



MINUTES

EARLY YEARS PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

held on 11 October 2018 at 10.00am in Melton Library and Learning Hub

Present: Nicole Smith, Area Manager, ECMS
Brendan Ball, Manager Families and Early Years, MCC
Karen Curson, Coordinator Early Years Partnership, MCC
Chloe Mortimer, Community Representative
Helen Dorning, RM Midwife, DjHS
Carolynne Reich, Maternal and Child Health Coordinator, MCC
Troy Watson, Manager Libraries, MCC
Fiona Norman, Early Childhood Performance and Planning Adviser, DET
Sarah O'Kelly, Executive Officer Partnerships and Early Years, BPA Children's Services
Genevieve Callander, Manager Paediatric Services, DjHS
Charry Owens, Project Coordinator Koolin Balit Babaneek Booboop Early Years Project, DjHS
Helen Schiele, Senior Early Years Advisor, Independent Schools Victoria
Veronica Hunt, Manager, CAPSS Salvation Army
Dev Nedjip, Minute Taker, MCC
Guest Speaker, Samantha Hein, NDIA

Chairperson: Nicole Smith, Area Manager, ECMS

1. Welcome

N Smith 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

Ellen Smith, Family Community Worker, TRY Children's Services
Colleen Turner, Western Region Coordinator, VICSEG New Futures
Delia Clarke, Community Representative
Helen Cooney, CEO, Caroline Chisholm Society
Amali Aluthgamage, Manager, Children and Families, NWMPHN
Tabitha Farrugia, Early Years Adviser, TRY Children's Services
Lara Carli, Councillor, City of Melton
Jo Read, DHHS, Team Leader Community Participation
Carly Middleton, Operations Manager, TRY Children's Services
Julie Barber, Customer and Service Delivery Manager, West Metro Therapy, Scope.

3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil

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4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Helen Schiele to be added as an apology for the August committee meeting.

Motion

Helen Dorning / C Reich

That the Committee adopt the minutes of the Early Years Partnership Committee meeting held on 16 August 2018

5. Business Arising**Action**

K Curson to email committee of August actions arising.

6. General Business**6.1 NDIS****Samantha Hein, Community and Mainstream Engagement Victoria and Tasmania, NDIA**

S Hein had a presentation to view with handouts.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has been in effect since 1 October 2018. The NDIS is a nation-wide program that will deliver services and support to people with permanent and significant disability in Australia. Income support will not be effected by the NDIS, it is also not means-tested.

Brimbank Melton local area NDIS partner is the Brotherhood of St Laurence. S Hein explained that parents, carers and professionals of children aged 0-6 can refer and discuss concerns and look at appropriate pathways. Children do not need a diagnosis to access support. When appropriate, an access request form need to be completed to transition to the NDIS.

Discussion was held around registered and unregistered providers, families having a choice of providers, and their ability to navigate these reforms, especially those from CALD communities and more vulnerable families. The NDIA are aware of barriers to access the NDIS and have organised community sessions to support families, and are encouraging feedback from stakeholders.

Referral forms and information are available on the NDIS website.

Action

S Hein to forward presentation and links to resources to be shared with the Committee.

To invite Council's Metro Access Officer; Warren Penna, and the Brotherhood of St Laurence to future committee meetings



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6.2 Terms of Reference review

Karen Curson, Coordinator Early Years Partnership, MCC

Copies of the amended Terms of Reference shared with the Committee.

The Committee were asked to provide feedback on the Terms of Reference of the partnership.

Motion

C Reich / H Schiele

That the Committee agree for the TOR of the Early Years Partnership to progress to Council's policy review panel.

6.3 Advocacy document update

Brendan Ball, Manager Families and Early Years, MCC

B Ball updated the Committee about the departure of Council's advocacy officer and changes in their team that has impacted the work on the progression of the advocacy document.

6.4 Best Start update

Karen Curson, Coordinator Early Years Partnership, MCC

K Curson explained that there were less PDSAs in the last quarter. Review of the current logic model is underway. Current feedback from Vulnerable Children's Working Group suggests short-term outcomes of relationship based practices and active outreach and engagement. Discussion was held around target groups, such as children in out of home care, or keeping these broader, such as all vulnerable children not attending universal services.

Action

K Curson to send an email to the Committee with an updated Best Start logic model, and for endorsement to be motioned in the next meeting.

6.5 DET update

Fiona Norman, Early Childhood Performance and Planning Adviser, DET

F Norman has returned to the role and Catherine Lees is back in her previous role at the DET.

F Norman discussed the election and relevant caretaker period taking effect soon.

An update was provided on school readiness funding and resources.

Information Sharing guidelines have been developed for Maternal Child and Health. Discussion was held around the new information sharing legislation. B Ball looking to organise an information sharing network.

The MCH app will be translatable into ten languages from 26 October.

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A new webpage has been developed for parents.

Action

F Norman to share MCH information sharing guidelines and new parent webpage link with K Curson to be forwarded to the committee.

6.6 DHHS update

No update provided.

7. Other Business

Brendan Ball, Manager Families and Early Years, MCC

The Committee would like to thank and congratulate Leigh Ball her for work with the partnership.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 29 November 2018, Cameron and Richards Room, Melton Library and Learning Hub. Members are invited to bring a colleague.

9. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 12.07pm