

## Minutes

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

9:30am – 11:30am, Thursday 5 February, 2015  
Department of Education Regional Office,  
184 Hampton Road, Beaconsfield

**Acting chair:** Dee Skuza – Community Development Officer - Youth

**Participants:** Julie Fitzgerald (Team Leader, Responsible Parenting Services, Department for Child Protection and Family Support); Russ Eldean (Youth Liaison Officer, WA Police); Christine George (Youth Project Officer, City of Fremantle); Alan Wiseman (Youth Justice Services); Michael Carter (Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Indigenous Network - Perth); Paul Loseby (Manager, HeadSpace)

**Apologies:** Bobby Mizen (Youth Outreach Officer, City of Cockburn); Denise Henden (Behaviour and Attendance Officer, Department of Education); Karin Mac Arthur (SWMPF Community Partnership Broker)

#### 1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Welcome Allan Wiseman from Youth Justice Services who will be joining us (replacing Claire/Ruth). Allan will also be joining Bobby Mizen, Maria McAttackney and Karin in progressing the project at South Lakes Primary School.

Many thanks to Dee for chairing the meeting in Karin's absence (at jury duty).

#### 2. Volunteer to take minutes

Thank you to Christine for taking the minutes.

#### 3. Approval of minutes meeting 11 December, 2014

The minutes were approved without change.

#### 4. Update on actions arising from minutes

- PCYC Manager Rebecca Slavin has advised that the Drop In program will not be affected by Craig's departure. Russ added at the meeting that Drop In is now staffed by Tim Bradfold and Brad Robbins.

- FMC is unable to provide a replacement for Sita because of staffing shortages.
- All Principals have been invited to attend the working group meetings whenever they wish.
- The City of Fremantle staff who kindly donated movie tickets to Winterfold Primary School provided these directly to the Principal for distribution at the end of term 4.
- Karin has sourced a highly talented young animator to facilitate workshops to develop the project names and branding.
- Dee has sought information from Melville SHS regarding a rewards program app and is awaiting to hear.
- Refer item 6 for actions relating to individual school initiatives.

**5. How are we travelling? Stock take on 2014 and the year ahead:  
Challenges and learnings, opportunities, rules of engagement for 2015**

The working group generally felt we are on track but need to involve the Principals more in discussions prior to progressing with ideas. Having all Principals around the table could be a positive experience as well as an opportunity to share ideas, what's worked, what has not worked, etc. The feedback from the meeting held at Caralee last year with the Principal and Deputy Principal of WPS was very positive.

Everyone agreed that our enthusiasm, positivity and energy is still strong and we need to convey this to the schools so they don't lose momentum.

We need to market the project not only to the students (at school assemblies etc) but also to parents. A marketing strategy is needed. This should include development of linkages with the P&Cs.

This discussion will be continued at a subsequent meeting as not all areas were covered.

**6. Update from relevant members on stage 1 initiatives in the 3 schools**

**Caralee**

Dee has arranged Breaking classes (4 – 5pm) run by The Dance Collective to be run at Willagee Community Centre for Term 1 and will look for funding for Term 2.

Dylan Smith (Fremantle Foundation) and Karin met with Jason and attended one of the sessions at Melville library to discuss how to progress the school's innovative and highly successful homework support initiative. Negotiations with the Foundation are progressing well and Karin hopes to be in a position to update the working group shortly.

Karin has met with Caralee regarding the proposed plan, including design, for the installation of a nature scape. This is going to be developed by their EA Sam, in conjunction with his wood work program (which will involve the making of chairs and tables for the shady areas in the garden).

### **South Lake Primary School**

SLPS have commenced their nature play area using 'Repay' workers. Karin sourced funding to keep the garden project going over the school holidays (including purchase of raised garden beds).

The Dockers' Michael Walters will attend SLPS on Thursday 19 February to talk about his journey, how he built resilience as he was growing up and to share tips with the children in dealing with conflict.

