

COMMUNITY SECTOR ROUNDTABLE

MINUTES OF MEETING Tuesday 10 December 2013

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

In attendance

Mr Terry Murphy	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Sandra Flanagan	Department for Child Protection and Family Support

Apologies

Mr Mick Geaney	MercyCare
Mr Neil Hamilton	AccordWest
Ms Veronica Rodenburg	Yaandina Family Centre Inc

2. Minutes of Meeting held 12 November 2013

The minutes from the Community Sector Roundtable meeting held on 12 November 2013 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

3. Guest Speaker: Ms Helen Grinbergs, State Manager, Department of Social Services and Ms Deborah Edwards, Department of Social Services

The Chair welcomed Ms Grinbergs and Ms Edwards to the meeting.

Ms Grinbergs provided members with an update on the changes occurring to the structure and function of Commonwealth government departments. The following items were also discussed:

- The Commission of Audit.
- Centre for Excellence.
- Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission (ACNC).
- Commonwealth CPI increases as applied to contracts and the concern that they are well below the actual CPI rate, affecting service capacity.

- National Disability Insurance Scheme.
- The SACS award regarding Western Australian community services agencies.
- Civil society.
- Child care rebates for children in care.
- Grants review process.
- Future of the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness – funding issues

The Chair thanked Ms Grinbergs and Ms Edwards for attending the meeting.

Members further discussed concerns regarding the future of NPAH funding and agreed alternate funding arrangements should be explored should the National Partnership Agreements not be progressed. It was agreed that a letter would be prepared to the Minister for Child Protection, including information on the success of the NPAH programs in Western Australia and suggesting the alternate options be explored including a possible bilateral agreement with the State. The DG will be discussing options with the Minister and several members have also sent letters to the Premier and/or the Minister on this issue.

Actions:

- Ms Grinbergs agreed to provide a response in writing to the several of the issues above, including the ACNC.
- Ms Grinbergs to be invited to a few meetings each year to provide updates on relevant national issues/programs.
- The Chair to write to Minister Morton regarding the on-going funding of the State's NPAH programs.

4.1 Leadership and Partnership Forum 2013

Mr Glew advised that, as agreed at the last meeting, an email has been sent to individuals who registered as participants but did not attend, or provide apologies. Members had been provided with the results of the evaluation prior to the meeting. The results indicate the forum was well received and the evaluation provided good information for consideration for the next forum, including a list of possible future agenda items.

4.2 Dissemination of presentation – Youth Services Consultation Project

It was confirmed this had been disseminated to members. The report will be considered in the on-going work of the Integration of Youth Services Working Group. It was noted that the recommendations have been circulated more broadly, however, at this stage the full report has not been circulated.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

5.1 Expansion and development of the Secondary Family Support Hubs

The Chair advised that there was an early morning meeting today to discuss some changes that have been made to the Murchison Family Support Network. It was agreed that these changes are worthy and required for this network to meet the needs of the local community. The changes will be documented and incorporated into the operational framework for family support networks. Learnings and progress updates from all three networks, Armadale, Mirrabooka and Murchison will be incorporated into the required documentation/report provided to CSR on a six monthly basis. This will be compiled by CPFS from data provided by the networks. The template will have space for local needs to be documented. The documentation will be circulated to CSR for comment before finalising.

The issues experienced in Murchison will be examined thoroughly in decision making around future regional/remote FSNs.

Mr Murphy advised that the issues raised at the Partnership Forum meeting in Geraldton would be useful information for the Murchison FSN. The associated paper will be provided to the Chair.

Murchison will officially launch after Christmas, the Minister will be invited to formally open the network. Armadale and Mirrabooka are progressing well.

Members agreed to engage in further discussion on the strategic rollout of the FSNs across the State, including future directions, how it should be done, funding and time frames. It was suggested that a clear link be made with the Five Year Plan for Out-of-Home Care. While they are separate strategies to meet different needs, it is important to understand where they cross paths.

Actions:

- Mr Murphy to provide the paper on issues raised in Geraldton at the Partnership Forum to the Chair.
- Changes to the operational framework for family support networks to be documented by CPFS.
- Template for progress report to be drafted by CPFS.
- Ongoing discussion on the strategic rollout of FSNs.

5.2 Macro issues impacting the out of home care system

The paper has been disseminated to members and will be considered in the New Year.

5.3 Self-directed service design

No update this month.

5.4 Integration of Youth Services

Ms Perry advised that the recommendations have been circulated (see item 4.2). The group will meet in early 2014 with CPFS to consider the recommendations and future action.

6. Other Business

6.1 CPFS response to the FACS capability Review

Mr Glew advised that the written response will be provided to members after the meeting. The FACS reviewed five departments, including CPFS. In brief, the review found that CPFS is working efficiently.

Action: Paper to be distributed after the meeting.

6.2 Meeting Dates for 2014

Members agreed to continue meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month with the exception of January (no meeting) and in February 2014, the date was moved to the 18th.

Action: Meeting dates/diary invites to be sent out after the meeting.

7. Next Meeting

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 11:00. The next CSR meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 February 2014.