Note of meeting of the Children and Families Third Sector Forum

Tuesday 30 May 2023

**1.00 -2.30 hybrid** on Teams and at Gateway

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| Chair:Guest Speaker:  | Helen Davis (WLYAP) | Note taker: | Tracy Kerr (VSGWL) |

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| Attendees: Caroline Millar (Children 1st), Hazel Tyson (Circle), Gail McNair (Homestart), Tracy Murdoch (Kidzeco), Zoe Brown (NSPCC), Raymond Branton (Playworks), Jocelyn Crawford (Safe Families ), Garry Walker (The Larder), Emma Jackson (Wellbeing Scotland), Sharlene Boyd (West Lothian Council), Fiona Brown (WLDAS), Jennifer Bruce (WLYAP)Apologies: Jannette Mitchell (Action for Children), Wilma Murray, (Carers of WL) , Moreen Watson (Nightstop), Daisy Drop In |  |
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| **Agenda Item** | **Decision/Action** | **Action By** |
| 1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Helen welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted all apologies.  |  |  |
| 1. **Action note from previous meeting/ Matters arising**
* There was a discussion around the previous action point looking for third sector representation on the “Smaller priority groups” for the strategic leads of priority workstream
* Helen reported that she has not yet been able to clarify the contact details for safer women scheme under community safety as the relevant person has been off sick.
* Trauma informed – Isobel was unable to attend this meeting but will come to the next planned C&F forum meeting.
* Tracy reported that it would be possible to have a PDF of trauma informed services under the children and families forum page on the VSGWL website.
 | * Sharlene will clarify what this is and if it is still outstanding.
* Helen will advise once she has been able to contact.
* Tracy to add Isobel to invite for the next C&F forum meeting.
 | SharleneHelenTracy  |
| 1. **Brief Feedback from other meetings**

**Children & Families Strategic Planning group meeting** The most recent meeting included presentations and discussions about the Children Services Plan, Whole family Wellbeing Fund and The Promise. **Food Network**The money for Q1 has been distributed and data capture forms have been issued to collate the data required for the funder. The steering group will be meeting and looking at the best way of capturing eligibility for Q2. **Helen reported she had been approached about a further small amount of money and had suggested this be directed to the community growers’ group.** **Policy Development and Scrutiny Panels (PDSP)**Helen reminded all to contact the relevant PDSP representative if anyone had anything that needed to be brought to the PDSP on behalf of the third sector. **GIRFEC working group**This is a practitioner working group who will meet throughout the year. Meetings will be recorded for those not able to attend. Anyone interested in presenting at the practitioners network, should get in touch with Caroline. **Child planning meeting**Jane Ridgeway has sent out a document detailing how child planning meetings are being reviewed.**Childrens Rights Group** This is a new group that Raymond is attending on behalf of the sector and will work with organisations promoting children’s rights. Funding has been received through the whole family wellbeing fund to create a children’s rights website. This will be developed with input from younger people.  | .  |  |
| 1. **Agency Presentations –** Isobel Denholm was not available for this meeting but will attend next meeting.

Helen advised that agency presentations from organisations attending the forum are welcome. Zoe Brown will present at the August meeting.   |  |  |
| 1. **Trauma Informed Practice – standing item**Fiona and Hazel advised that they sit on groups about trauma informed care. Alan represents the sector on the Trauma Informed Practice Board.

There was a discussion around STILL training which Fiona advised was very useful. The item will remain on the agenda as it is a priority.  | Ask Alan for an update from the board meetings. Helen will speak to Alyssa Lee (psychologist NHS Lothian) about access to training | HelenHelen |
| 1. **WLC Children’s Services Plan/ Performance Framework**

Update about WFWF next steps will be sent out by Sharlene. Helen has sent out the services plan This is the last version to be signed off for approval.  |  |  |
| 1. **Mental Health Oversight Group - Update**

Helen gave an update on the meetings she attends for mapping and resources. They are currently analysing the categorisation of mental health and changes will be proposed to the tiers based on the results. They are also looking at events for participation from young people. Garry reported form the meetings he attends that there was nothing further from the training oversight group. The last meeting focussed on developing an overview of the vision and action plan   |  |  |
| 1. **Whole Family Wellbeing Fund**

Sharlene confirmed that a summary had been sent out and will be discussed at the next strategic planning group then emails will be sent out to advise if applications have been successful or not.  |  |  |
| 1. **The Promise**

Helen has circulated the Promise implementation document. This will remain a standing item on the agenda for this forum. |  |  |
| 1. **TSSG – Update**
* The council working group has resumed with dates being set for the rest of the year.
* Communities mental health funding for year 3 has been confirmed by the Scottish Government. Once the award for West Lothian has been confirmed, the Gateway will be working on the application timings and processs.
* The draft annual report for the sector has been submitted. 13 case studies were sent in, which was a reduced number but still positive as the last report was only done at the end of 2022.
* WLSEN – No support is currently being provided by them. Raymond has received a report which he will send round.
* Raymond raised a concern from Angela on behalf of the employability forum about the level up attainment group at the PDSP meeting he attended. A meeting is to be arranged to discuss this.
* The next TSSG meeting on 22 June clashes with the WLVN celebration so this is being rescheduled.

**VSGWL - Update*** Tracy asked for confirmation that all were happy with the information being forwarded on. All agreed anything irrelevant can be deleted.
* Volunteer fayres organised by WLVN are being held throughout West Lothian during Volunteers week.
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| 1. **Member Updates**
* Zoe - NSPCC have a new hub in Edinburgh focussing on early years and prevention of child sexual abuse. Recruitment is ongoing to fill the roles in the hub. Zoe will present at the next children and families forum.
* Helen – WLYAP advised that they have received funding for summer projects with targeted teenagers and families. This Scottish government funding is managed through WLC CLD Service – approx. 40 project have received funding. Project details will start to be announced soon.
* Emma- Wellbeing Scotland has again been awarded the contract for counselling in primary schools. The normal age range for the service is 10-12 however if certain criteria is met, this will be open for ages 5-9.
* The Roots project has received a 3% uplift for this year.
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| 1. **AOCB**

All expressed sadness that Blackburn family centre has now closed. Polbeth counselling service has stopped too due to lack of funding. The Cashback: Connecting Communities project will be launched at West Lothian College on 9th June. Funding has been awarded for 3 years to work with young people who have, or are at risk of offending. This will complement the Roots project currently running as it is targeting a different age group. A further update was received from Moreen Watson at Nightstop by email after the meeting. *Could you please let everyone know if they would like to see round our new offices and 7 flats (Which look amazing) for young people at our new base in Dedridge please contact me directly as soon as possible by email or phone. I can arrange to show them round before our young people move in. Once young people are in the flats, I will not be able to show them to anyone.* |  |  |
| 1. **DONM**

The next meeting is on Tuesday 27th June hybrid either at Carers of West Lothian or on TEAMS.  |  |  |