

Minutes

Meeting of the SWMPF Working Group on Vulnerable and At Risk Children and Young People

**12:00 – 2:00pm, Thursday 16 October 2014
City of Melville**

Interim chair: Karin Mac Arthur, Community Partnership Broker, South West Metropolitan Partnership Forum

Participants: Julie Fitzgerald (Team Leader, Responsible Parenting Services, Department for Child Protection and Family Support); Russ Eldean (Youth Liaison Officer, WA Police); Sarah Brown (Manager, Y-Shac Anglicare WA); Christine George (Youth Project Officer, City of Fremantle); Ruth Dogovski (A/Youth Education Advisor, Youth Justice Services); Craig Green (Youth Worker, Fremantle PCYC); Maria McAtackney (CEO Nyoongar Patrol Outreach Service); Dee Skuza (Community Development Officer, Youth - City of Melville); Denise Henden (Department of Education); Michael Carter (Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Indigenous Network - Perth); Bobby Mizen (Youth Outreach Officer, City of Cockburn); Paul Loseby (Manger, Headspace); Sita Fitzgerald (CaLD Children's Therapeutic Officer, Fremantle Multicultural Centre); Claire Heffernan (Manager, South West Metropolitan Youth Justice Services); Lianda Gibson (AndMe Consulting)

Apologies: Ian Jorritsma (Team Leader, Department of Housing); Catherine Duce (Y-Shac, Anglicare WA)

Minute taker: Dee Skuza

- **Welcome, introductions and apologies**

Karin welcomed our next members – Paul Loseby, Sita Fitzgerald and Denise Henden (our new representative from the Department of Education)

- **Approval of minutes meeting 18 September 2014**

The minutes were approved without change.

- **Update on actions arising from previous meeting**

- Karin followed up with non govt organisations:
 - Head Space – Manager Paul Loseby, who the group is pleased to welcome on board; also Fremantle Multicultural Centre – the group is pleased to welcome Sita Fitzgerald, FMC's CaLD Children's Therapeutic Officer, on board. Both Paul and Sita bring a fantastic wealth and breadth of experience to the working group.

She has not heard back from Wanslea and MercyCare's Reconnect, but the group agreed we now have sufficient resources to draw upon through the SWMPF membership.

- Maria followed up with Challenger TAFE – Doug Thompon's email to her was distributed to members before the meeting. The group welcomed this contact at TAFE for future initiatives.
 - Craig contacted Armando Sport, who expressed in principle interest in supporting the project should the opportunity present itself.
- **Development of agreed format for “working lunches” from 27 – 29 October (Week 3, Term 4)**
12pm Monday 27 October (Caralee – Dee, Denise, Russ and Karin);
11am Tuesday 28 October (South Lake – Ruth, Bobbie, Maria and Karin);
12pm Wednesday 29 October (Winterfold – Christine, Julie, Catherine and Karin)

The Principals from Caralee and Winterfold (or their chosen teachers) will introduce the project to the participants (Karin to send suggested wording to Principals). Karin confirmed that the Principals would be choosing teachers with whom the students had good relationships, including the school Chaplains.

Ruth will introduce the project to students at South Lake and run the session.

The group agreed on the need to ensure this first lunch is a fun experience. After some discussion, it agreed the individual questions should not be asked as these might be confronting at this stage (we will ask them at a later stage next year). Instead, the students will only be asked, as a group, the three general questions (Wave a Wand, Afterschool and What would you like to do?).

Lianda agreed to develop some engaging activities that could be undertaken around each question.

The group recommended the sessions be 1.5 hrs, rather than 2 hrs.

Actions:

- Karin to draft wording to introduce the project and send to the Principals
 - Lianda to develop some suggested activities.
- **Collation and analysis of data collected – allocation of responsibilities and timeframes**
It was agreed the group should meet to review responses: 9.30am, Tuesday 11 November, Education department - discuss ideas, quick wins, where to from here?

Paul offered to assist with analyzing the responses received from the students.

Sita also volunteered to assist with this task. Karin to draft template for collation of the data collected, which all the working group members attending the lunches will populate.

Actions:

- Karin to develop template for collating data and distribute to those attending the different lunches.
 - All members observing the working lunches to assist in populating the template.
 - Karin to provide Paul and Sita with the completed templates asap to give them at least one week to analyse the data ahead of the group's next meeting.
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- **Development of agreed approach to meeting with Principals (week 5)**
It was agreed to meet with Principals (Caralee and Winterfold): 9.30am Wednesday 12 November, at Caralee and with the Principal of South Lake: 9.30am Thursday 13 November at South Lake PS, to discuss the outcomes from the working lunches and agree next steps.
 - **Engagement strategy in relation to meeting with students (week 6) inviting their ideas for initiatives to be undertaken by SWMPF and in relation to ongoing engagement with students thereafter**
It was agreed to hold feedback meetings with students:
Caralee 12pm, Monday 17 November
South Lake, 11am, Tuesday 18 November
Winterfold, 12pm, Wednesday 19 November
Content/strategy for these feedback sessions will be informed by the group meeting on 11 November and the meetings with the Principals on 12 and 13 November.

As regards future engagement, it was considered that the two meetings this term would be sufficient. It was agreed that in Term 1, 2015, the first meeting with the students would focus on choosing a name for the project and designing a logo. The group would invite a young 'cool' graphic designer to work with the students.

Students to be asked at the working lunches to start thinking about a 'name' for the project.

Action:

- All members to advise Karin if they know of a graphic designer we might approach to hold a session at each of the 3 schools.

- **Identification of an initiative that can be delivered start of Term 1 (in the event that no initiative identified by the students can be delivered within that timeframe)**

This item has been deferred until we have the feedback from the students.

- **Date and venue of next meeting:** 9.30am, Tuesday 11 November, Education Department Regional Office, Hampton Road.

- **Any other business**

- Wrist bands – these will be distributed to the students at the working lunches.
- Denise kindly offered to contact McDonalds to see if they might donate vouchers to give to the students at the end of term as a thank you participating.
- Many thanks to Maria for financing our lunch, and to Dee and the City of Melville for hosting our meeting.