

Cross-Party Group Annual Report.

April 2020

Cross Party Group on Looked After Children

David Melding MS

Tim Crahart, Voices From Care Cymru

1. Group membership and office holders.

David Melding MS (Chair)
Helen Mary Jones MS
Jeremy Miles MS
Nick Ramsay MS
Jenny Rathbone MS
David Rees MS
Councillor Graham Hinchey

Secretary: Tim Crahart – Voices From Care Cymru

Other Outside Bodies Attending:

Adoption UK
Barnardos
Bevan Commission
Cardiff and Vale Action for Mental Health
Cardiff Council
Cardiff University
Carmarthenshire County Council
Children in Wales
Children’s Commissioner for Wales Staff
Hafal
Llamau
NSPCC
NYAS Cymru
Platform
Royal College of Psychiatrists
Social Care Wales
Stepping Stones
TGP Cymru
The Fostering Network Wales
Voices From Care Cymru

2. Previous Group Meetings.

Meeting 1.

Meeting date: 4th June 2019

Attendees:

David Melding MS – Chairperson
Helen Mary Jones MS
Ann Bell – Adoption UK
Elizabeth Flowers – Children’s Commissioner for Wales Staff
Paula Foley – Jenny Rathbone MS Support Staff
Deborah Jones – CEO, Voices From Care Cymru
Heidi Keiser – NSPCC
Mared Llwyd – Social Care Wales
Emma Phipps-Magill – NYAS Cymru
Hugh Russell – Llamau
Elaine Speyer – Barnardos
Charlotte Wooders – The Fostering Network Wales
Tim Crahart – Business Support Manager, Voices From Care Cymru

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee inquiry into Looked After Children services
Ministerial Advisory Group
End Youth Homelessness Campaign (EYHC)
Lost in Care: 20 years on conference

Meeting 2.

Meeting date: 12th November 2019

Attendees:

David Melding MS – Chairperson
Nick Ramsay MS
Ann Bell – Adoption UK
Elizabeth Flowers – Children’s Commissioner for Wales Staff
Deborah Jones – CEO, Voices From Care Cymru
Elaine Speyer – Barnardos
Bethan T James – Carmarthenshire County Council
Sophie Hallett – Cardiff University
Emma Sullivan – Children in Wales
Sian Thomas – National Assembly Research Service
Max Wigfield – NSPCC
Vivienne Laing – NSPCC
Sharon Lovell – NYAS Cymru
Jackie Murphy – TGP Cymru

Tim Crahart – Business Support Manager, Voices From Care Cymru

Summary of issues discussed:

Public Accounts Committee inquiry into Looked After Children services
Keeping Safe research
Lost in Care: 20 years on conference

Meeting 3.

Meeting date: 11th February 2020

Attendees:

David Melding MS
David Rees MS
Vicki Evans – Head of Campaigns and Communications – Jeremy Miles MS’s office
Paula Foley – Caseworker – Jenny Rathbone MS
Llinos Madeley – Clerk of the Children and Young People and Education Committee
Sian Thomas – Research Team Leader, Assembly Commission Staff
Laura Havens – Hafal
Louis Mertens - Royal College of Psychiatrists
Ann Bell – Adoption UK
Francesca Morris – Adoption UK
Elaine Speyer – Barnardo’s
Helen Howson – Bevan Commission
Linda Newton – Cardiff and Vale Action for Mental Health
Graham Hinchey – Cardiff Council
Elizabeth Flowers – Children’s Commissioner for Wales
Vivienne Laing – NSPCC Wales/Cymru
Sharon Lovell – National Youth Advocacy Service
Siobhan Parry – Platform
Claire Miller – Stepping Stones
John Wrangham – Stepping Stones
Chris Dunn – Voices from Care Cymru
Tim Crahart – Voices from Care Cymru

Summary of issues discussed:

Presentation on ‘Listen. Act. Thrive’

3. Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year.

The NGOs linked to the group are listed above when they have attended our regular meetings. No special meetings were held with NGOs or lobbyists.

Annual Financial Statement.

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Group's Expenses.	None.	£0.00
Costs of all goods.	No goods purchased.	£0.00
Benefits received by the group or individual Members from outside bodies.	No benefits received.	£0.00
Any secretariat or other support.	2019-2020. An estimation of £358.38 costs in kind for time incurred by Voices From Care Cymru staff for servicing the Cross Party Group on Looked After Children.	£358.38
Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.		
None		
Date	Description and name of provider	Cost
		£0.00
Total cost		£358.38