

VSCSF Meeting –

Minutes of Meeting Held on Tuesday 23 July 2019
Fife Voluntary Action, Caledonia House, Glenrothes



Present:	Kenny Murphy, Fife Voluntary Action Rhona Cunningham, Fife Gingerbread Kath Miller, Fife Gingerbread Joanne Roddam, Home Start East Fife Martha Henderson, Relationships Scotland Mieke Van Der Zijpp, Relationships Scotland Murdo Mathers, Barnardo's Dawn Ward, Barnardo's Lindsay Brown, Home-Start Glenrothes Emma Pauley, LEAD Kate McCormack, Fife Women's Aid Morag Coleman, Families First St Andrews Kelly Rodgers, Cottage Family Centre Lesley Patrick, Cottage Family Centre Amber Reid, Fife Young Carers Kerrie Cowie, Crossroads Kirsten Docherty, Crossroads Laura Crombie, Clued Up Emma Thomson, Home Start East Fife Vicky Hunter, Barnardo's
In attendance:	Corinna Crawford, Fife Voluntary Action (Note taker) David Cameron, Consultant Lindsay Macgregor, Consultant
Apologies:	Judith Allison, Youth 1st Morag Peggie, Homestart Levenmouth Martin Denholm, DAPL Susan Capaldi, Home Start Cowdenbeath Kirstie Howell, Fife Young Carers Janice Bain, RNIB

1. Welcome and Apologies

Kenny welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.
Kenny agreed to chair the meeting today until a chairperson is appointed.

2. Minutes 26 March 2019

The above minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting subject to including Rhona Cunningham to apologies.

3. Matter arising

It was agreed to carry forward the terms of reference of the group until the next meeting. Fairer Fife will be discussed later in the agenda.

The representation at the group will also be carried forward to the next meeting.

4. GIRFEC

Vicky Wan from Children in Scotland delivered an informative presentation on the National Third Sector GIRFEC project. The following key items were highlighted:

What they do:

- influence national policy
- promote good practice
- learning and networking opportunities
- practical support e.g. developing resources

The Children and Young People's Evidence bank was also discussed - this contains quotes from children and young people. It was also noted that if anyone has any information they would like added to the website, you can complete a very brief online form with what you would like to be added.

They conducted national research on third sector engagement at strategic level. The survey was promoted through the third sector and social media asking for feedback. 58 responses received to date, 16 TSI's interviewed on strategic involvement. Responses were received from Fife.

Key themes that have been identified from the research:

- services planning practice varies from area to area
- lack of capacity
- local third sector network provides a platform for equal opportunities to participate
- Role of the third sector interface (TSI) in relation to children's services planning was not always clearly described and fully understood by partners
- third sector data was not fully considered and utilised
- Relationship is key for successful
- Children and young people's voices are well embedded at organisational level, not same extent at strategic planning
- Procurement practice tends to encourage competitive tendering

From this they are planning to do training, support networks, support TSI children services networks and a GIRFEC seminar. Vicky encouraged everyone to sign up to the Children in

Scotland newsletter to be kept updated with information. This project is funded until end of December but hoping for continuation of the funding to test new approaches, as this is something the forum would like to pursue. They're also keen to bring people together and facilitate learning and sharing of information.

A review is underway at present, everyone feeling pressure commitment to attend meetings. Offer of support from Children in Scotland is something we should consider. Information to be shared with members that Vicky previously sent to Kenny.

Action: Information to be shared with members

Vicky also noted that she has brought 2 copies of the toolkit if anyone is interested. This is a tool that is available online, links will be sent out with other information when minutes circulated.

Action: Links for the toolkit to be sent out with other information

Kenny noted that a chief officers meeting for GIRFEC Leadership Project has been scheduled to take place on 15 August and will feedback at the next meeting.

Action: Kenny to update on GIRFEC meeting

Kenny thanked Vicky for her informative presentation.

5. Appointment of a new forum chairperson and voluntary sector representatives for some partnerships

As agreed earlier, this will be carried forward to the next meeting.

6. Update on Review of Third Sector Children's Services Provision, with Lindsay Macgregor and David Cameron

Kenny welcomed David and Lindsay, who have been commissioned by FVA, in partnership with Fife Council, to carry out the review into the funding of third sector children's services. It was noted that a very brief update has now been written and sent to the steering group for review, prior to going to Committee. It was highlighted that 18 interviews have taken place with 8 still to be carried out. Kenny will circulate report from the event that took place on 23 June.

Action: Report from 23 June event to be circulated to members

It was recognised the pressures that have faced the third sector over the few years. Capacity to work collaboratively, more joined up approach, shared hubs, cut staff hours, service delivery and shared training with Fife Council were also mentioned. Many issues have been brought up, with just one example being that services find it difficult to contact midwives.

