**Interim Youth Work Board Meeting**

**1300-1600**

**Friday, 12 June 2020**

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|  | **Item** | **Papers** |
| 1300 | Welcome |  |
|  | Minutes and Actions | 1. Minutes 2. Rolling Action Points |
| 1310 | Welsh Gov update |  |
| 1340 | Keith Towler update | 1. Twitter Q&A attachment |
| 1400 | Sharon Lovell: update on young people’s engagement with Board |  |
| **1430** | **Break** |  |
| 1445 | Plans for Youth Work Week and role of the Board |  |
| 1520 | Opening thoughts on interim report due in December |  |
|  | Next Meeting |  |
| 1550 | AOB |  |

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| **Attendees – Members** | |
| **Name** | **Role** |
| Keith Towler (KT) | Interim Youth Work Board Chair |
| Dusty Kennedy (DK) | Director of TRM Academy |
| 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 |
| 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) | Head of Youth Engagement Branch |
| Joel Hodson (JH) | Youth Work Strategy Manager |

Apologies: Jo Sims

**Minutes and actions from last meeting**- Minutes from the last meeting were agreed by all present

**Welsh Gov update**  
- Welsh Government advised that Northern Ireland has already published guidance on reopening youth services after Covid  
- Joel Hodson advised that the mapping research contract has gone out to tender and a bidder will be chosen in four weeks’ time  
- Eleri Thomas asked if we could map the number of references with good practice being captured in various meetings through the research. Welsh Government are due to follow up on that  
- Future bulletins will cover mental health and wellbeing, and skills and employability. Simon Stewart may help with an article

**Keith Towler update**  
- Keith Towler advised that EWC will publish a blog from him which can help increase awareness of youth work. He also asked which other bulletins are going out that we could contribute to  
- Eleri Thomas asked for an update on the meeting with Chris Llewellyn and the WLGA  
- KT has written to Paul Glaze and Principal Youth Officers to discuss a return to youth work with three themes:

* + Rationale for returning to normal
  + Barriers and safeguards
  + Capturing best practice from the lockdown period

- KT advised that EWC will assemble youth sector leads for a meeting, and advised that Andy Borsden has been appointed to lead on the EWC work around the Quality Mark for Youth Work in Wales

**Sharon Lovell: update on young people’s engagement with the Board**- Sharon Lovell agreed we should ensure that young people’s voices are captured as part of any workshops   
- Sharon Lovell advised she would speak to the Children’s Commissioner about the recent survey that her office has undertaken during lockdown regarding young people’s experiences

**Youth Work Week**- The Board discussed their involvement with Youth Work Week, and asked if we could ensure Lynne Neagle was able to contribute a short video. DL ran through the order of videos to run on the day and there was discussion about the key elements to include in KT’s video.  
- DK agreed to participate in a Questions and Answer session on the day of the launch of Youth Work Week with KT. He then asked if KT would take part in a live streamed twitch video after the online Question and Answer session

**Initial thoughts on Board report**- Board agreed to look for an independent writer of their report. They discussed the key elements of the report highlighting the needs to work towards a rights based framework. Agreed the initial report would highlight potential line of direction for the final report whilst further research was undertaken. - The Board agreed that the lockdown period has highlighted the need for a strong and robust youth work service, acknowledging the substantial work that has taken place across the sector to best support young people.- The Board also asked if Public Affairs Cymru could be involved in writing the report