**Children and Families Third Sector Forum – Tuesday 7 Sept 2021**

**Action note**

1. Welcome and Apologies

**Attending**

Helen Davis, Chair (YAP), Raymond Branton (FCDWL), Lesley Mount (Signpost), Joanna van den Berg ( Firefly-arts), Monica Mochar (WellBeing Scotland ), Denise Arbeiter (West Lothian Council), Rosemary McCabe (Children Ist), Stuart Barrie (Homestart), Rania Qussasi (WLFSS Action for Children), Alex Collop (Circle), Wilma Murray (Carers of West Lothian), Fiona Brown (WLDAS), Lesley Brogan (WLDAS), Alan McCloskey (VSGWL)

**Apologies**

Daisy Drop In, Declan Harrigan (Smile counselling), Simon McGowan (Children 1st), Rosemary McCabe (Children 1st), Lisa Drinnan (CAB), Mark Kennedy (Circle)

1. Minutes of previous meeting / Matters arising

The note of the previous meeting was agreed for accuracy.

It was agreed to amend the date of the December meeting from 2nd December to 7th December. Subsequent meeting set for 11 January.

1. Presentation

Lesley Brogan from WLDAS gave a presentation about the Choose IT, Own IT, Share IT collaboration project aimed at tobacco prevention and education with Fast Forward and NHS Lothian.

Lesley said she would welcome involvement from any groups working with young people.

**Action: Helen to circulate PowerPoint presentation.**

1. Feedback from Children & Families Strategic Planning group meeting, ADP Children and YP sub group meeting, Community Safety group etc – brief update.

Denise advised that there was no update in relation to the Children & Families Strategic planning group meeting. Date for next meeting is 20th September.

Alex updated on developments with the ADP Children and YP sub group meeting. He advised of two funding streams that had been launched by the Scottish Government, namely a Drug Mission fund and a Children & Families fund. The funds were being managed through the Corra Foundation. The Drugs Mission fund would consider needs and gaps. Criteria and guidance for the fund would focus on family work and would take cognisance of specialist support and any gaps for older young people.

Alex advised there was a 6-7 week window and that this could be a good opportunity for a partner bid. The next meeting was 2pm on 15th September.

Alex invited any thoughts or ideas.

**Action: All to consider and provide any experiences.**

Helen advised that a new Community Safety strategy was on target for release in January 2022. There were no major concerns. She noted that the Community Safety Group would be keeping a watching brief for any potential concerns around Halloween.

1. GIRFEC update and CLD Plan update

Helen advised that she was still to speak with Beverley.

1. C & F Mental Health Partnership development – Update

There was a wide-ranging discussion regarding the lack of progress. All felt there was a lack of clarity and timescales had slipped. All agreed that there was confusion about what was happening, referral processes

It was acknowledged that this a complicated, multi-layered model and there were concerns about the reporting process. Concerns were also highlighted regarding u18s and adult MH referral pathways. The next full meeting is 22 Sept.

**Action: Helen agreed to forward the model.**

**Action: Lesley to take concerns to the sub group meeting planned for 8 Sept.**

1. Agency updates

A number of attended gave brief updates on key developments.

* Stuart advised that Homestart services were moving back to office rather then home working.
* Fiona advised that WLDAS services were beginning to re-open. They had seen a flurry of referrals. Recruitment for their vacant post was ongoing
* Monica advised that WellBeing Scotland continued to offer 1-2-1 counselling in schools and remained busy. They will be adopting a blended/hybrid approach moving forward.
* Wilma advised that COWL would be celebrating their 30th anniversary at this year`s AGM. They were hoping to move to revert to face to face services again.
* Raymond reported that FCDWL had positively seen kids go away for a residential
* Helen advised they hoped to do similar later in the year

1. Funding / Partnership Opportunities

Helen advised there are no updates yet but she will update soonest.

1. AOCB

N/A

1. Future meeting dates:-
   1. 5th October 1.30-3pm
   2. 9th November 1.30-3pm
   3. 7th December 1.30-3pm
   4. 11th January 1.30-3pm