

## COMMUNITY SECTOR ROUNDTABLE

### MINUTES OF MEETING Tuesday 13 October 2015

Large Executive Conference Room, Level 2  
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

Ms Cheryl Barnett	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Kay Benham	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Mr Ian Carter	Anglicare WA
Ms Irina Cattalini	WACOSS
Mr Basil Hanna	Parkerville Children and Youth Care Inc
Ms Tricia Murray	Wanslea Family Services Inc
Ms Melissa Perry	Communicare Inc
Mr Tony Pietropiccolo	Centrecare Inc
Mr Ashley Reid	Ngala

##### In attendance

Ms Kim Austin	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
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##### Apologies

Ms Sue Ash	UnitingCare West
Major Andrew Craib	The Salvation Army
Ms Mandy Gadsdon	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Mr Steve Glew	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Debbie Henderson	Family Inclusion Network of WA Inc
Mr David Hogg	Lifestyle Solutions
Ms Amanda Hunt	Mission Australia
Ms Veronica Rodenburg	Yaandina Family Centre Inc
Ms Dawn Wallam	Yorganop Association Incorporated/SNAICC
Ms Emma White	Department for Child Protection and Family Support

The Chair noted that there were a number of missing apologies.

**Action:** Ms Sandra Flanagan to follow up missing apologies with members who were not present at the meeting.

#### 2. Veronica Rodenburg's Resignation

Ms Rodenburg has resigned from Yaandina Family Centre Inc and the CSR. As a result, a new member will be required for the regional CSR placement.

#### 3. Minutes of Meeting Held on 8 September 2015

The minutes from the CSR meeting held on 8 September 2015 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

## **4. Actions Arising**

### **4.1 Evidence Base and Evaluation – Working Group Terms of Reference**

This issue was addressed at the Leadership and Partnership Forum. Mr Carter confirmed that key meetings will be held in relation to this issue.

### **4.2 Leadership and Partnership Forum – Debrief**

The Chair discussed the Leadership and Partnership Forum survey. Only 21 delegates have responded. Ms Flanagan has resent the survey and the results will be reviewed formally at the next CSR meeting.

Members discussed the Leadership and Partnership Forum. Discussion points included:

- The pattern of low attendance. 80 delegates attended the forum; approximately 120 delegates indicated they would attend.
- The need for more timely feedback and the possibility of delegates providing feedback during the forum.
- Reviewing the format of the forum. The duration of the forum and whether the first and second sessions should be held on separate dates.
- The difficulties presented by a wide audience with varying levels of knowledge.
- The advertorial nature of the presentations in the second session and the possibility of less descriptive presentations and more facilitated discussions in the future.

Members discussed possible action regarding delegates who indicated they would attend but were not present at the forum. It was suggested that they be invoiced for the lunch that was provided if an apology was not received. However, it was also suggested that outstanding invoices should not be followed up.

Members agreed the Leadership and Partnership Forum was a valuable event which highlighted the commitment to the Regional Reform.

Members agreed the next steps in relation to the Regional Reform need to be clarified. A summary of the content from the forum and a progress update (including information on the District Leadership Groups and Strategic Regional Advisory Council) should be sent to all delegates.

#### **Actions:**

- The Chair to send letters to Mr Grahame Searle thanking him for his participation in the forum, outlining the CSR's commitment to the Regional Reform and enquiring about the next steps.
- The Regional Reform to be added to the CSR Strategic Priorities and included as a permanent agenda item at future meetings.
- Mr Searle and Ms Tracey Gillett to be invited to future CSR meetings on a regular basis.
- Ms Gillett to be contacted regarding a summary of the content from the forum.

## **5. Agenda Items**

### **5.1 Out of Home Care (OOHC) System**

**5.1.1 OOHC Reform – Stage 1: Evidence and Validation – Mr Ben Whitehouse, Director Coordination and Support, Department for Child Protection and Family Support and Mr Ashley Moore, Modelling and Analytics Team, Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC)**

The Chair welcomed Mr Whitehouse and Mr Moore to the meeting. Mr Mark Cetkowski, PWC was unable to attend.

