

Cross-Party Group Annual Report.

April 2019

Cross Party Group on Looked After Children

David Melding AM

Tim Crahart, Voices From Care Cymru

1. Group membership and office holders.

David Melding AM (Chair)

Secretary: Tim Crahart – Voices From Care Cymru

Other Outside Bodies Attending:

Adoption UK
Barnardo's Cymru
Bridgend Social Services
Cardiff Council
Catholic Education Service
Carmarthenshire County Council
Children in Wales
Children's Commissioner for Wales Staff
NSPCC
NYAS Cymru
Social Care Wales
St Giles
Voices From Care Cymru

2. Previous Group Meetings.

Meeting 1.

Meeting date: 10th July 2018

Attendees:

Anna Collins – Consultant Social Worker – Bridgend
Deborah Jones – CEO, Voices From Care Cymru

Sean O’Neil – Children in Wales
Sharon Lovell – NYAS Cymru
Reverend Philip Manghan - Catholic Education Service
Rachel Thomas – Policy Adviser, Children’s Commissioner for Wales
Lucy Treby – Improvement and Development Manager, Social Care Wales
Heidi Keiser – NSPCC
Menna Thomas – Barnardo’s Cymru
Llinos Madeley – Clerk, Assembly Policy & Legislative Committee Service
Paula Foley – Caseworker Jenny Rathbone AM
Ashley Lister – Councillor for Grangetown
Luke Young – Head of Policy & Communications for Jeremy Miles AM
Sian Thomas – Research Team Leader, Assembly Commission Staff

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee inquiry into Looked After Children services
Ministerial Advisory Group
Mind Over Matter report

Meeting 2.

Meeting date: 13th November 2018

Attendees:

Joyce Watson AM
Lee Dutton – St Giles
Councillor Graham Hinchey – Cardiff Council
Bethan T James – Carmarthenshire County Council
Evan Jones – St Giles
Deborah Jones – CEO, Voices From Care Cymru
Heidi Keiser – NSPCC
Councillor Ash Lister – Cardiff Council
Ben Madler – Intern for David Melding
Reverend Philip Manghan - Catholic Education Service
Sean O’Neil – Children in Wales
Elaine Speyer – Barnardos
Rachel Thomas – Policy Adviser, Children’s Commissioner for Wales
Claire Tyler – National Assembly for Wales
Iwan Williams – Social Care Wales
Tim Crahart – Business Support Manager, Voices From Care Cymru

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee inquiry into Looked After Children services
Ministerial Advisory Group
Teachers Who Care presentation by Voices From Care Cymru
County Lines presentation by St Giles Trust

Meeting 3.

Meeting date: 12th March 2019

Attendees:

Janet Finch Saunders AM
Councillor Graham Hinchey – Cardiff Council
Deborah Jones – CEO, Voices From Care Cymru
Heidi Keiser – NSPCC
Councillor Ash Lister – Cardiff Council
Reverend Philip Manghan - Catholic Education Service
Sean O’Neil – Children in Wales
Iwan Williams – Social Care Wales
Menna Thomas – Barnardos Cymru
Ann Bell – Adoption UK
Paula Foley – Jenny Rathbone AM Support Staff
Sian Thomas – National Assembly Research Service
Elizabeth Flowers – Children’s Commissioner for Wales Staff
Sharon Lovell – NYAS Cymru
Siôn Jones – Helen Mary Jones AM Support Staff
Catriona Williams – Chief Executive, Children in Wales
Hannah Trezise – MBSS Janet Finch Saunders
Tim Crahart – Business Support Manager, Voices From Care Cymru

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee into Looked After Children services
Ministerial Advisory Group
Adoption and the care experienced community

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

The NGOs linked to the group are listed above when they have attended our regular meetings. No special meetings were held with NGOs or lobbyists.

Annual Financial Statement.

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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.	2018-2019. An estimation of £351.35 costs in kind for time incurred by Voices From Care staff for servicing the Cross Party Group on Looked After Children.	£351.35
Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.		
None		
Date	Description and name of provider	Cost
		£0.00
Total cost		£351.35