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**Minutes of Children & Young Peoples Network  
8 January 2007  
10am – 12pm PCCS**

**Present:**

Charlie Adie – Motiv8 and Community Network member  
Brenda Cairns – Homestart and Community Network member  
June Christie – Mencap  
Karen Drayton – Connors Toy Library  
Jackie Ingram – Connors Toy Library  
Sue Ganter – Interfusion  
Katherine Marsden-Broad – Portsmouth Under 8's Forum (PUEF)  
Terri Windsor – Homestart  
Richard Souter – CP Centre  
Mary Wishart – Community Network

**1 Welcome and introductions**

**2 Previous minutes and action points**

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting from 18 December 2006 were agreed.
- 2.2 MW gave updates on the following action points:
- 3.4 Mapping exercise – to be completed by next meeting (**MW**)
  - 4.3 Terms of reference – There was some feedback as to amendments to the ToR. The term 'multi-cultural' should be removed as this could have negative connotations. The word 'like' to be removed from this objective also. Greater clarity required around the fact that this is a group set up by and made up of VCS. Other agencies and group can be involved through the open meetings, so the description of the structure to be strengthened. (**MW**)
  - 4.3 Job description for Steering group members and Guidelines to Representation – these are part of wider piece of work for Community Network and will be available by next meeting (**MW**)
  - 4.3 Providers/user representation on Steering Group – MW has contacted Southampton VS to talk through their experiences and awaiting call back. There was discussion as to how changes to statutory service provision are changing with VCS starting to undertake contracts. It was suggested that it would be helpful to have a regular observer from PCC to keep lines of communication open. (**MW to speak with Stephen Morgan**)

**3 Local Network Fund**

- 3.1 Kevin Sawers was welcomed to the meeting and gave an overview to the Local Network Fund (details can be found at <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/localnetworkfund/>)

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KS set out how the ways in which LNF could possibly help support the work of this group, either through the grant application process or by accessing a more flexible pot of money the LNF has to assist umbrella organisations like PCCS in delivering various pieces of work. It is more likely that the latter will be the best way to support the group.

There was discussion about what sort of level of funding the group is seeking. Costs would be required for printing a leaflet to launch the group at the Volunteer Fair, and the briefing meetings (refreshments, room hire etc).

**ACTION: MW to cost up and talk through with KS**

KS informed the group that Southampton Alliance is hosting an annual conference in February.

There was discussion as to whether this is something this group would like to think about for next year. It was agreed that a grant may be the best option for funding such an event. One of the member organisations could apply if more appropriate than PCCS applying.

**ACTION: MW to find out details.**

#### **4 Name for the Network**

4.1 There was discussion about how confusing the naming of some of the groups is (for example, Community Network doesn't really reflect the voluntary sector input in its moniker). The name must reflect the involvement of the groups involved clearly. The group decided that as the term 'Alliance' is recognised from Southampton and Hampshire's usage, it made sense to go with this for Portsmouth. The name agreed on is Portsmouth Voluntary & Community Sector Children & Young Peoples Alliance. Whilst it was recognised this was a lengthy name, the it is clear exactly what the group does and the words Portsmouth and Alliance are easily remembered.

There was brief discussion around whether the Alliance would have a logo – it was agreed it should, and designs could be created by a child or young person.

4.2 There was some discussion as to how the community sector is being targeted to get involved with the Alliance. The Community Improvement Group at Landport was flagged up as a potential way of reaching smaller community groups.

**ACTION: JC to forward MW contact details of Rachel Forrester who runs the group.**

## **5 VCS representation for Joint Commissioning Group (JCG)**

- 5.1 It was explained that the JCG is the operational arm of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, and its core purpose is to co-ordinate and integrate planning and commissioning of services to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families (0-19) across the city. It works within the strategic overview provided by the CYPSP Executive Group.

Currently there are 2 representatives on the group, Carole Damper and Rosie from Connors Toy Library. Carole has only recently returned to work and Rosie has recently left her post at Connors. VCS representation has been problematic in that it has not been clear who is VCS rep, or how they are feeding back to wider sector. The reps should also be members of the Community Network to ensure this feedback. Chris Woodfine from PCC is very keen to have clear reps from VCS sitting on the JCG.

It was suggested that as an interim measure, the Alliance nominates 1 rep (or 2 if Carole wants to step down as rep) from the current group to attend for next 6 moths. KMB from PUEF and KD from Connors both volunteered. It must be noted that Connors is not a CN member currently. CA also registered need to have representation from youth age group as well as early years. Once Alliance more established, reps can be voted on.

**Action: MW to contact Carole Damper to see if she wishes to continue as VCS rep on JCG. Once this is established, names can be put to Chris Woodfine as interim VCS reps. MW also to see if we can have more than 2 reps (other Partnerships have 4 CN members).**

## **6 Next steps**

- 6.1 Meetings to be agreed for rest of the year. The first Monday of each month at 10am to 12pm was agreed to be a convenient time for the Alliance to meet. For the next 3 months, it will be necessary to meet monthly, with a view to reconsidering at the April meeting. The meetings will therefore be held on the following dates:

Monday 5 February 2007

Monday 5 March 2007

Monday 2 April 2007

- 6.2 Briefing meetings to be planned in. Dates suggested are June, September, December, and March 2008.

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- 6.3 Idea of annual conference to be investigated.
- 6.4 Leaflet to be created for distribution at Volunteer Fair event. Costings for this, and briefing events to be discussed with KS.

## **7 AOB**

- 7.1 KMB informed group of PUEF Open Meeting on 15 February 2007. She thought it would be good opportunity to promote Alliance. MW and CA to attend.

**ACTION: MW to speak with KMB to take forward.**

- 7.2 CA advised that one of the briefing papers for the CYPSP Executive Group included a mapping document showing what wider community groups were working with the CIP managers. There were clear gaps in this document and also the way in which city wide groups fit in here was felt to be an issue.

The mapping exercise is part of the mapping exercise the Alliance needs to do so it was agreed that MW will work with Marc Rostock, support officer for CYPSP to develop further.

**ACTION: MW to speak with MR**