

## COMMUNITY SECTOR ROUNDTABLE

### MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 8 March 2016

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 Sue Ash	UnitingCare West
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
Mr Steve Glew	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Ms Amanda Hunt	Mission Australia
Ms Tricia Murray	Wanslea Family Services Inc
Ms Melissa Perry	Communicare Inc
Mr Tony Pietropiccolo	Centrecare Inc (Chairperson)
Captain Scott Smallacombe	The Salvation Army

##### In attendance

Ms Pippa Monger	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
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##### Apologies

Ms Irina Cattalini	WACOSS
Ms Mandy Gadsdon	Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Mr Basil Hanna	Parkerville Children and Youth Care Inc
Ms Debbie Henderson	Family Inclusion Network of WA Inc
Mr David Hogg	Lifestyle Solutions
Mr Ashley Reid	Ngala
Ms Dawn Wallam	Yorganop Association Incorporated/SNAICC
Ms Emma White	Department for Child Protection and Family Support

#### 2. Minutes of Meeting held on 10 November 2015 and Strategic Planning Meeting held 9 February 2016

The minutes from the CSR meeting held on 10 November 2015 and Strategic Planning Meeting held on 9 February 2016 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

#### 3. Guest Speaker – Mr Tom Leeming and Ms Lorraine Thomas, Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) - Aboriginal Youth Services Investment Reform (AYSIR)

Two handouts were received – Youth Services Investment Reform slideshow (handout 1) and Aboriginal Youth Services Investment Reforms, May 2015 (handout 2).

- AYSIR has its genesis in the creation of the Aboriginal Affairs Sub Committee in 2013 which recognised there was a lot of money spent on Aboriginal people but not getting good outcomes (see handout 1 for information slides).
- The key findings of expenditure reviews of youth services and specific locations were:
  - highly fragmented system;
  - short term funding;
  - not much evaluation or programs targeted to local needs; and
  - not enough engagement with clients or community.
- Other findings for youth services include:
  - pockets of things that work, are measured well and have good engagement, however only 16 of 144 youth programs funded by the State Government could demonstrate their effectiveness;
  - expenditure in early intervention, however a lot of fragmentation and disconnect between Government agencies and providers; and
  - where families and children are at the cups of being at risk of falling into the statutory systems, the service system appears to back away.
- The Government's policy response is not about removing money but to use the money more effectively to get better outcomes for communities.
- The Regional Service Reform and AYSIR are borne out of the same problem definition.
- Handout 2 is a statement of the Government's response to these findings, of what the government wants out of services for Aboriginal youth. The objectives are primarily around education and employment.
- The principles guide service design and delivery to make sure services are responsive to local need, joined up with other players, have clear outcomes and target audience.
- Scale and sustainability principles are deliberately included as a disruptor to force defragmentation of the service system, to force government agencies and service providers to work together.
- Challenge with joining up services sits with lining up procurement processes – working with Executive Directors and procurement staff in two demonstration sites (Geraldton/Mullewa and Mirrabooka/Koondoola/Balga) to identify where contracting milestones can align. Also working with Regional Managers forums to understand where the broad State priorities need to be directed.
- Three tiered approach to make the reform work:
  - line agencies developing Agency Transition Plans;
  - Regional Managers Government and community sector in pilot sites are reviewing the youth service system in their area, identify what could be more effective and what support from line agencies is needed; and
  - YACWA are working with the sector to raise awareness and build capacity building.
- Implementation Leadership Group involves Government, community sector and Aboriginal youth representatives. DPC report to the Aboriginal Affairs Sub Committee on the progress of the reform.
- Discussion following the presentation:
  - Consideration for NGO to lead collaboration process as Government agencies can get constrained by public sector processes, however funding would be required to support this;
  - Need to change the way services are funded to encourage more joined up services and ensure there are incentives to working in partnership, however this may require more resources and can be difficult in the current competitive environment in procurement;
  - Regional Manager Forums already have a varied agenda with no resources, will this place more strain on these groups;
  - Targeted alignment with the Commonwealth Government (for example Transition to Work has just been rolled out in these regional areas); and

- Social Impact Bonds – if it was part of the project brief there might be impetus to unpack this as currently there is nowhere to build these models (Partnership Forum Funding and Contracting Working Group could support this).

## **Actions Arising (from November 2015 meeting)**

### **4.1 Centralised Foster Care Panel – Option E**

Members provided feedback out of session.

Members voiced pessimism regarding the consultation process as the model had pre-conditions that could not be shifted. A debriefing forum has been organised on 17 March to provide feedback on the consultation process with the OOHC Reform.

### **4.2 Third Action Plan for the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children**

Ms Murray queried how CSR is going to track the Third Action Plan. Mr Pietropiccolo (a community sector representative) gave an overview of the Action Plan's three strategies:

- Early intervention with a focus on the early years, particularly the first 1000 days for a child;
- Helping young people in out-of-home care to thrive into adulthood; and
- Organisations responding better to children and young people to keep them safe.

**Action:** Ms Benham to circulate an update on the Action Plan to members out of session.

### **4.3 Ministerial Advisory Council on Child Protection**

Two project being undertaken by MACCP:

- The Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services is undertaking a consumer consultation project to gain greater insight into women and children's experience of family and domestic violence and the service system response; and
- Ms Donna Chung submitted an application for ARC grant to research the experiences of young people leaving care and what can be done better as they transition from care.

## **5. Agenda Items**

### **5.1 Community Services Review – nomination of representatives for the steering committee**

Ms Henderson nominated as the consumer representative and Mr Carter nominated as the community service sector representative.

### **5.2 CSR priorities for 2016**

Members were happy with the priorities as reported in Ms Slocombe's notes from the session, however outcomes need to be developed for the priorities. There were also suggested changes to the Terms of Reference.

**Action:** Ms Ash, Ms Murray and Ms Hunt to work on the Terms of Reference and outcome statements for the priorities for the next CSR meeting.

## **6. General Business**

### **6.1 Contracts ending in June 2016**

A meeting was held with CEWA, Shelter WA, WACOSS and attended by the WACH Chair to discuss the impact of the SACS ERO and lack of indexation with the Commonwealth's fixed funding for NPAH. Approx. \$1.7 million is required to cover increased contract prices inclusive of wage increases and the Department will consult with the sector by the end of March regarding NPAH contracts for 2016-17.

All other contracts ending June 2016 will be rolled over.

## **6.2 Impacts of the ERO**

Partnership Forum is reviewing the Terms of Reference for the Funding and Contracting Working Group. The not-for-profit members have agreed to brief the working group on the implications of the ERO.

State Government using \$600 million (over four years) funding package as the solution to the ERO and the change to the indexation formula will have implications for the capacity of the sector to deliver services as organisations experience significant increases to wages.

## **7. Next Meeting**

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 10:50am. The next CSR meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 April 2016, at the Department for Child Protection and Family Support.