



## **Children, Young People and Families Citywide Forum Steering Group meeting**

### **Note of meeting Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017 9.30 to 12.30 – The Albany Centre**

**Present:** Joanne Aitken (Govan HELP), Vicki Burns (Y People), Sharon Colvin (3D Drumchapel), Anne Condie (Scottish Childminding Association), Isabel Dunsmuir (DRC Generations), Greg Gallagher (Stepdown), Debbie Hamilton (Geezabreak), Eddie Kane (Barnardo's), Michelle King (Rosemount), Linda Pople (One Parent Families Scotland), Liz Reid (Action for Children).

**In attendance:** Suzie Scott (Everyone's Children/GCVS), Lisa Wright (Everyone's Children/GCVS).

**Apologies:** Audrey Anderson (Early Years Scotland), Melodie Crumlin (PEEK), Paul Fletcher (A&M Scotland), Ronnie Gourlay (NTS GIRFEC), Louise Hamilton (Quarriers), Maxine Hawthorne (Aberlour), Julie Richardson (Children 1<sup>st</sup>).

#### **1. Minutes from last meeting**

Minutes from last meeting were quickly looked over. Eddie explained that the inspectors were due to come in on the 24<sup>th</sup> March with final feedback and he would be able to feed this back to the steering group afterwards.

Linda and Isabel talked about the Neglect summit which had been successful with a good representation of the third sector. Isabel discussed how Glasgow are moving towards a more action based approach to tackling neglect. Yet communities still get hardly any money - discussion of how the third sector is still under pressure despite the fragility or lack of funding.

Suzie told the group how not many on the names she had given forward for the Social Security Committee call for evidence had been sent invitations. Although she had been asked to provide names of frontline staff it came to light that chief execs etc. had been chosen.

### **Forum Action Plan for 2017/18**

#### **1. Finalising the Terms of Reference**

A draft version is with Biba who is still working on it. Suzie has spoken to Biba and it was agreed the Terms of Reference can be finalised electronically. The most recent version has been sent to Liz who has now taken on this task.

## 2. Communication Strategy

- a) The updated version of the leaflet was approved.

There was discussion about the different levels of engagement through: e-mail, Twitter and the website. Eddie reiterated that how information is disseminated out should be made clear. Links to documents and papers can be made available for people through the website.

Lisa asked for more photos for the video which she has created, to give it more variety and be more representative of the TSO's.

- b) Suzie talked about how external communications should be thought about, especially in relation to the new councillors coming in. It was agreed that after the election the Citywide Forum should have a meeting with councillors to begin an engagement process. Suzie also mentioned the new GCVS 2017 manifesto which has just been launched. **Suzie/Lisa will circulate to the group for feedback.**

## 3. Forum Events

### Significant Case Reviews

Eddie explained that the CPC require a process to disseminate information out from the Significant Case Reviews (SCR) but in relation to the third sector it would be preferable that this doesn't rely on one person. We would have scope to put something together that suits the structure of the third sector. An event would be ideal, and it could feed back in to the Child Protection Committee (CPC). Eddie gave more details about SCR for those present who weren't familiar. Joanne suggested we bring an event together with this, CPC and child protection in general as this is a really important subject and could be an opportunity for organisations to get up to date policies and guidance. Suzie agreed that this kind of event would have a good turnout – it is important to form bridges and widen discussion with events like this. Greg talked about how safeguarding must be high on our agenda and looking forward we could aim to have an event on this every year. There was agreement that this would be a good event to put on and that it could take place in **September 2017.**

### Early Learning and Childcare

Anne brought forward the idea of an event around ELC and the expansion and general ELC agenda. Suzie explained that the Everyone's Children project are currently carrying out research in this area, to scope out the need and capacity of the third sector for childcare expansion. Anne talked about how it is really relevant at the moment, with Mark McDonald's recent statement, the plan guide and the skills improvement plan – it is a big area but timescales are short just now. Anne mentioned that many families don't even know about the expansion and the low uptake of the Eligible 2's early intervention scheme. Suzie discussed how this is closely linked to family support with a number of third sector organisations who provide family support informally providing ELC. It was agreed that an event on ELC

could take place in **June 2017**.