Bobbie suggested Darryl Bellotti (Aboriginal Outreach Officer) may be able to put together a specialised arts program at SLPS and will continue discussions now school holiday program has finished. This may be able to come out of the City of Cockburn's Youth Outreach budget but not until 3<sup>rd</sup> term.

Ian offered to follow up possible funding for the requested sports equipment through his contacts.

Bobbie is working with SLPS in relation to applying for City of Cockburn funding for the outstanding initiatives (dance classes and Dismantle).

### **Actions:**

- Ian to follow up his contacts to see if they will sponsor sporting equipment.
- Bobbie to follow up re specialised arts program, dancing classes and Dismantle.

### **Winterfold Primary School**

David Cain advised in mid-December that UnitingCare West's Food Rescue program provided only fruit and vegetables, and suggested 100 Hampton Road for both breakfasts and cooking classes.

The working group has identified a number of possible candidates to provide sporting activities at recess and after school. We are awaiting feedback from the school as to how best to facilitate the selection and recruitment process.

Cooking classes: The South Metropolitan Public Health Unit referred Karin back to Foodbank as they provide cooking classes through their 'Food Sensations' program. Karin met with Foodbank, who advised only schools registered for the Breakfast program were eligible to receive cooking classes. Karin sought advice

from WPS as to whether they might consider registering for Foodbank. If WPS does not register with Foodbank, alternatives will need to be explored.

Homework support: Awaiting feedback from WPS regarding their approach to South Fremantle SHS.

After school sport: Christine raised possibility of SWMPF or P&C applying for DSR funding – subject to discussion with WPS.

Awaiting feedback from Catherine Duce (AnglicareWA) who was exploring opportunities with a community organisation to work with Winterfold PS to develop their nature scape.

**Actions:**

- Christine/Julie to meet with WPS to progress the above initiatives..
- Karin to follow up with Anglicare WA regarding continued representation on the working group.

**7. Update:**

**Base-line data surveys received to date**

All the schools completed the surveys before the end of Term 4. Many thanks to Paul Loseby for providing Karin with the statistical program to present this data.

**Workshop to develop project name and branding (week 3, Term 1)**

The working group approved the proposed project names to get the workshop discussions rolling. Karin provided all the Principals with speaking notes to introduce the workshops, including – most importantly – a recap of what the project was aiming to achieve, notably:

*This project is all about them coming up with ideas and doing things that will make school a better place for themselves and other students. The project will help kids:*

- *Find it easier and more fun to be at school*
- *Feel happy, healthy and proud of what they can do*
- *Link up with out of school activities*
- *Feel safe and valued at school, home and when they live*

**Second set of questions for students to inform project stage 2**

These questions are to be asked one-on-one from week 4. The Principals have been advised that the working group members are willing to assist with this resource-intensive exercise. Caralee has advised that it will use its own resources to complete these questions. Awaiting guidance from the other 2 schools.

### **8. Funding for working lunches this term:**

Christine said she could assist for Winterfold and Bobbie with South Lake PS.

#### **Actions:**

- All working group members to seek approval to fund one of the lunches so that the cost is shared equally.

### **9. Any other business**

Terms of Reference - Postponed to next meeting.

SWMPF webpage updated <http://www.swmpf.org.au/swmpf-projects/common-social-issue/> -Postponed to next meeting.

### **10. Date and venue of next meeting.**

The working group discussed the possibility of convening a 'Round Table' with all 3 Principals on 26 February 2015 as it was believed this would assist significantly in facilitating the progress of the various project initiatives.

Karin advised out-of-session that, notwithstanding the merit of this proposal, the working group would be convening a meeting of all three principals in week 7 or 8 to discuss the responses received to the second set of questions and the group's proposals to address these. Given that the Principals of all three schools have indicated the severe time constraints they face, it is not appropriate to seek more than one 'Round Table' a term. Further, the agenda items proposed for this earlier meeting have already been raised in one-on-one meetings with the Principals.

The next meeting of the working group will be held **at 9.00am on Thursday 5 March (venue to be advised).**