



Wiltshire Children & Families Voluntary Sector Forum

Minutes

Date: 28/09/2021
Time: 9.30 am
Venue: Virtual forum via Zoom

Attendees	Apologies
Angela Brennan (Chair) Liz James - Barnardos Linda Cantillon-Guyatt – Wessex Community Action Russ Martin – Spurgeons Margaret Firth – Wiltshire Community Foundation Natalie Huggins – Motiv8 Alexandra Boyd – National Autistic Society Alison Sankey – Family Counselling Trust Jemma Hunter – Barnardos Debbie Monday – Relate Lisa Kinnaird – Home Start Kennet Jacqui Radford – Carer Support Wiltshire Matthew Jordan – Wiltshire Council Natasha Flintoff – Army Welfare Service	Trudy Srawley - Wiltshire Parent Carer Council Stephanie Davis – Wiltshire Council Kate Dawn Whiting – Community First Victoria - Army Welfare Service Karen Linaker – Wiltshire Council Damian Haasjes – Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Paula Philip – Alabrae Lisa Capon – Victim Support Melissa – Julia’s House Hospice Sarah Hartnell – Turning Point Simon Thomas – FACT Gareth Wood (Minute-taker)
	Tony Griffin Margaret Winskill - Healthwatch Wiltshire Caroline Fowke - Wiltshire Dyslexia Association

Item	Who
1. Welcome No AOB or Conflicts of interest raised.	
2. Discussion around ESA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One of the SEND information officers been on the focus group to develop it. WPCC been quite involved with ESA. - Historically for families with children with additional needs, sometimes stigma around CAFS and the safeguarding aspect. Hopefully this has addressed that. - People welcome to email WPCC for tips from team if needed. 	Trudy Srawley
3. FACT Lead Simon Thomas to give presentation and take questions Simon gave a presentation on FACT. His presentation can be found here . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wanted to flag somethings with engagement with the vol sector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Kind of feels top heavy – feels for those coming into these meetings and groups feels alien to us. Lot of language and acronyms used that make it difficult in terms of our engagement and understanding of what’s being discussed. 2) Time commitment from voluntary sector. Often small services with people 	Simon Thomas Liz James

	<p>on limited time availability. We're directly commissioned, sometimes there's challenges about how as a commissioned service we feel we can use our time that's being paid for by our funders to commit to a discussion that may not be immediately relevant to the service we're delivering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to think about how to best engage the voluntary sector. - Tend to be quite meeting heavy. If something we want to explore and unpick we tend to have a meeting. We could probably do chunks of that work better by using some of the IT that's available through quick surveys. Gather opinions and feedback. Get information that we would probably have been chatting about that for a long time in a meeting. We can be more savvy. - Regarding the jargon and how it feels; that doesn't surprise me and I sometimes feel a little like that as well. One of the things we need to look at is the leadership of some of the projects. This is a bit of a challenge. We have a conversation about the time people have available, I wonder with your time and support as a sector the voluntary sector could be a bit more of a driving force. The projects can be chaired or driven by anybody. I wonder whether if you look at the projects at the moment and count how many are chaired by council officers, it's a very high council driven thing. It's not because council wants to drive it, it's because nobody else has stepped forward. The council steps in when nobody steps forward. I wonder whether we can have conversations, not necessarily about running the whole project, but task and finish groups and things linked to some of these pieces of work are we in a position where the voluntary sector could take a more, if not the front seat, more prominent seat and co-chair some of these things. Always a balance between profile and influence, but we've got less time in this sector than arguably council officers and CCG officers have got. - On topic of leadership and leadership within the partnership and leadership within the community and voluntary sector – as community engagement manager – the collective working, that collaborative working is crucial when it comes to community engagement and when it comes to the work we do and area board level funding of community projects to impact upon children and young families issues. Sometimes there's a dearth of leadership, sometimes when we all come together to talk about the effectiveness of these projects, especially in the context of FACT, there seems to be an absence of leadership. To give an example of leadership working in a particular programme of work, we have a collaboration of arts organisations running a project called celebrating age. Put together about 3 years ago and given £300k by the Arts Council and was so successful that over the next 5 years it's got half a million pounds from the lottery. It's been heavily evaluated and monitored throughout. A key strength is it has a lead partner steering it throughout, and the lead partner has remained consistently the lead partner since day one. Also has a programme manager; someone paid to deliver it. Arguably is accountable for how it's going. Need to be collaborative. Need to collectively deliver these things together. Clarity as to who the lead partner is, is what I seek. - Number of FACT projects historically where lots of our members of the 	<p>ST</p> <p>Karen Linaker</p> <p>TS</p>
--	---	--

