

COMMUNITY SECTOR ROUNDTABLE

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 10 May 2011

Large Executive Conference Room, Level 2
Department for Child Protection
189 Royal Street, East Perth

Meeting commenced at 9:30am

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the Community Sector Roundtable meeting.

Present

Mr Tony Pietropiccolo	Centrecare Inc
Ms Tricia Murray	Wanslea Family Services Inc
Mr Basil Hanna	Parkerville Children and Youth Care Inc
Mr Steve Glew	Department for Child Protection
Ms Kay Benham	Department for Child Protection
Ms Rae Walter	Ngala
Mr John Berger (proxy)	Anglicare WA Inc
Ms Cheryl Barnett	Department for Child Protection
Mr Ashley Reid	MercyCare
Ms Angela Hartwig	Women's Council for Domestic & Family Violence Services (WA)
Ms Debbie Henderson	The Family Inclusion Network of WA Inc
Ms Irina Catalini	WACOSS

In attendance

Mr Terry Murphy	Department for Child Protection
Ms Sandra Flanagan	Department for Child Protection
Ms Tina Pritchard (item 3.4)	Department for Child Protection

Apologies

Mr Ian Carter	Anglicare WA Inc
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2. Minutes of meeting held 12 April 2011

The minutes from the Community Sector Roundtable meeting held on 12 April 2011 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

3. Business Arising

3.1 Progress Report on Secondary Family Support Network

Ms Benham advised that the Working Group has now completed the following:

- Set of service standards;
- Roles and Responsibilities;
- MOU - Information Sharing protocol;

- Assessment and Planning Framework;
- Evaluation Plan;
- Capacity Building Strategy; and
- IT Report.

Additionally:

- KPMG has delivered the Operational Framework
- The Resource Model is expected to be finalised prior to the next meeting.
- The Communication Strategy and Tools and Practice Guidelines will be completed by the end of June.
- Conceptual Framework setting out the interface between DCP and the family support network will be completed by the end of May 2011.
- An RFQ will be prepared for the evaluation of the innovations phase.
- Work is underway for the development of the IT system. The Department's ASSIST system will be utilised for the innovations phase.
- Anticipating implementation by the end of this year.

Further discussion ensued including:

- The work of the Steering Group is on-going.
- The Department will continue to look at locations/agencies with existing networks and supports for the development/implementation of a network.
- Communities for Children Plus will add value and connect with the network as appropriate.
- It is anticipated that there will be opportunity to roll networks out more broadly in 2013/2014.
- The evaluation process will begin when the network is implemented. It will be an Action Learning Evaluation over the first 10 months of operation.
- Continued learning will also be gained from experiences in Victoria. KPMG will be providing information on this and possibly the evaluation completed in Tasmania.

3.2 Report on the review of Secondary Family Support Funding Programs

Mr Glew tabled the report and sought endorsement of the recommendations.

Members discussed the recommendations in detail. Members endorsed the recommendations in principle and agreed that the report should be disseminated to the sector via email after the meeting, with a request for feedback.

Resolution: Members endorsed the *Report on the review of Secondary Family Support Funding Programs*.

Action: Ms Flanagan to disseminate the report to the sector following the meeting.

3.3 CSR structure, terms of reference, membership selection – EOI

Mr Glew informed members that the EOI has been disseminated to all DCP funded services. Members requested clarification regarding the need for members to be the CEO of their organisation. Mr Glew advised that the term CEO referred to a person in the organisation with equivalent authority to a CEO in regards to their organisation's operations in the secondary services sector.

The Department for Child Protection, together with WACOSS will make the selections. This will be finalised by the end of June to enable new members to start their three year term from July 2011. The new Chair will be selected at the July meeting to enable new members to take part in the selection.

3.4 Data – Quarterly Summary Report: January to March 2011

Ms Pritchard provided the paper – ***Community Sector Roundtable Summary Report: April 2011***, reporting for the quarter January to March 2011.

The following statistics were discussed in detail (as per the paper provided):

- Children in the CEO's care;
- Living arrangements;
- Average number of placements;
- Foster Carers – Registered households;
- Initial inquiries for child, safety and well being assessments and protection applications;
- Protection applications by type and quarter;
- Protection orders issued and expired by quarter;
- Mandatory reports and initial inquiries for child (sexual abuse).

Ms Pritchard explained the changes in terminology in the child protection information now used in Assist. What used to be termed a *child protection investigation* is now termed a *safety and well being assessment*.

There has been an increase in safety and well being assessments, this may be a result of the improved recording system and practices. These figures will be monitored to see how they change over time. Assist has lead to more cases being entered into the system.

It was queried how many Special Guardianship Orders were made in this quarter, Ms Pritchard advised that there were approximately 173 currently in the system, this is expected to increase over time. Guardianship Orders will be recorded separately in the next quarterly report.

The Chair thanked Ms Pritchard for attending the meeting and providing the data report.

4. General Business

Nil

5. Other business

5.1 Guest Speaker, Josie McRandal, CREATE

Ms McRandal advised members that the *Create Your Future* program will be implemented in July 2011.

The program has three components:

- Grants application – for independent living expenses such as funding to obtain a drivers licence;
- Interactive website; and

- Workshops – to provide life skills such as learning and communication skills, knowledge of agencies and how to access them, pathways to independence, job readiness, health, nutrition etc.

Participants are to be referred by the Department for Child Protection. This program presents a good opportunity to connect with the all relevant services to view what is currently being provided and avoid duplication of effort.

Ms McRandal agreed to meet with existing contracted leaving care services and Departmental representatives to discuss the program in detail.

Ms McRandal also agreed to attend another CSR meeting later in the year to provide an update on progress once the program has been implemented.

The Chair thanked Ms McRandal for her informative presentation.

6. Future Discussions

- Commonwealth representative to be rescheduled for June meeting (Richard Aspinall, State Manager, FaHCSIA) (June 2011).
- Leadership and Partnership Forum – next steps (S Glew, July)
- WA Legislation – including mandatory reporting, family support hubs and secondary services (T Murphy)
- CREATE to provide an overview of the new program Create Your Future (August)
- Engaging Community Sector for future Secondary Family Support Services networks (Chair, July 2011).
- Recent developments in Standards Monitoring (July 2011).

8. Next Meeting

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 11:00am. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14 June, 2011, at 9:30am.