### **Transformational Change**

Joanne put forward the option of an event around transformational change. Eddie suggested that we should have some more regular feedback on transformational change, now that Gary Dover has established a group surrounding this. Eddie thought it better we are more involved in this process rather than putting on an event to hear about it. Suzie suggested that events on topics like transformational change could be smaller scale, compared to the above. It was agreed that there is potential for a smaller scale event around this in **December 2017**.

### **AGM**

Greg suggested that we could plan to have an AGM **early 2018**, as a way of keeping the profile of the Forum up. This was agreed.

## **4. Child Protection Committee and CSEG**

**a)** Eddie updated the group on CPC and CSEG, explaining how the CPC in the last 18 months has been developed with the formation of the joint board. Eddie discussed how the Forum could feed into the Child Protection sub-group – the SCR learning would be a significant example. Continuing the process of becoming more representative of them wider third sector.

Eddie talked about how they get the CPC papers 2 weeks before meetings, so he can distribute to the Forum for feedback and to build a two way communication. Eddie brought forward the fact that he is currently on a number of groups and it that it would be more representative if attendance on some of these groups were shared.

Eddie explained that the CSEG might change as there are some thoughts that this group, as it currently stands is made up of many of the people who attend the CPC.

**b)** Suzie drew up a diagram of various networks and groups in children's services – see below. There was long discussion about the various networks and forums that exist and who could join/step back from what group:

- Michelle said she would be interested in joining the CPC and it was agreed that she can shadow Eddie to begin with and then Eddie could then step back from that position. Isabel said she would consider joining the quality assurance group but would need a briefing first.

- Eddie explained that the Family Support Group to be set up by Gary Dover would be taking forward issues around transformational change.

- Suzie said she would talk to Ronnie Hill about the Scot Gov GIRFEC group. Ann Condi is a member of this.

- Greg said he would volunteer for the Third Sector Forum exec committee.

- Joanne said she would be interested in school nursing group as her organisation work very closely with school nurses. Eddie explained it is quite a lot of work, but that he would send Joanne the Terms of Reference so she can decide.

## 5. Pupil Equity Fund

**a)** Suzie gave details of the networking events happening in the South led by Sean and the Everyone's Children/WCVSN/NW Network event – both happening on the 28<sup>th</sup> March. The two events are networking opportunities for third sector organisations who provide services for children and families to meet the schools in their area, with the aim of potential work together in the future considering the current Pupil Equity Fund.

**b)** There was discussion about how schools have been inundated with phone calls about the Fund from organisations who provide services. Isabel talked about the fund means we are in a situation now where four schools in their organisation's area already use their services for free, but others would have to pay.

Some people mentioned that they understood schools are likely to use the Fund to get extra teachers. Suzie explained that even if the Pupil Equity Fund isn't used to work with third sector organisations this time around (as the deadline is so soon) this networking will be part of a process and can contribute to better partnership working between schools and third sector orgs in the long term. It will at least create an awareness of local organisations. **Agreed it would be useful to come back together at some point (Sept 17?) to discuss what schools spent the money on.**

## 6. Inspection Report

Eddie said he will feedback on the report after it comes.

## 7. Draft Children's Services Plan

Suzie explained that the Children's Services Planning group have told Scottish Government that they can produce a draft plan by mid-April. This will be followed by a short consultation period – Suzie can circulate at this point.

### **Listening to Children sub-group**

Vicki explained that the consultation process is ongoing and they are keen to capture more views. Vicki will send the template to Suzie to circulate – important to get voices of service users around wellbeing indicators.

## 8. Named Person announcement

There was brief discussion of John Swinney's announcement on 7<sup>th</sup> March that he will bring forward a Bill with new provisions on when and how information can be

shared in the Named Person service. The three month engagement process (Sep-Dec) means that implementation is delayed until 2018.

**9. Nominees to GCHSCP committees and other groups**

See above – covered in item 4.

**10. Date of Next meeting and forward calendar for 2017**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**