	<p>voluntary sector attended that and were a big part of that. One thing to be mindful of is when projects get rigged or the FACT projects are reassessed, you keep that momentum going and making sure the people previously involved in the projects don't drop off the invite list. A proper handover.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Think it's really important that voluntary sector is involved in these groups. Especially the earlier supporting communities and the voluntary sector helping some of those children, young people and their families. Voluntary sector organisations often quite small. Wider perception that we're this massive organisation and we've got 4 part time workers doing the work. Our caseloads are tripling, and I'm sure other organisations are as well. Need that input that the voluntary sector don't feel like things are just being put down on them. Need to have a really open conversation about workloads. - Near the beginning of FACT a family friendly newsletter was put out about FACT. Think it would be good for families to have the same thing done again. Wasn't done in a technical speak, but in a very family friendly kind of way. - Echoing very much what Karen and Trudy have said, from the perspective of area board funding, we fund hundreds of groups that provide support through the voluntary sector to children and families. That's the difficulty, there's lots of small groups doing their thing. Under the umbrella of FACT, they all do fit under it but the reality is each organisation is responding to its ambitions, its articles of association and its priorities as a voluntary sector organisation. That's why they exist. Sometimes voluntary sector seen as this homogeneous thing that should be responding and part of a partnership. It should, it's vital and important. Equally partnerships need to recognise that they're delivering what the FACT ambitions are but each individual voluntary sector organisation doesn't see itself as delivering FACT, but delivering what it set out to deliver. There's middle ground there that needs to be recognised. Very keen to be involved, particular the Earliest Support in Communities. Even if its mapping some of the voluntary sector groups we know are doing stuff and providing funding to. - Does that FACT board know what all the voluntary orgs are doing? Need to work harder and voluntary sector is key in it. - This is part of the clarity bit, the T in FACT, the Transformation bit I think historically FACT has been everything to do with Children and Families, work in Wiltshire has just been dumped under this umbrella/bucket. It felt when I took on this job nearly 2 years ago that it was more of a bucket where everything was chucked and things got mashed up and you couldn't really see what was in the bucket. The conversations with the boards has been very much recently, in the last 12 months, about focus on the really big important transformation items. - The job of FACT, I don't think, is to know everything about everything and to tell everybody everything about everything. Its job is to see in amongst these are the big things that if we can work together and do them better, differently, we have an opportunity to really change outcomes for families in Wiltshire. That's what FACT is about. Spotting those things and understanding them and then doing them better. Not trying to be all things to all people. - Coming out of COVID and looking at the existing projects, the partners view around the table is that the one thing we really need to focus on and work on 	<p>Margaret Firth</p> <p>ST</p>
--	--	---------------------------------

	<p>collectively is what does early intervention need to look like in Wiltshire. This is massive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Collective view is it's not joined up enough. We don't understand it. You can't see it. If we can't' as agencies and professionals and vol sector groups we're all saying we can't see It what must it be like for families.- Priority we're exploring going forward at the moment is this big idea we need to join up and communicate and understand what early help currently looks like and what we would like it to look like in the future.- Things like mapping what we currently have is vital. We don't currently have an overview in an easily understandable map of what all the different groups/organisations/services/voluntary/statutory – what are we all doing in Wiltshire to try and support kids and families. All have our websites and newsletters but pulling it together is like knitting fog in Wiltshire. This is what the partnership is recommending we take forward as our big piece of work.- Trying to do a business case – trying to understand and explain why at the moment. If we do go forward with this it's a great example why we need the engagement of the voluntary sector right. It's role and input, relationships etc are so vital to getting it right. If we don't get that bit right, the services the council offers for instance will not be effective unless we understand and work with the voluntary and community groups to get the foundation blocks, the earliest support in communities right. Everything else, when family's needs can't be met in communities; when they are more acute, more complex, we've got to get the base right so the services do what only they can do. Got to enable and equip the voluntary & community sector to do what only it can do.- Early thoughts, but expects it to be signed off by the exec. Going forward expects this to be FACTs dominant agenda going forward. <p>- The Alternative provision; how do I know who the membership is currently on the FACT board in that area? That's the area as an organisation that's the sub group we'd be interested in.</p> <p>- Led by Helene Hughes from the Council. Primarily through schools and alternative provision providers. Tend to get certain partners act as spokesperson for others. If not feeling hooked in and getting a voice contact Helene.</p> <p>- Wildlife Trust probably now the biggest alternative education provider in voluntary sector in Wiltshire. Not that I don't feel linked up, the forum groups and conversations with all the alternative providers are good and help. Just link between that group and FACT, where's the tie in and cross over? It gets interesting.</p> <p>- Voluntary sector representation - struggled with this as an exec for some time. In terms of who represents who as we're a massively diverse organisation. In the past struggled where an individual organisation attends a meeting and sometimes the mins will say the voluntary sector has been consulted. We're trying to make it clear if we're speaking on behalf of our</p>	<p>Damien Haasjes</p> <p>ST</p> <p>DH</p> <p>LJ</p>
--	---	---

