

Cross-Party Group Annual Report.

April 2018

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)

Lee Waters AM

Julie Morgan AM

Secretary: Rhian Williams/Tim Crahart – Voices From Care Cymru

Other Outside Bodies Attending:

Action For Children

Barnardo's Cymru

BASW

Carmarthenshire County Council

Catholic Education Service

Children in Wales

Children's Commissioner for Wales Office

Bridgend County Borough Council

NAFW Research Service

NYAS

Social Care Wales

Stepping Stones

The Fostering Network Wales

Tros Gynnal Plant

Voices From Care Cymru

2. Previous Group Meetings.

Meeting 1.

Meeting date: Wednesday 20th June 2017

Attendees:

David Melding AM

Lee Waters	AM
Deborah Jones	Voices From Care
Rhian Williams	Voices From Care
Tim Crahart	Voices From Care
Rev Philip Manghan	Catholic Education Service
Menna Thomas	Barnardo's Cymru
Danielle Cope	Action For Children
Charlotte Wooders	The Fostering Network Wales
Sharon Lovell	NYAS
Leoni Oxenham	Children's Commissioner for Wales Office
Hywel Dafydd	NAFW Research Service
Jack Sellers	Researcher for D. Melding AM

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee into Looked After Children services
 Ministerial Advisory Group
 Corporate Parenting
 St David's fund and other funding announcements

Meeting 2.

Meeting date: 30th November 2016

Attendees:

Lee Waters	AM
Anna Collins	Consultant Social Worker – Bridgend
Beth Beynon	Stepping Stones
Mary Clune	BASW
Tim Crahart	Voices From Care Cymru
Deborah Jones	Voices From Care Cymru
Rev Philip Manghan	Catholic Education Service
Sean O'Neil	Children in Wales
Emma Sullivan	Children in Wales
Menna Thomas	Barnardo's Cymru
Rachael Vaughan	Voices From Care Cymru
Catriona Williams	Co-Chair Voices From Care Cymru/Children in Wales
Charlotte Wooders	The Fostering Network Wales

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee into Looked After Children services
Ministerial Advisory Group
Presentation and Q&A Session from VFC on Contact and lack of contact with siblings

Meeting 3.

Meeting date: 13th March 2018

Attendees:

David Melding	AM
Anna Collins	Consultant Social Worker – Bridgend
Tim Crahart	Voices From Care Cymru
Bethan T James	Carmarthenshire County Council
Deborah Jones	Voices From Care Cymru
Jackie Murphy	Tros Gynnal Plant
Sean O’Neil	Children in Wales
Jack Sellers	David Melding AM’s Office
Bill Thomas	Joyce Watson AM’s Office
Ceri Williams	Social Care Wales
Charlotte Wooders	The Fostering Network Wales

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee into Looked After Children services
Ministerial Advisory Group
Presentation and Q & A Session on the national approach to statutory advocacy in Wales
Presentation on educational attainment in Carmarthenshire

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

None

Annual Financial Statement.

April 2018

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David Melding AM

Tim Crahart, Voices From Care

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.	2017-2018. An estimation of £346.15 costs in kind for time incurred by Voices From Care staff for servicing the Cross Party Group on Looked After Children.	£346.15
Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.		
N/A		
Date	Description and name of provider	Cost

		£0.00
Total cost		£346.15