



Wiltshire Children & Families Voluntary Sector Forum

Minutes

Date: 25/01/2022
 Time: 9.30 am
 Venue: Virtual forum via Zoom

Attendees	Apologies
Angela Brennan (Chair) Russ Martin – Spurgeons Nicola Coker – Office of Wiltshire Police & Crime Commissioner Dawn Whiting – Youth Action Wiltshire/Community First Alexandra Boyd – Wilton Council Sarah Smith – NSPCC Sarah Hawkins - TNB Garrison Early Years and Play Charlotte – Rainbow Trust Russ Martin - Spurgeons Liz James – Barnardos Caroline Fowke - Wiltshire Dyslexia Association	Paula Philp – Alabrae Margaret Firth – Wiltshire Community Foundation Karen Linaker – Wiltshire Council Damian Haasjes – Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Linda Cantillon-Guyatt – Wessex Community Action Louise Lewis Gareth Wood (Minute-taker)
	Vicky Watt – Rise Trust Lin Scott – Grand Mentors Natalie Huggins – Motiv8 Esther Woodison – Julia’s House Robin Imerson – Rise:61 Natasha Flintoff – Army Welfare Service Alison Sankey – Family Counselling Trust

Item	Who
1. Welcome No conflicts of interest raised.	Chair
2. Introduction from Pip Thompson – Wiltshire Council Contract Manager - Pip unable to attend and suggested that she now speaks at March’s meeting.	
3. Your 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The forum heard from: - Sarah Hawkins - TNB Garrison Early Years & Play - Alexandra Boyd - Wilton Council - Caroline Fowke - Wiltshire Dyslexia Association - Sarah Smith – NSPCC Schools Service - Margaret Firth – Wiltshire Community Foundation - Linda Cantillon-Guyatt – Wessex Community Action - Paula Philp – Alabrae - Liz James – Barnardos 	

	The above all gave an overview of what's on the horizon for 2022 with their organisations.	
4.	<p>Update from Louise Lewis - Project Lead with the Virtual Schools Team</p> <p>Louise gave an overview of the virtual schools. Her presentation can be found here.</p> <p>Louise also passed the below on to be included as discussed in the forum meeting:</p> <p>Please find the link to the survey connected to understanding barriers faced by children with a social worker that Louise Lewis spoke about. This can be found on the link below and takes no more than 10 minutes to complete. The data created here will help create a full dataset to help us understand the barriers this cohort of children in Wiltshire face and develop strategies to enhance partnership working for these children and young people.</p> <p>https://survey.wiltshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=164278329499</p> <p>The information from the voluntary sector is being gathered along with the same information from schools and local authority services including police, school nurses, social workers and education welfare officers. It will be used to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make visible the disadvantages that children with a social worker can experience, enhancing partnerships between education settings and local authorities to help all agencies hold high aspirations for these children. 2. Promote practice that supports children's engagement in education, recognising that attending an education setting can be an important factor in helping to keep children safe from harm. 3. Level up children's outcomes and narrow the attainment gap so every child can reach their potential. This will include helping to make sure that children with a social worker benefit from support to recover from the impact of COVID-19. <p>Many thanks for all the work you do with these children and their families and for taking the time to complete the survey.</p> <p><i>Please feel free to contact Louise directly if you have any questions you would like to ask her or if you are aware of any organisations or groups of children and young people that she could talk to about her work.</i></p> <p>Louise concluded by taking questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How are you including youth work organisations in your work? - Here to learn about one to link with. Interested in youth voice – post 16 so vital. 	<p>Louise Lewis</p> <p>Margaret Firth</p> <p>LL</p>
5.	<p>Training Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training offer over last 6 months has had large number of people either no showing or giving notice of non-attendance at very last minute. - Makes cost of training to CFVSF very expensive and going to have to charge an administration to those who don't give notice going forward. 	Linda Cantillon-Guyatt

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Previously we've had fully booked courses with a waiting list where people have not attended but we've not been able to offer out places due to the short notice. - Expectation will now be that new members to attend 2 meetings before becoming eligible to the free training. - These changes are to make sure that the money does the most good. For instance our December training offer overall cost £36.76 for each CFVSF member that received training. - Formalising it to begin with no more than 2 attendees from any one member organisation. Should there be remaining places closer to the course date then up to another 2 may join.. - Adequate notice of cancellation – no cost. Short or no notice – admin fee of £20. - There was a request for Safer Recruitment Training which will be investigated. 	
6.	Coffee Break	
7.	<p>Summer Conference Forum attendees broke off into three smaller breakout rooms for 15 minutes to discuss the following four questions:</p> <p>1)Would an in person conference/event in July in Devizes have your support? Does this interest you?</p> <p>2) In your groups please come up with 3 subjects you'd most like to see covered at an in person conference/event.</p> <p>3) In relation to the subjects you'd like to see discussed; please let us know of any speakers you feel would be appropriate</p> <p>4)Full or half day?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Majority said yes especially summer time - Accessible venue - Timing ideally 10-2 - Networking the number one thing. - Wiltshire Council 101/explainer session – how things interconnect and where to go for info - Food is a must – individually wrapped <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overwhelmingly yes. - Civic Centre seen as better venue – accessible to those who don't drive and can open up to outside if nice day - Strategic topics and an inspirational speaker - Tables or some way of groups promoting themselves - All day if possible with a lunch provided with afternoon for networking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shorter full day, for school pickups - Inclusion of groups across Wiltshire eg: refugees and travellers - Workshop speakers and someone to close - Inspirational day - Suggested that a speaker from another voluntary sector forum to speak about their experiences and their approach 	<p>Damien Haasjes (for group one)</p> <p>LCG (for group two)</p> <p>Angela Brennan (for group three)</p>