	<p>own organisation or for this group. Need to be clear who you want at meetings. If looking for voice of vol sector, in best wat we can we'll try and have a rep from this group. Be explicit who we're representing in you meeting but distinction needs to be made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More conversation between myself and Angela. Happy to come back at any point/talk to exec. Unpick any issues. Sometimes it's classic thing of people being so busy to stop and say 'are you reflecting the sector or your organisation?' Sometimes it's that simple, just asking. Getting it right. Beholden upon myself and Angela. - Keep that communication going and where we can have voluntary sector representation. Try not to put that responsibility on them. - Needs analysis that are already done need to shared. 	<p>ST</p> <p>AB</p> <p>MF</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Mental Wealth Academy Presentation</p> <p>Jamie Douglas gave presentation on Mental Wealth Academy which can be viewed here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Wiltshire how are you funded? - Years funding from CCG through NHS. Takes it through to summer next year. - At Barnardos and manage early mental health service that we're commissioned to provide in Wiltshire up to age 18. Overlap between us. There's a lot of different interventions around at the moment around early mental health. Keen to ensure we're joining that up. Risk families get confused about who's doing what. Opportunities for us to refer into your service? There's a need for us all to coordinate. - Within Oxfordshire been running this longer, I manage mental health support teams in schools based offer. We do sometimes step up age wise to the mental wealth academy as they're coming to the end of it but still need a little bit more and other CAHMS teams won't touch them as they're 17 and a half. - Happy for referrals to come for other orgs, even if service has same age group but their wait list is longer. Enough need and adding an extra layer. - Sister grouping – we host a youth work network. Meeting in Nov. Could you come speaking to these youth workers? - Happy to come along and talk. - Have you looked at Wiltshire Together? Recommend it as a gateway, - We are linked in there. 	<p>Jamie Douglas</p> <p>AB</p> <p>JD</p> <p>LJ</p> <p>JD</p> <p>MF</p> <p>JD</p> <p>Linda Cantillon-Guyatt</p> <p>JD</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mentioned around 30% young people you help already have diagnosed mental health condition. What do you define as moderate for your service? 	TS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General guidelines for mild to moderate and for the moderate end, that young person (or adult because it's the same for them) are able to maintain a pretty standard day, but have impact on them in certain situations. Not situations where they can't leave the house, or engage in jobs or training. Able to do that kind of level engagement but find it tougher than others, or find certain sticking points. More specifically don't particularly work with cases that are self harming. That's a sliding scale as you can have mild self harm, and we can probably work with that. Anyone significantly and currently self harming we can't work with. Don't work with young people contemplating suicide and having suicidal ideation as that's more complex than we're able to support. 	JD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If you did have a referral were those things were happening. Would you signpost to AWP? 	TS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signpost to wherever the relevancy is; might be GP to access adult services or CAHMS. We won't just say no, we'll look to signpost. 	JD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Wiltshire we have Young Peoples Mental Health Network which Judy Edwards set up and Amy McClean chairs. Hopefully you're networked into that as there's about 90-100 orgs that are doing young people mental health support work in one form or another. 	KL
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The community engagement aspect of this. Was in a meeting around contextual safeguarding, looking at issue of sexual health. In that arena of contextual safeguarding so many of our young people are presenting with real issues when it comes to being the victim of some sort of sexual misconduct. How as professionals in a contextual safeguarding way should we respond? 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through community engagement different levels of community that we should be engaging. Whether well trained but voluntary people coming into schools adding capacity and our own voluntary and community sector. Also, then the communities of psychotherapists. How are the psychotherapists responding to mild to moderate low mood and how that's networked into your work. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From therapeutic point of view, we're not therapists. Don't have ability to diagnose and have that therapeutic approach in an official way. About community perspective. About getting to know each individual young person and finding out what's the best engagement method for them which feeds into that safeguarding side of things. Getting to know other organisation out there and see if can link in. 	JD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You know the boundaries of your organisation. Trying to get out there, spread the word and link with others. Really useful for you to attend the Young People's Mental Health Network. Can continue to get communication going. 	AB