Mr Moore provided an updated version of the presentation that had been circulated to members prior to this meeting.

Mr Whitehouse and Mr Moore outlined the work PWC will be completing in relation to the OOHC Reform and members provided their feedback. Key points included:

- PWC will be gathering an evidence base for the spectrum of needs of children and young people in care and the associated costs of meeting those needs.
- Mr Cetkowski will lead the project.
- The final report PWC produce will help to inform the discussions between the Department for Child Protection and Family Support (the Department) and Treasury.
- The Needs Assessment Profiling Tool (NAPT) will be developed to provide a less subjective, more targeted assessment of need. The tool will be based on the nine dimensions currently used by the Department.
- The sample will include approximately 1,100 – 1,200 children and young people. Approximately 900 of these children and young people will be in residential or family group homes, receiving special needs loading or in higher needs programs. Approximately 300 of these children and young people will be receiving basic carer subsidies.
- The project will not be based on current or proposed OOHC models and costs. The project aims to benchmark and baseline the true cost of meeting the needs of children and young people in care using information from national and international jurisdictions.
- The consultation process will begin in the week commencing 19 October 2015. Profiling will take place from 2 November 2015 to 29 November 2015 and workshops will be held over the next few months. It is anticipated that the final report will be completed by February 2016.

Discussion points included:

- The potential issues and necessity of comparing the OOHC model and cost in WA to other jurisdictions. Mr Moore confirmed that the comparison is an initial benchmarking exercise. PWC will be holding workshops and targeting each district within WA to ensure they have a clear picture of the cost.
- Benchmarking the cost of management and administration as well as care delivery.
- The need to consider the quality of the service response and how this will be benchmarked before completing a cost analysis. The level of engagement when preparing the care plan will affect cost. Mr Moore confirmed service responses will be considered.
- The need to consider all funding (not just Government funding).
- The wider networks surrounding children and young people and whether these will be considered. The needs of a child are often linked to the needs of a parent or grandparent. As a result, there is often cross Department responsibility. The OOHC Reform has been extended to look at Early Intervention and the Secondary Family Support Network.
- Ms Benham highlighted that the Department is attempting to collaborate with other Departments such as the Mental Health Commission and Drug and Alcohol Office.

The Chair thanked Mr Whitehouse and Mr Moore for their time and the work PWC are undertaking. Members welcomed the opportunity to engage in this process.

**Action:** A finished copy of the NAPT will be tabled at the next meeting by Mr Whitehouse and a representative from PWC.

### **5.1.2 Eight Key Principles: For Young People in Out-of-Home Care**

The Chair discussed the Eight Key Principles document that was circulated to members prior to this meeting.

Members support the Eight Key Principles which are consistent with permanency planning.

Members discussed Principle 1 – Belonging. Children do not belong in OOHC. However, a sense of belonging is important for children especially those who are regulated or living in foster care. It is important for these children to have a sense belonging to their family unit.

## **6. General Business**

### **6.1 Rural Placement**

Members discussed the need for a new member for the rural CSR placement.

**Action:** In line with the CSR's commitment to the Regional Reform one or two people are to be drawn from the District Leadership Groups or Strategic Regional Advisory Council.

### **6.2 Other Business**

#### **6.2.1 The Centralised Foster Care Panel**

The Chair discussed a paper regarding the Centralised Foster Care Panel that was circulated to members on 12 October 2015. The paper outlines the Alliance and CYFAA's position in relation to the centralised model as well as an alternate view.

Members discussed their initial thoughts and alternative methods to ensure greater consistency in terms of the quality of carers.

**Action:** Further discussion deferred to the next meeting.

#### **6.2.2 Family Support Networks Forum**

Ms Benham discussed the Family Support Networks Forum and contract changes that will be circulated to CSR members for review from Service Standards and Contracting.

Ms Benham confirmed that there will be ongoing forums for the Alliance Managers and staff members.

**Action:** A copy of the report Pippa Monger circulated to participants of the Family Support Networks Forum to be requested and circulated to members.

## **7. Next Meeting**

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 11:10am. The next CSR meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 November 2015, at the Department for Child Protection and Family Support.