**Interim Youth Work Board**

**Thursday, 11 July 10:00 – 15:00**

**Venue: – Aeron Room, Penmorfa (County Hall), Aberaeron**

**Ceredigion County Council**

**Agenda**

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| **Item number** | **Item** |
| 1 | Minutes and Actions from last meeting |
| 2 | Implementation Plan and Governance |
| 3 | Update from Task and Finish sub-groups |
| 4 | Update from Marketing Group |
| 5 | Presentation from Mike Greenaway, Play Wales |
| 6. | Meet with Corporate Lead Officer Elen James and Cabinet Member Catrin Miles |
| 7 | Youth Justice Blueprint |
| 8 | ACE Support Hubs |

**Attendees**

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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 |
| Simon Stewart (SS) | Dean of Faculty of Social and Life Sciences at Wrexham Glyndwr University |
| **Attendees – Welsh Government (WG)** | |
| Donna Lemin (DL) | Senior Youth Work Strategy Manager |
| Michael Maragakis (MM) | Senior Youth Engagement & Progression Manager |
| Dareth Edwards | Youth Work Policy Manager |

**Item 1**

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

Matters arising: MM updated the Board on his meeting with Hayden Llewelyn, Education Workforce Council (EWC) on 9 July 2019 and confirmed EWC commitment to ongoing engagement with the Board on future arrangements for the registration and professionalisation of voluntary and paid professional youth work staff.

**Item 2: Implementation Plan and Governance**

* Following discussion, the Board agreed in principle to a model for governance of the Implementation Plan: there will be 5 workstreams to align with the 5 aims in the new Youth Work Strategy. Each workstream will have a named Board lead as well as dedicated financial and human resource and would feedback to the full Board at each meeting.
* The Board also agreed on the need for a phased approach with a first phase of activity focused on systematically gathering information to develop an understanding of youth work in Wales. This will deliver the necessary evidence base to inform future activity. The Board agreed on the need for a single, comprehensive mapping exercise. Officials were asked to draw up a draft specification to secure appropriate external expertise to support this activity, as well as an updated model with more details on timings and roles/responsibilities for comment.

**Item 3: Update from Task and Finish sub-groups**

* The Board agreed the Terms of Reference for each sub group and discussed how this would feed into the 5 worksteams discussed under Item 2. Board leads are asked to incorporate the agreed governance model into the Terms of Reference of each group. A call for Expressions of Interest was issued in the Summer edition of the Youth Work Bulletin as well as through Board members’ own social media. The Board agreed on the need for a transparent recruitment process to encourage diversity and that membership should be broadly representative of the sector.
* In light of the agreed model for governance, it was decided that the existing Youth Engagement Task and Finish group would expand its scope to cover the Young People are Thriving aim. This workstream will be led by Sharon Lovell.
* The existing Welsh Language and Digital task and finish groups will remain as ‘expert’ groups, feeding in to each workstream as appropriate. Efa Grufudd Jones and Dusty Kennedy will lead on these groups respectively. It was noted that the Digital task and finish group will begin as an online conversation with all who wish to get involved.
* The Board discussed the proposal to host a youth engagement event in September 2019. The Board discussed a variety of approaches to secure good representation, particularly on a regional basis. It was agreed that a small fund would be made available to the sector to co-ordinate the event on behalf of the Board. The Board agreed that engagement should build on existing structures where possible. To this end, the Board acknowledged the importance of engaging with the Wales Youth Parliament where appropriate.

**Item 4:** **Update from Marketing Group**

* The Board welcomed the draft Communications Plan as a vital tool in raising the profile of youth work. It was agreed that KT will serve as the Board representative on the Marketing Group.

**Item 5: Presentation from Mike Greenaway, Play Wales –**The Board were able to ask questions about the lessons learnt from the implementation of the Play Sufficiency Assessments and to explore their impact on increasing the availability and quality of play opportunities.

**Item 6:** **Meeting with representatives from Ceredigion County Council** – The Board heard testimony from Elen James, Corporate Lead Officer for Lifelong Learning & Culture and Councillor Catrin Miles, Cabinet Member for Learning Services, Lifelong Learning & Leisure about local successes as well as some of the challenges of delivering a quality youth work service in this rural local authority area.

**Item 7: Youth Justice Blueprint**

* The Board were asked to note the launch of the new Youth Justice Blueprint for Wales and its focus on developing resilience and diversionary activity. MM confirmed he was liaising with relevant colleagues internally to make links at policy level.

**Item 8. ACEs**

* This item was not reached but Board members emphasised the need to engage further with this agenda. Papers will be sent electronically; Board members are asked to consider how the ACEs training can be further embedded and rolled out within the youthwork sector.