<p>6.</p>	<p>Training Update The training offer information can be found here</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advertised a range of training. Winston's Wish doing an online 2 hour bereavement training course on the 23rd November. Open to everyone, but free of charge to CFVSF members, as is all the training. - Decided easiest way of coordinating is making it available to book via Eventbrite. - We're putting on First Aid, Safeguarding training and a whole range of things in the new year. - If there's other people you know who might benefit from the training, there is a small cost associated with it but they can also sign up via Eventbrite. - For the training we have to everyone booked on 3 weeks before the delivery date as otherwise we still have to pay for the trainer. The trainer is a private enterprise and would otherwise lose their income. - We've said we'll put the training on, but if you sign up and then decide you can't attend you will be charged for the training as we will have gone ahead with it as long as there's enough people to go ahead with it. - Some of the training paid for through a grant CFVSF got for unaccompanied asylum seekers, if you're an organisation where unaccompanied asylum seekers may benefit from the training you're receiving please let us know when completing the evaluation forms. - Any problem with organisations that support Children and Families and they were interested in training, any problem with them quickly becoming a member? - No, it's a bit of a carrot. Want as many organisations to be a part of the forum. Have about 80 members. Looked at membership of Wiltshire Together and those organisations that aren't CFVSF members and that work with children and families we sent them a letter to invite them to become members. - Also got in touch with members who hadn't attended recently, reminding them that we're here. Hoping this will grow the membership. There are more members here today which we think is a good sign. - To become members can sign up on the website or email myself or Gareth. 	<p>LCG</p> <p>AB</p> <p>LCG</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Terms of Reference Terms need to be reviewed. All quiet. Maybe something we look at again at the next exec meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If membership don't feel need for changes, at this meeting we can agree they're the terms of reference for the next year. Can look again next year and make changes. - If people feel necessary there's significant need to change them, they can be changed as needed. - Haven't been revisited for some time, so felt appropriate to check we feel they're still appropriate going forward. If no comments, then assumed they're agreed. <p>Exec agrees and to be revisited Nov. 2022.</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>LCG</p>

8.	<p>Updates From Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wiltshire Parent Carer Council big events – haven’t had one since Nov 2019 – Survey out to parent carers over 70% want another face to face event. - Hold the date – Friday 3rd Dec. Civic Centre Trowbridge. Keep an eye on Facebook page. Will have a Wellbeing theme. - Julia’s House family worker based in Dorset, attending in place of new colleague Esther. Everything been amazing and will help the new worker at Julia’s House. Wish we had something like this in Dorset. - Have volunteer managers forum taking place 13th Oct. Any volunteer managers welcome to attend. 10-12pm online. - Training day on 26th November on Gender Issues in Young People. Will be online. - Reminder Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy will help support and fund projects that help the environment/lower energy use Eg: double glazing, nature gardens for schools, water gardens, etc. Any ideas give the details to minutes. Get a hold of Damien. Underspent and happy to help up to £5k. Email damianh@wiltshirewildlife.org - Any ideas on how to improve forum, do pass ideas on. - Idea of theme meetings? 2 speakers on a subject like today with FACT and Mental Wealth Academy ostensibly on mental health. - How do people feel about an in person meeting at the old venue of the Scout Hut in Potterne? Lost opportunities that we would get meeting in person. Want people to get the most from the meetings. Email Linda or Angela if you have suggestions. - Possibility of hybrid meeting at Potterne? - Isn’t facilities there but is at Damien’s location - Research has not been positive on hybrid. - Matthew Jordan at Wilts Council has offered facilities for hybrid. Something we can experiment with and see if it works for us. - Action – Angela, Gareth and Linda to work on blurb for CFVSF to send out. 	<p>TS</p> <p>Melissa</p> <p>LCG</p> <p>Alison Sankey</p> <p>DH</p> <p>AB</p> <p>LCG</p> <p>Natalie Huggins</p> <p>LCG</p>
9.	<p>AOB None</p>	
10.	<p>Close</p>	<p>11.28am</p>