



MINUTES

EARLY YEARS PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

held on 22 June 2017 at 10.00am in Melton Library and Learning Hub, Community Room

Present: Sophie Ramsey, Mayor, City of Melton
Lara Carli, Councillor, City of Melton
Leigh Cruickshank, Coordinator Early Years Partnerships, MCC
Natalie Bakai, Principal, Kororoit Creek Primary School
Toni Morton, Manager Design team intensive support in the early years, DHHS
Bronwen Heathfield, Education Area Executive Director, DET
Paul Schwartz, Principal, Wedge Park Primary School
Fiona Norman, Early Childhood Performance and Planning Advisor SWV Region
Brimbank/Melton, DET
Sarah O'Kelly, Executive Officer Partnerships and Early Years, BPA
Michelle Marion, Koorie Engagement Support Officer, DET
Colleen Turner, Western Region Coordinator, VICSEG New Futures
Delia Clarke, Community Representative
Chloe Mortimer, Community Representative
Jessica Siddle, Area Manager, Goodstart Early Learning
Carly Middleton, Operations Manager, TRY Children's Services
Helen Schiele, Senior Early Years Advisor, Independent Schools Victoria
Melissa Sappupo, Manager Community Health and Health Promotion, DjHS
Sharron Allison, Director, Goodstart Early Learning
Cherie Salmon, Children and Families Program Officer, NWPHN
Helen Cooney, Chief Executive Officer, Caroline Chisholm Society
Sarah Restuccia, Acting Caroline Springs Library Branch Coordinator, MCC
Helen Baker, Acting Coordinator WRPS, Mackillop Family Services
Danielle Wilton, Family and Community Development Worker, TRY Australia
Dev Nedjip, Minute Taker, MCC

Chairperson: Natalie Bakai, Principal, Kororoit Creek Primary School

1. Welcome

N Bakai welcomed all attendees and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are gathered and paid respects to their elders both past and present.

2. Apologies

Vicky Matthews, Manager Families and Children, MCC
Bev Shaw, Maternal and Child Health Coordinator, MCC
Peta Brincat, Community Representative
Deirdre Hardy, Manager, Community Engagement & Capacity Building, Amaze
Luai Leuga, Regional Parenting Services Coordinator, MacKillop Family Services
Jo Read, DHHS, Team Leader Community Participation
Michael Daley, Program Manager, Yooralla

MINUTES

Jennifer Robinson, Principal, Kurunjang Primary School
Debbie Davern, Area Manager, Goodstart Early Learning
Jarney Newey, Deputy Area Manager, Child Protection
Troy Watson, Manager Libraries, MCC
Nicole Skate, Area Manager, Goodstart Early Learning

3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**Motion**

J Siddle/ D Clarke

That the Committee adopt the minutes of the Early Years Partnership Committee meeting held on 22 June 2017

5. Business Arising

Deferred to next meeting.

6. General Business**6.1 Early Childhood Reform Plan****Bronwen Heathfield, Education Area Executive Director, DET**

B Heathfield had an electronic presentation, with copies handed out to the committee. Bronwen explained 'the Education State Early Childhood Reform Plan: Ready for kinder, ready for school, ready for life sets out reforms to help every Victorian child and family access high-quality, equitable and inclusive services.' A landmark of \$202.1 million will be invested in early childhood.

The Early Childhood Reform Plan will have four directions. These are;

- Supporting higher quality services and reducing disadvantage in early education
- Providing more support for parenting
- Making childhood services more accessible and inclusive
- Building a better system

B Heathfield unpacked these directions and what this means for Melton. The Brimbank Melton Area has established a set of priorities. This includes the implementation of the MARRUNG Aboriginal Education Plan 2016-2026, engagement of vulnerable families in early childhood services, and the new framework for kindergarten to school transition.

Discussions were held around the implementation by stakeholders, and how these changes will support different services.

Action

Questions for B Heathfield to be forwarded to F Norman and feedback provided to Committee.

6.2 Roadmap for Reform: Strong families, safe children



MINUTES

Toni Morton, Manager Design team intensive support in the early years, DHHS

T Morton had an electronic presentation to view. She explained that 'a key priority is for universal services and supports to be better connected to targeted and statutory services and accessible to all members of the community – including children in out-of-home care. The services will also be better equipped to identify and respond to risk.'

Over the next two years, \$33.88 million will be invested into the expansion of programs, such as right@home, Cradle to Kinder, Aboriginal Cradle to Kinder, and Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies. This will also include working with Aboriginal communities to develop tailored maternal child health services to improve outcomes with culturally responsive and high-quality services.

T Morton unpacked the drivers for change, the approach to design and implementation timeframes. Themes from consultations include;

- earlier intervention
- entry, screening and triage
- service integration
- multi-disciplinary teams
- evidence-based interventions

Discussions were held around family violence screening at all hospitals, rising child protection notifications, funding based on population and need, and how maintaining program fidelity can counteract engagement with families.

Action

Presentation from T Morton to be forwarded to Committee.

6.3 MEYP evaluation and future planning for Early Years

Leigh Cruickshank, Coordinator Early Years Partnership, Melton City Council

L Cruickshank had an electronic presentation to view. The Municipal Early Years Plan previously was stand alone, like other plans and strategies by council. A new birth to adult plan will amalgamate early years, ageing well, disability and youth. The aim is to streamline but also strengthen these individual plans into one.

The MEYP evaluation is almost complete. This included looking at data and the parent carer survey. Discussions were held around some of the findings from this survey.

Action

Committee requested unpacking the Municipal Early Years Plan parent responses to be looked at in a future meeting.

6.4 Best Start progress review and annual report

Leigh Cruickshank, Coordinator Early Years Partnership, Melton City Council

L Cruickshank had an electronic presentation to view and an update to the committee.

L Cruickshank discussed how multiple Plan Do Study Act cycles have been developed and implemented and are being reviewed throughout the year, and the need to build understanding and training around PDSAs.

Best Start is in a transition stage into the logic model; the Melton Best Start Logic Model 2016-2017.

MINUTES

The importance of service continuity and collaboration, relationship based practice PDSAs and multi-service participation, the need for more 'driving' has been identified. One round of feedback has been collected from services including MCH and ECEC. Feedback from families will be completed later on.

The Melton Dashboard was looked at and will be made available to services later in the year.

The annual report to the department will be on 31 July 2017.

Motion

Present committee members/attendees agreed;

That the Committee continue with the current Best Start logic model.

6.5 Terms of reference review**Leigh Cruickshank, Coordinator Early Years Partnership, Melton City Council**

Each year the terms of reference are reviewed. Changes made to terms of reference discussed with the committee.

Motion:

Present committee members/attendees agreed;

That the Committee adopt the changes made to the terms of reference and refer to Council for endorsement.

6.6 Patchwork update**Leigh Cruickshank, Coordinator Early Years Partnership, Melton City Council**

The Vulnerable Children working group will be discussing how to progress with Patchwork, a web application to connect services working with families.

7. Other Business

N Bakai acknowledged and thanked V Matthews for her contribution to the committee and dedication in her role as Manager Families and Children at Melton City Council.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 17 August 2017 commencing at 10.00am at Botanica Springs Children's and Community Centre.

9. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 12.02pm.