

COMMUNITY SECTOR ROUNDTABLE

MINUTES OF MEETING Tuesday 9 February 2016

Meeting Room 1 and 2, Ground Floor
Department for Child Protection and Family Support
189 Royal Street, East Perth

Meeting commenced at 9:30am

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the Community Sector Roundtable (CSR) meeting.

Present

Mr Basil Hanna	Parkerville Children and Youth Care Inc
Ms Sue Ash	UnitingCare West
Ms Cheryl Barnett	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Irina Cattalini	WACOSS
Mr Steve Glew	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Mandy Gadsdon	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Debbie Henderson	Family Inclusion Network of WA Inc
Mr David Hogg	Lifestyle Solutions
Ms Tricia Murray	Wanslea Family Services Inc
Ms Melissa Perry	Communicare Inc
Mr Tony Pietropiccolo	Centrecare Inc
Mr Ashley Reid	Ngala
Captain Scott Smallacombe	The Salvation Army

In attendance

Ms Emma White	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Pippa Monger	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Peta Slocombe	Consultant
Ms Terry Simpson	Consultant

Apologies

Ms Kay Benham	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Mr Ian Carter	Anglicare WA
Ms Amanda Hunt	Mission Australia
Ms Dawn Wallam	Yorganop Association Incorporated/SNAICC

The Chair will be on medical leave for eight weeks from next week, Ms Cattalini will chair the meetings during this period.

Ms Ash and Mr Hogg left the meeting at 11:00am

2. Setting the Scene

Ms White presented the Department for Child Protection and Family Support 2015 in review and 2016 in prospect: Earlier Intervention and Family Support Strategy.

Ms White advised the Early Intervention and Support Strategy discussion paper will be released to the Department on 18 February.

Mr Glew raised the issue of potential 2016-17 NPAH adjustments due to the lack of increase in Commonwealth Government's funding since 2014-15 and NPAH being excluded from Commonwealth Equal Remuneration Order funding. Through advice from key stakeholders including CSR last year, the decision was to provide increased funding to cover indexation and ERO costs through reduced brokerage and funding to some services. Approximately \$1.7 million is needed to be found in savings to cover these costs for 2016-17.

The Department seeks stakeholder's advice on NPAH adjustments by the end of February. Consultation will also be undertaken with Western Australian Council on Homelessness and key peak bodies (Shelter WA, WACOSS and CEWA).

Concerns were expressed regarding impacts on service delivery and staffing. It was discussed that there should be reporting on the sector's capacity to provide homelessness services independent of government funding to demonstrate the change in the funding environment, however it was recognised that it would be difficult to quantify this information.

3. Community Services Review

Mr Terry Simpson was welcomed to the meeting.

Mr Simpson provided an update on the Review of Community Sector Services Expenditure. Mr Simpson advised that he had been contracted to undertake the implementation of the review. The next step would be wider consultation before design of the system with the view to commence operation next year.

Mr Simpson was seeking feedback from CSR prior to the wider consultation and identified potential CSR membership in the steering committee for the implementation. Membership could include 1 service provider representative and 1 consumer advocate representative.

The following matters were raised by members:

- paper aligns with the Earlier Intervention and Support Strategy discussion paper;
- sequencing could cause anxiety for some organisations if they have interrelated contracts being contracted at different time frames;
- strategic response designs need to be evidence informed, including program design and policy frameworks;
- paper does not address funding sources and linkages across government departments;
- look at going beyond collaboration to service co-design and thinking about service recipient co-design; and
- need to consider the purchasing for individual clients and how that fits into this process.

Action: Community Services Review to be included in the March agenda for further discussion.

4. Role and functions of the CSR

Ms Peta Slocombe facilitated this section of the meeting.

The current Terms of Reference (TOR) for CSR were discussed, including:

- defining scope and identifying key stakeholders (funded community sector agencies or the whole sector);

- membership of the CSR, recognising the diversity of the sector without needing to be representative of the whole sector. However there may be opportunities to focus on representation, for example diversity of Aboriginal services or consumer representation;
- what role does CSR have in bringing an evidence base or critiquing an evidence base when looking at effective solutions/strategies; and
- CSR role and ability in communicating with the sector.

There was discussion regarding changes to the TOR:

- include effective and change solutions to strategies in the second TOR;
- include advocacy in the third TOR; and
- include purchasing in the third TOR.

5. CSR Priorities for 2016

Ms Slocombe facilitated this section of the meeting.

Members discussed priority focus areas for CSR in 2016 in small groups. There were common themes across the groups:

- Secondary Family Support – earlier intervention services, intensive family support, Aboriginal focus;
- Out-of-Home Care;
- Community Sector Services Expenditure Review – focus on program re-design;
- Improving outcomes for Aboriginal families;
- Consumer co-design;
- Influence role in whole of government/whole of community child protection drivers that are outside of scope of the Department;
- Aboriginal Youth Services Investment Reform/Regional Human Services Reform; and
- CSR role in change processes.

Action: CSR priorities for 2016 to be included in March agenda for further discussion.

Ms Slocombe will collate a summary of the discussion held and provide to Ms White.

6. Next Meeting

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 12:30pm. The next CSR meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 March 2016, at the Department for Child Protection and Family Support.