

Note of Children and Families Forum meeting

Tuesday 21 June

1.00 – 2.30 pm – hybrid meeting

Voluntary Sector Gateway, 20-22 King St, Bathgate EH48 1AX

Chair: Helen Davis (WLYAP)

Note taker: Tracy Kerr (VSGWL)

Attendees: Beth Maclean (safe families), Caroline Millar (Children 1st), Denise Arbeiter (West Lothian Council), Elaine Kinloch (LYPP), Hazel Tyson (Circle), Lesley Mount (Signpost), Rania Qussasi (Action for Children)

Apologies: Alex Collop (Circle), Alison (Carers of West Lothian), Andrew Murray (Safe Families), Collette Moran (School Bank West Lothian), Garry Walker (The Larder), Monica Mochar (WellBeing Scotland), Raymond Branton (FCDWL), Wilma Murray (Carers of West Lothian)

1	Welcome and Apologies	Action
	Helen welcomed all to the meeting. Six people attended in person and three online.	
2	Action note from previous meeting/ Matters arising	
	Action points from previous minutes have been included on the agenda.	
3	Brief Feedback from other meetings - Children & Families Strategic Planning group meeting, ADP/ Whole Family Approach PSP, Community Safety group, C&F Performance Framework working group.	
	<p>Sub group outcomes framework and indicator.</p> <p>Children and Families Strategic planning group.</p> <p>The main agenda item for the next meeting will be children’s mental health and wellbeing. This will be lead by Gillian Amos. The next meeting is in a few weeks.</p> <p>There was a discussion around high demand for services and referrals being received directly from Cahms or families being told by Cahms to get in touch with community services.</p> <p>ADP</p> <p>There have been no further meetings. Denise will be attending in the interim until someone has been appointed.</p> <p>Whole family approach</p> <p>Corra funding has been received to provide services to support families and young people with substance issues however the posts for staff have not yet been filled. Work is ongoing to create a name for the service, other than whole family approach, which can be confused with other services.</p> <p>Community safety group</p> <p>They meet weekly with 6 weekly community safety meeting. They are working on creating a new template for recording cases to make it clearer if they are having an impact on the children and families.</p> <p>It is currently gala season which can bring more challenges.</p>	<p>Helen to update all after next strategic planning group.</p>
4	Trauma informed Practice – standing item	
	Helen has sent out the questionnaire about trauma informed training but has had limited response so will consider sending through WLSN to get more responses.	<p>Helen to send questionnaire through WLSN.</p> <p>Helen to check with wellbeing</p>

	This topic was raised at the last strategic meeting. A business support officer has been recruited for trauma informed. They will be a link and will work to map what is currently being provided.	Scotland about training.
5	WLC/ Scottish Gov – summer funding	
	There was a discussion around the application process and how difficult it was to stick to the criteria when applying for the fund. Where the request for something straightforward, there did not seem to be any issues ie passes for attractions. However others found it difficult. Lots of time was spent in applying for a relatively small award.	
6	Roots - Update	
	Helen gave an update on Roots. There have been lots of meetings and a presentation on roots was given to the children and families strategic group. It was well received. They are looking for clear ways to link Roots to listen and link once it is fully up and running. The listen and link service has been delayed due to technology problems. There was concern raised over how the reduction in funding will affect the service. There is currently no indication of how much it is being cut by. Denise suggested any evaluation of the service should include projections and evidence the success of early intervention. The group voiced that it is difficult to prove what the outcomes would have been if the service had not been used. Moved on the info leaflets. A ministereal visit had been planned but was cancelled at the last minute. It is likely that it will be rescheduled and all agreed it is a positive thing to happen.	
7	Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework - Update Draft Commissioning Plan – Ongoing item	
	Helen handed out a document showing the framework indicators. Copies will be sent out to those not in attendance. The document is high level with columns 1 and 2 being set by the Scottish Government. Each topic is mapped to a children and families priority. The framework is aimed at education and most of topics require input from education with only topic 6 – play, looking for input from the third sector. Suggested this may come from Roots but at present this would not be possible as the data isn't suitable for the level required for national reporting. West Lothian have not taken part in the SG H&WB Census however the information is all available from elsewhere. Education will now review this.	Helen to send out framework indicators to those not present at the meeting.
8	TSSG – Update (Raymond) VSGWL – Update (Tracy)	
	There has not been a TSSG meeting since the last Children and Families forum. They are due to meet on Thursday 30 th June. VSGWL Princes trust are running six week courses in June and July for both construction and social care for young people. Community mental health and wellbeing fund, we hope to hear Scottish Govt about the next round of funds soon. Keep an eye on our website and social media. The Gateway is a membership organization. There are many benefits to being a member. If you are not already a member, please join for FREE by filling out this simple form. https://www.voluntarysectorgateway.org/who-we-are/join/ . If you are already a member, you will be shown on our members page https://www.voluntarysectorgateway.org/who-we-are/our-members/ .	Tracy to circulate details of courses. All to consider becoming a member of the Gateway for free.
9	Member Information/ Updates	
	Signpost now have new premises in Livingston Family Centre.	

10	A.O.C.B./D.O.N.M	
There will be no meeting in July, the next Children and Families forum will be on Tuesday 23 rd August, 1.00-2.30pm at The Gateway, 20-22 King Street, Bathgate, EH48 1AX.		