



MINUTES

EARLY YEARS PARTNERSHIP

held on 16 September 2021 at 10.00am, online – MS Teams

Present:

Appointed Members

D Clark, Community Member
V Sharma, Community Member
A Brand, Community Member
M Costa, Melton West Primary School
E Sutherland, Melton Primary School
S O'Kelly, BPA Children's Services
D Briffa, Victorian Inclusion Agency
J Galvin, Noah's Ark
G Callander, Western Health
J Weber, Caroline Chisholm Society
C Owens, Western Health
H Zwick, VICSEG New Futures
C Reich, City of Melton
S Prestney, City of Melton

Observers

B Nguyen, Department of Education and Training
J Taylor, Department of Education and Training
M Miltiadous, Department of Family, Fairness and Housing
L Doig, Tweddle Child & Family Health Service – PROXY attended for A Holmes
B Ball, City of Melton
K Curson, City of Melton – (ex-officio)
L Xerri, City of Melton – (minute taker)

Guests

S Bowen, City of Melton
M Lobe, City of Melton

Quorum: A minimum of 5 appointed members will form a quorum for each meeting.

Chairperson: G Callander, Western Health

MINUTES

1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all attendees to the meeting and proceeded with the Acknowledgment of Country. *'Melton City Council acknowledges that the land it now occupies has a history that began with the Indigenous occupants, the Kulin Nation. Council pays its respects to the Kulin Nation people and their Elders and descendant's past and present. Council extends this respect to the Elders of other Aboriginal groups here today.'*

2. Apologies

Cr Vandenberg, Councillor
Cr Deeming, Councillor
E Sfameni, Melton Christian College
E Kay, Brotherhood of St Laurence
A Holmes, Tweddle Child & Family Health Service
A Porter, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA)
J Scott, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA)

3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil.

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

Moved: Emma Sutherland Seconded: Sarah O'Kelly

That the minutes of the Early Years Partnership Committee Meeting held on 22 July 2021 were adopted by Council at the ordinary meeting held 30 August 2021

5. Business Arising

Nil

6. General Business**6.1 Breakout room Networking**

Opportunity provided for Committee members to network in small groups.

6.2 Three-Year-Old Funded Kindergarten Update

An update was provided with the agenda, no further questions or comments were discussed.

6.3 Best Start update

An update was provided with the agenda, no further questions or comments were discussed. K Curson further announced the appointment of the Best Start Facilitator, Kellie Robertson, Kellie will commence the role on 23 September 2021.



MINUTES

6.4 Access to Early Learning update

An update was provided with the agenda, no further questions or comments were discussed.

6.5 Department of Education and Training (DET) update

In addition to the update provided with the agenda, B Nguyen provided the committee with information;

- Building Blocks Grants are open and will close October 10, 2021,
- Kindergarten Inclusion Support (KIS) have developed new resources for kindergartens to access,
- 28 new items have been added to the 2022 School Readiness Funding menu.
- Early Learning Leadership forum are scheduled to be held on October 6, 2021. This forum is targeted towards those in leadership and management roles within Early Education and Care services.

6.6 Department of Family Fairness and Housing (DFFH) update

In addition to the update provided with the agenda. B Ball raised a question about the commencement of Orange Door within Melton and was advised that the Orange Door is flagged to open in 2022.

Action

M Miltiadous to source a representative from Orange Door to attend the Early Years Partnership Committee.

K Curson to invite the representative to attend a future meeting.

6.7 Brotherhood of St Laurence and NDIS update

An update was provided with the agenda, no further questions or comments were discussed.

6.8 First 1000 Days update

An update was provided with the agenda. B Ball gave his appreciation to all involved in this working group.

6.9 VicHealth Local Government Partnership Grant – Children and Young People in the City of Melton – Mia Lobe

Council received the VicHealth Local Government Partnership grant to prioritise children and young people in Council's strategic planning process. The grant is allocated to a staffing resource that is sitting in Council's Community Planning and aims to engage with children and young people about healthy eating, physical activity, and mental wellbeing to inform strategic planning. The project is broken up into three phases: engagement, action planning and implementation.

Phase one is underway and learnings from initial engagement mostly with children 12-18 years were shared to the Committee engagement of 0-5 years and primary school aged children will occur in term 4. Online System Thinking Workshops, supported by Deakin University, will be held with primary school age students. A survey will be sent out to capture the under 5 years cohort, this will be promoted through various networks, mailing list and social media. There will also be direct engagement with children attending Kindergarten and playgroup.

Action

MINUTES

M Lobe to share information with K Curson to be shared with the Committee.

7. Other business

B Ball shared the progress of the two kindergarten infrastructure projects currently underway;

- Arnolds Creek kindergarten extension is due for completion by the end of September with a third room being fully operational in 2022
- Deanside kindergarten is on track to be completed this year ready for the service to be fully operational at the beginning of 2022. Sparkways is to be announced as the provider for this service.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 9 December commencing at 10am, location to be confirmed

9. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 11.10am