

## COMMUNITY SECTOR ROUNDTABLE

### MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 12 June 2012

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 Kay Benham	Department for Child Protection
Mr Steve Glew	Department for Child Protection
Mr Mick Geaney	MercyCare
Mr Neil Hamilton	AccordWest
Mr Ashley Reid	Ngala
Ms Tricia Murray	Wanslea Family Services Inc
Ms Melissa Perry	Mission Australia

##### In attendance

Mr Terry Murphy	Department for Child Protection
Ms Sandra Flanagan	Department for Child Protection

##### Apologies

Ms Irina Cattalini	WACOSS
Ms Cheryl Barnett	Department for Child Protection
Mr Basil Hanna	Parkerville Children and Youth Care Inc
Ms Anne Moore	Women's Council for Domestic & Family Violence Services (WA)
Ms Les Evans	Ngnowar Aerwah Aboriginal Corporation
Ms Sue Ash	UnitingCare West
Captain Ken Smith	The Salvation Army

#### 2. Minutes of meeting held 15 May 2012

The minutes from the Community Sector Roundtable meeting held on 15 May 2012 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

#### 3. Actions Arising

##### 3.1 Opinion Piece in response to the Commissioner's media statement – Department of Housings Three Strikes policy

Deferred to next meeting

### **3.2 Individualised funding**

Deferred to next meeting

### **3.3 Agency Implementation Plan**

Mr Glew advised that the second draft has been distributed to the sector for feedback. Mr Geaney advised that two pieces of feedback have been provided to WACOSS, additional feedback is expected by close of business today. Individual feedback is also being provided directly to Mr Glew. Other members indicated that they are providing feedback directly to WACOSS for inclusion in the response being prepared by WACOSS.

### **3.4 Membership – EOI update**

Mr Glew advised that the EOI has now closed. A meeting has been organised with Ms Cattalini to review the applicants. All applicants will be notified before the end of June to enable new members to join CSR from July 2012.

### **3.5 Leadership and Partnership Forum**

Members briefly discussed possible themes/agenda items. Procurement reforms and the Implementation Plan were key items discussed. Members agreed to discuss the establishment of a small working group to flesh out the agenda at the next meeting, when all new members are on board.

<b>Action:</b> Item to remain on the agenda for the next meeting.
---

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **4.1 Budget 2012/2013**

Mr Glew distributed the Budget Highlights paper and with Mr Murphy provided an overview. Discussion ensued on the following:

- The last four to five years have experienced growth, providing the Department with a strong base.
- The current budget will be challenging with no growth. Budget shortfalls in several areas will have to be managed within existing allocations.
- Alternative options for the delivery of some services will be considered. These areas include homelessness, transport and contact, financial assistance, case support costs and information technology. Working parties have been established to work on each of these areas.
- Members expressed concern regarding the Court decisions around supervised contact with children and the inappropriate use of child care centres during the week for this purpose. Concern was also raised regarding the long distance transport of children in care and case transfers. These issues will be discussed in detail by the working group.
- An additional \$8.3 million will be spent over two years providing a 15% price adjustment to the State component of joint State and Commonwealth Homelessness contracts.
- Once the Armadale Family Support Network has been evaluated a budget bid will be developed with the view to expansion.
- The Child and Parent Centres are progressing (Education Department). Concern was expressed that they are targeting a group that is already well catered for.

WACOSS is being invited onto the Steering Committee. Issues regarding OSH concerns were discussed, schools wanting on-site child care centres have standards and requirements that have to be met, and available land. Members are concerned that the schools proposed do not have the capacity for this.

## **4.2 Family Support Network**

Ms Benham advised that the Network is progressing well. Most key agencies have now signed up to the Alliance, all staff members are on board and reports have starting coming in. The on-going evaluation process has begun and the IT system, FuSioN, is working well.

## **5. Other Business**

### **5.1 Recognition of Mr Tony Pietropiccolo AM**

Mr Glew acknowledged and congratulated Mr Pietropiccolo on his appointment as a member of the Order of Australia, the highest recognition for outstanding achievement and service to the community services sector.

## **6. Future Discussions**

### **6.1 Costs of Child Care for Children in Care.**

To be discussed at the July meeting. Centrelink are restructuring subsidies. Issues around enabling Foster Carers to be exempted, the introduction of means testing and its implications, inconsistencies around the way NGOs are handling it. Invitation to invite DEEWR to a future meeting to discuss these issues.

### **6.2 Income Management**

Ms Benham advised that the Income Management program is currently being evaluated and funding has been extended to June 2013. Early indications are that the program will continue and be extended across the State. To be further discussed when the evaluation has been completed.

### **6.3 East Kimberley**

Issues specific to the region. Night Patrol and Drop in Centre – catalyst to bringing people into mainstream services. To be discussed at the August meeting.

### **6.4 Identification of future agenda items**

Place this item on the July agenda.

<p><b>Action:</b> the above items to be placed on the most appropriate and timely CSR agenda. DEEWR to be invited to the August meeting to discuss the costs of child care for children in care.</p>
--

## **7. Next Meeting**

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 10:35am. The next CSR meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 July 2012 at 9:30am.