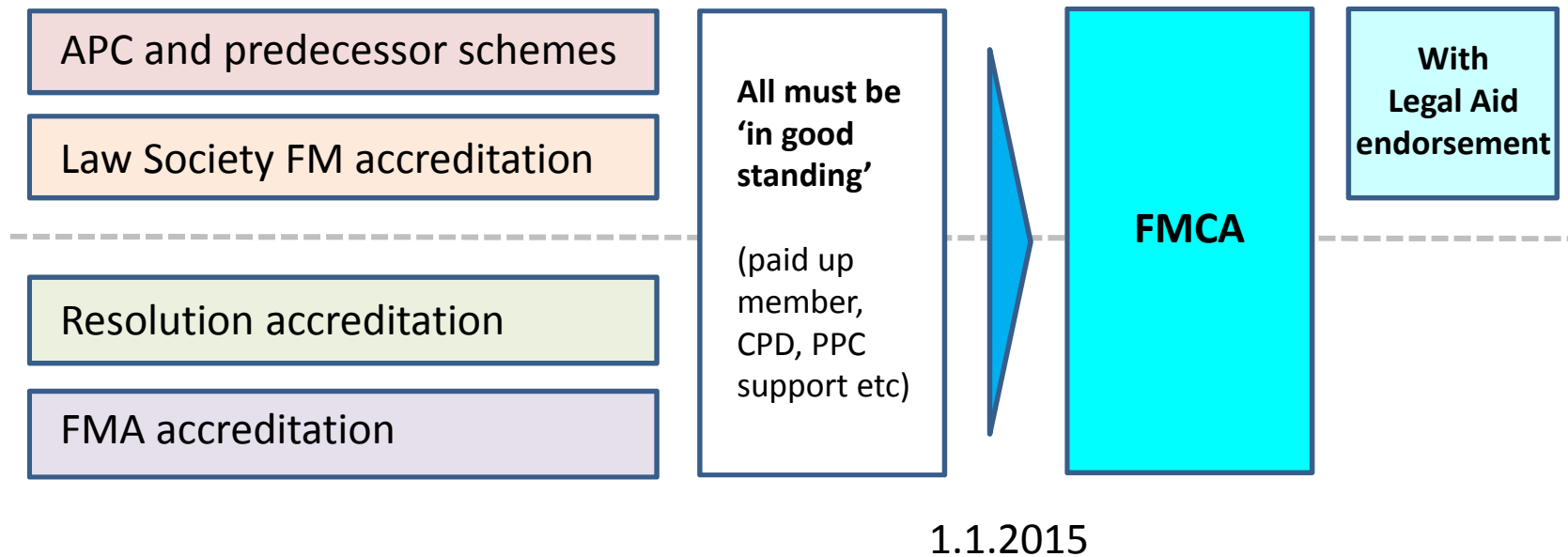
## Initial training

- ❖ Course approval process.
- ❖ Minimum 60 hours, including 30 hours skills practice.
- ❖ Minimum level 5.
- ❖ Include MIAMs, children, property/finance.
- ❖ Assessed.

## Post-training qualifying process



# Transfer in





## Post-qualification

- ❖ FMCA is a qualified status, not a certificate – it can lapse, be revoked, or be resigned from.
  
- ❖ Reaccreditation (not reassessment) triennially:
  - Record and review self-managed CPD (no points/hours, approved courses or PPC approval)
  - Minimum annual practice hours and PPC support.
  
- ❖ Complaints and disciplinary procedure with MOs, overseen by FMC (also final court of appeal).
  
- ❖ Revocation of FMCA cannot be escaped by switching MO.

# Professional Practice Consultants

- ❖ Clarification of role:
  - Contracted to mediator/their organisation, but have a duty of care to the public and the profession
  - Cannot be responsible for mediator's work, but must act if aware of unethical or incompetent practice
  - Cannot investigate a complaint against 'their' mediator.
  
- ❖ All PPCs register with FMC and renew triennially.

# Review

- ❖ Practical difficulties, system issues, quality of guidance.
- ❖ Robustness and appropriateness of:
  - Initial training
  - Post-training support and supervision
  - Assessment.