

Cross-Party Group Annual Report.

March 2017

Cross Party Group on Looked After Children

David Melding AM

Rhian Williams, Voices From Care

1. Group membership and office holders.

David Melding AM (Chair)
Julie Morgan AM
Bethan Jenkins AM
Lee Waters AM

Secretary: Rhian Williams – Voices From Care

Other Outside Bodies Attending:

Barnardo's Cymru
Children's Commissioner for Wales Office
The Fostering Network Wales
The Catholic Education Service
NYAS
Tros Gynnal Plant
Children in Wales
The Children's Society
Voices From Care

2. Previous Group Meetings.

Meeting 1.

Meeting date: 29th June 2016

Attendees:

David Melding AM
Julie Morgan AM
Lee waters AM
Llyr Gruffydd AM

Robin Lewis – AMSS for Vickki Howells AM

Fiona Openshaw – AMSS Researcher for Joyce Watson AM

Craig Lawson – AMSS for Suzy Davies AM

Paula Foley - AMSS for Jenny Rathbone AM

Sian Thomas - Senior Researcher NAW

Deborah Jones - CEO, Voices From Care

Rhian Williams - PA / Administrative Secretary, Voices From Care – (minute taker)

Reverend Philip Manghan - Catholic Education Service's Adviser (CSE) for Wales

Leoni Oxenham – Children’s Commissioner for Wales’s office

Hywel Dafydd – Children’s Commissioner for Wales Office

Tom Davies – The Children’s Society

Menna Thomas – Barnardo’s Cymru

Jackie Murphy – Tros Gynnal Plant

Summary of issues discussed:

Annual General Meeting

The Prison Reform Trust’s Review on ‘In Care, Out Of Trouble’ Report

The When I Am Ready Scheme

All Wales Advocacy

Education

Residential homes

Training Packages for Assembly Members and Assembly Committees

Meeting 2.

Meeting date: 30th November 2016

Attendees:

David Melding AM

Julie Morgan AM

Lee Waters AM

Mark Isherwood AM

Paula Foley - AMSS for Jenny Rathbone AM

Tom Davies – AMSS for Julie Morgan

Sian Thomas - Senior Researcher NAW, Observer

Deborah Jones - CEO, Voices From Care

Rhian Williams - PA / Administrative Secretary, Voices From Care – (minute taker)

Carol Floris – Advice and Support Coordinator, Voices From Care

Christopher Dunn – Programmes Manager, Voices From Care

Jennifer Coleman – Member, Voices From Care

Dr. Louise Roberts – Research Associate, CASCADE, Cardiff University

Reverend Philip Manghan - Catholic Education Service's Adviser for Wales

Rachel Thomas – Children’s Commissioner for Wales Office

Tom Davies – The Children’s Society

Menna Thomas – Barnardo’s Cymru

Sean O’Neil – Children in Wales

Dr. Emily Warren, - Director, The Fostering Network Wales

Maria Boffey – The Fostering Network Wales

Charlotte Wooders – The Fostering Network Wales

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee – examination of efficacy and efficiency of LAC spending
Work Plan for 2016 - 2017

Presentation: Early Parenthood for Young People In and Leaving Care in Wales

Meeting 3.

Meeting date: 8th March 2017

Attendees:

David Melding AM

Rhian Williams - PA / Administrative Secretary, Voices From Care – (minute taker)

Reverend Philip Manghan - Catholic Education Service

Tom Davies – The Children’s Society

Menna Thomas – Barnardo’s Cymru

Sean O’Neil – Children in Wales

Maria Boffey – The Fostering Network Wales

Charlotte Wooders – The Fostering Network Wales

Sharon Lovell – NYAS

Summary of issues discussed:

Early Deaths Among Care Leavers

Ministerial Advisory Group

St. David’s Fund

3. Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year.

The Cross Party Group on Looked After Children did not meet with any lobbyists or charities but the charities that regularly attended the All Party Group meetings are listed above.

Annual Financial Statement.

March 2017

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Group's Expenses.	None.	£0.00
Costs of all goods.	No goods purchased.	£0.00
Benefits received by the group or individual Members from outside bodies.	No benefits received.	£0.00
Any secretariat or other support.	2016-2017. A total of £4.50 was paid in travel expenses across the three meetings, which were met by Voices From Care and an estimation of £255.78 costs in kind for time incurred by Voices From Care staff for servicing the Cross Party Group on Looked After Children.	£260.28
Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.		
All refreshments paid for by [include name of group/organisation].		
Date	Description and name of provider	Cost

		£0.00
Total cost		£260.28