

Community Sector Roundtable – Communiqué

The Community Sector Roundtable (CSR) is an advisory body that reports directly to the Director General, Department for Child Protection and Family Support, providing advice and information that improves outcomes and strengthens the relationship between the Department and the community services sector in relation to the funding and the provision of services.

Leadership and Partnership Forum

Thank you to all the sector representatives who responded to the invite to attend the 2013 Leadership and Partnership Forum. All CEO's who requested a place were accepted as attendees. The Forum proved to be valuable in increasing awareness of *Big Society* issues as well as some key initiatives that are rolling out across the State. Participants reported good engagement and networking opportunities as well as information and awareness of the complexities involved in partnership and potential future directions of government.

Macro Issues Impacting the Out of Home Care System

The Department for Child Protection and Family Support (CPFS) have begun the process of developing a five year plan for out of home care. The Steering Committee will be chaired by Mr Paul Maher, CPFS, and include representatives from CPFS, CSR, the Alliance and the OHACC working group. The secretariat/project officer to provide support to the Steering Committee has been sourced from the sector. The paper on Complexity issues has been drafted and will be reviewed by CSR.

Expansion and development of the Secondary Family Support Hubs

The Evaluation of the Armadale Family Support Network has now been released to the sector. The document can be downloaded at <http://www.whereto.org.au/images/KPMG%20Evaluation%20Report%20-%20AFSN.pdf>

The tender for the Mirrabooka site has now closed. A February launch is anticipated. The Murchison site is progressing, also aiming for a launch early in the New Year.

Integration of Youth Services

Mr Craig Comrie, CEO, YACWA and Ms Donna Quinn, Specialist Policy officer, YACWA, provided a presentation to CSR on the consultations with the youth services they had been commissioned to undertake by CPFS. Mr Comrie, and a representative from WA Police will be joining the Integration of Youth Services Working Group which will add value to the scope and depth of information and action.

CSR Working Groups

The CSR working groups focused on Macro issues impacting the out of home care system; Self-Directed Service Design; and Integration of Youth Services are all progressing their respective work, which will continue to be reported on in the Communiqué as key actions have been undertaken/achieved.