
Meeting Minutes - Victorian Child Friendly Cities and Communities Network

Location: LGPro Offices - Lvl 3, 58 Lorimer Street Docklands VIC

Date: 2 September 2016

Time: 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Meeting Theme: Policy and Practice

Chair: Kirsty Saunders

Minutes: Virginia Lloyd

Attendance

Anne McGregor, Moreland
Penny Karagaslis, Whittlesea
Sam Neville, Port Phillip
Brook Quinn, Hobsons Bay
Kristy Saunders, Greater Dandenong
Virginia Lloyd, Casey
Edna Silva, Wyndham
Karina Viksne, Moonee Valley
Rene Burke, Brimbank
Carmen Cappello, City of Whittlesea
Kristie Lawson, Melton
Eliza Levi, GlenEira
Sherryn Prinzi, Banyule

Cheryl Casey, Cardinia
Sarah Marshal, Darebin
Sharon Lenehan, Cardinia
Wendy Allan, MAV
Leonie O'Malley, Wyndham
Sharelle Knight, Ballarat
Wendy Jones, Ballarat
Sarah Ewing, VLGA
Wendy Verber, Port Phillip
Sarah O'Donnell, Yarra
Virginia Dods, Commission for Chn & Young People
Neil Rogers, Whitehorse
Tony Johnson, Whitehorse
Shirley Egan, Bass Coast

Apologies

Ann Addinsall, Casey

1. Introductions

2. Attendance Sheet circulated

3. Matters Considered

1. Recognition of signatories to the Victorian Child Friendly Cities and Communities Charter. Presentation of certificates by VLGA and a short case study from The City of Whittlesea

This will be a new standing agenda item to recognise and celebrate organisations that endorse the Charter. Lisa Mahood (VLGA Deputy CEO) presented the certificates to representatives from the following Councils:

Ballarat
Cardinia
Greater Dandenong
Moreland
Bass Coast

Melton
Brimbank
Whitehorse
Port Phillip
Whittlesea

* Apologies were received from Bendigo, Baw Baw, Nillumbik and Greater Bendigo – their certificates will be presented at a later meeting.

Jason Stanton – VLGA took photos. The group photo will be used on e-news so if you don't want your photo used please let Sarah Ewing from VLGA know.

Individual photos will be sent to contacts at each Council as was provided for receiving the certificates.

2. A new agenda item will also be the inclusion of a 10 minute snapshot of the journey undertaken by an organisation to have the charter endorsed. This will provide an opportunity for others to learn from our peers' experience.

Carmen and Penny from **Whittlesea**, presented on their process & learnings:

- Long journey more than 3 years
- Preaching to the converted in chn's services
- Reviewed documents that revealed we were consulting but didn't have evidence
- Presentation to management and executives - what will it cost us was the most asked question, we were already doing the work we needed to imbed it across the organisation
- This network is fantastic

Whitehorse undertook a similar process, today is important not for where we have been - but a springboard to what we can do in the future.

Had to calm the horses - no unintended resources required to implement

Port Phillip - Similar a long journey

Financial burden is one of the main issues

Why would we not consult with children driven by policy i.e. Child Safe Standards

3. Guest Speakers

Topic – Victorian policy and the MEYP

Wendy Allen- MAV

Topic – Policies which support the Rights of the Child

Virginia Dods - Commission for Children and Young People

Presentations will be made available on the [VLGA website](#).

Topic – Policy in practice: empowering young people through the vessel of the arts. Alex Walker & Hannah Liddeaux- Schools with No Walls

This was a high energy presentation that displayed the obvious enthusiasm that Alex and Hannah have for working with children and Young People

Work comes from the children's own culture

4. Child Friendly Cities and Communities Advisory Group update

Thank you to Ann, Sam and David who assisted in putting today's meeting together

Engagement and communication plan to promote the network:

- Sherryn, Sam and Kirsty have developed the above 2 year plan
- Draft being finalised for distribution to the advisory group for comment. It is anticipated it will be available for endorsement at the November network meeting.
- Targeting those participating on the network but not yet signed on
- Then other organisations
- We want to raise the profile of the network and are looking for people to take up the cause within existing networks
- Are there other networks that you are a part of that you would be prepared to influence the take up through?
- Sarah provided an update on webpage
- VLGA refreshed website last year and now retrieving information and it is anticipated this will be reinstated and available next week
- Charter and toolkit still badged with old LOGO will be updated

5. Information sharing

6. Other business

Advisory Group happy to receive requests and suggestions for inclusion in future meetings

Next meeting: Friday 11 November 1.00pm to 3.30pm, LGPro Offices and will have a Youth Focus

Future meetings will be held at LGPro