Both David and Lindsay report to the steering group, there are not yet any significant proposals around how money can be saved. A draft report will be submitted to the Children's Services Committee which will provide an overview of what has been carried out. Interviews to be completed with Carrie Lindsay and the new social work head. We

need to think about a more integrated approach and need to look at potential savings and what they might look like. It was noted that the deadline for the completed report is October. We are keen to ensure that the process is as open as possible.

David highlighted that he is happy to be contacted directly in relation to the report and his e-mail will be included in the e-mail with minutes.

Action: David's e-mail to be included within the e-mail with minutes

Post-meeting update: David Cameron can be contacted at: therealdavidcameron@gmail.com

David and Lindsay left the meeting at 11am.

7. Verbal Updates from Representatives

Members were reminded that we are regularly looking for representatives, and reserves, for the various partnerships and networks.

Third Sector Strategy Group (TSSG)

It was reported that the TSSG have developed an action plan which is a very ambitious action plan, the group will be looking to review this to see how this can be condensed and a summary report will be produced together with a progress report.

The TSSG will be looking to organise an event February/March 2020 and this will be an event to bring together third sector and public sector partners with a focus on community-led services.

The feedback we received on the last set of management training sessions and mini-seminars that were held has been very positive and these will be run again. People should check the FVA weekly bulletin to find out how to book free places.

Children in Fife

The next CIF meeting is scheduled to take place on 11 September 2019.

It was noted that some discussions that took place at the last meeting included:

- Positive and sustained destinations;
- Vision for Senior Phase;
- Variations from lowest to highest levels of positive;
- STEM agenda which has been agreed with the College

Lynn Gillies advised that she was looking for sense of direction in terms of next steps in relation to Parent-led Childcare. Process was looked at from a research-based approach to fully understand what is meant. The Parent-led childcare report will be passed to Jacqueline Price for further action.

Delivery leads have been asked to revisit the Opportunities for All theme. Children's services development session took place on 10 June.

A new risk register is being developed. Trauma training was agreed to be reviewed at the next meeting in September.

Kenny advised that there is currently only 1 representative on the Children in Fife partnership since Rhona resigned as Chairperson of this Forum. The chairperson of the VSCSF has a seat on CiF, so we will need to appoint a chairperson soon, or elect another representative to sit alongside Kenny. It was suggested to have Laura as the interim chair until a new chair has been appointed. It was agreed to revisit the terms of reference of the group if we have one but if not, then Kenny will draft a new TOR for the group.

Action: Kenny to draft Terms of Reference for the Forum

GIRFEC Working Group

It was noted that the annual Children's Services Conference will take place on 18 September 8.30 – 1pm at Rothes Halls in Glenrothes. If anyone is interested in attending please contact Murdo directly.

A networking event is to take place on 14 November – no further details at this stage and will be shared once more information is available.

It was noted that Children's Rights reporting, local authority to report on how this is done in practice. Murdo will keep us updated at future meetings.

Workforce Development Group

The next meeting for this will take place on 28 August.

Children's Services Partnership Group

It was noted that the Children's Services Plan still to be received.

Multi-agency Child Protection training circulated but this can be accessed online.

Children Services Network meetings:

Glenrothes – it was reported that these meetings clash with the scheduled VSCSF meetings

Levenmouth – no update was given

Dunfermline – no update was given

SW – Joint wider networking event took place

NE – very education focused

It was noted that Murdo and Laura would feed this back and note that these working groups are all working differently and have different names.

Rhona and Marta left the meeting at 11.30am

Child Protection – June 2019

It was noted that there was a presentation from health around neglect. They also mentioned dental neglect in Kirkcaldy. An inspection and CS Plan update was given. Further work around CSE, proposals to seek investment.

Cedar Group

It was reported that this project continues to meet targets.

CYPIC

Joleen has advised that she would like third sector organisations involved in the next cohort. Joleen is aware of issues that have previously been advised. Murdo will keep us updated and report back at future meetings.

Young Parent and Pregnancy Group

Kath briefly mentioned a maternity document which she would share for circulation.

Action: Maternity document to be sent for circulation

SE Audit Group

Currently looking at terms of reference for this group and the name of the group will be changing.

Family Nurse Partnership

No update given as Emma has recently taken over from Kirsty at Homestart and hasn't managed to attend any of the meetings yet.

8. AOCB

It was noted that there are currently 2 consultations out at the moment, human trafficking and reform to legal aid which has the closing date of 19 September. These are both on the FVA website and bulletins.