**Interim Youth Work Board Meeting   
Dr Mz’s, Carmarthen Youth Project, The Clubhouse,**

**Friars Park, Carmarthen, SA31 3AN**

**10:30 – 15:30**

**Tuesday, 10 December 2019**

**Agenda**

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| **Item no.** | **Item** |
| 1 | Minutes and Actions from last meeting |
| 2 | Implementation Plan and Governance Structure discussions including Strategic Partnership Group updates |
| 3 | Update on Mapping exercise |
| 4 | Youth Support Grant |
| 5 | Welsh Language Group |
| 6 | 1. Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service meet with the Board 2. Dr M’z staff meet with the Board |

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| **Attendees – Members** | |
| **Name** | **Role** |
| Keith Towler (KT) | Interim Youth Work Board Chair |
| Dusty Kennedy (DK) | National Partnership Lead - Early Action Together Programme, Public Health Wales |
| Sharon Lovell (SL) | Executive Director for the National Youth Advocacy Service and Vice Chair, Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services (CWVYS) |
| Efa Gruffudd Jones (EGJ) | Chief Executive of the National Centre for Learning Welsh |
| Eleri Thomas (ET) | Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent |
| Joanne Sims (JS) | Blaenau Gwent Youth Service Manager |
| **Attendees – Welsh Government (WG)** | |
| Donna Lemin (DL) | Senior Youth Work Strategy Manager |
| Michael Maragakis (MM) | Head of Youth Engagement Branch |
| Dareth Edwards (DE) | Youth Work Policy Manager |
| Joel Hodson | Youth Work Engagement Branch |

**Item 1 – Minutes and actions from last meeting**

The Board agreed the minutes of the last meeting as an accurate record.

**Item 2 – Implementation Plan and Governance Structure discussions including Strategic Partnership Group updates**

The Group discussed the governance arrangements as identified in the Implementation Plan and then went on to consider activity being undertaken by each Strategy Participation Group.

*Young People are Thriving SPG update*

* The Young People are Thriving group have considered feedback from the recent young persons’ engagement event run by Glyndwr University that suggested young people themselves would like to sit on the Board and/or other groups.
* There was lots of enthusiasm for the idea but practical issues would need to be considered. Other ideas explored included setting up another board made up of a group of young people. There was agreement in principle that we should press ahead with finding young members for our groups and that the feasibility discussion could be picked up outside the meeting.

*Workforce Development SPG update*

* The initial meeting of the Workforce Development group was positive. Issues around workforce development in the sector were considered although the initial meeting was quite introductory so members could get to know each other. It was felt that there was good coverage from across the sector in terms of group membership and this SPG will be using existing structures in the development of their work. They will also be looking to recruit young people with an interest in this area of work to their group.

*Accessible and Inclusive SPG update*

* The group are in the process of being formed. The subgroup looking at digital has had its first face-to-face meeting where representatives of both the Marketing and Welsh language groups were in attendance and they have developed an initial manifesto.

*Valued and Understood SPG update*

* The group is in the process of being established and will retain a close working relationship with the Comms and Marketing Group.

**Item 3 – Update on Mapping Exercise**

* Welsh Government officials recently met with their internal Knowledge and Analytical Services (KAS) to discuss mapping of youth work in Wales which is part of the Implementation Plan. KAS have identified a person to lead on their work, a scoping exercise will be conducted as part of this work and a specification should be ready after Christmas.

**Item 4 - Youth Support Grant discussion**

* The Board were given an update on expenditure against the grant to date. They are aware of the importance the Minister for Education has placed on ensuring additional funding is used in line with the grant terms and conditions. It was acknowledged there had been challenges across the sector in recruiting some of the new posts needed. The Board were concerned that some of the local authorities had not submitted data requested or their 6 month returns and there was a discussion regarding how this could be rectified
* The Board believes there is a need to strengthen the links between local authorities and the voluntary sector and the specifications of the Grant must help this. Similarly, the grant criteria need to promote the use of the Welsh Language.

**Item 5 - Welsh Language Group**

* The Welsh Language Group is looking at new ways of working with a desire to make more happen regarding use of Welsh in youth work. The Board considered proposals developed by the Welsh Language group and committed to feeding back in the New Year.

**Item 6 - Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service meet with the Board & Dr M’z staff meet with the Board**

Both Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service and Dr M’z took time to meet with the Interim Youth Work Board across two sessions. Discussions included structures, partnership working arrangements, funding, recruitment, and the needs and voice of local young people in service design.