



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FORUM

Wednesday 11 May 2022, 10.00am – 11.30am
Virtual meeting via Zoom

Chair: Jenny Greenfield (JG), KCSC
Minutes taken by: Fenn Reynolds (FR), KCSC

Item	Notes	Action
1	Welcome and Introduction – Jenny Greenfield, Deputy CEO, KCSC	
	<p>Agenda</p> <p>Jenny Greenfield (JG) welcomed everyone to the forum and ran through the agenda and meeting rules.</p>	
2	Minutes from last meeting	
	JG confirmed that there were no outstanding actions, and shared the link to the previous minutes in the Zoom chat.	
3	New approach to third party data security - John Francis, Commercial Development Lead, Shared Children’s Services, RBKC Allison Yeomans, Children’s Services Contracts Management Team Leader	
	<p>Resource</p> <p>John Francis (JF) began by introducing how the council can be provided with reassurance that data from residents be handled by organisations they commission appropriately and securely. JF noted that in past, the council asked for information security questionnaires from providers, but this was often a long process and not specific to certain contracts nature. A much more pragmatic approach is now being put in place.</p> <p>JF explained that the new approach is taken according to risk profile and length, nature of the contact and financial value – and ranges from the platinum, gold, silver, bronze and a foundation category, with the platinum at the top level requiring ISO27011 certificates (only applying to contracts over £5m, and dealing with a high volume of personal data).</p> <p>JF noted that all voluntary sector contracts should fall into the foundation level, which generally is a self certification process containing 13 mandatory questions (mainly yes/no questions with options to provide documents). This is down from the previous method which had 45 questions in total, so therefore is a much more streamlined process for the VCS.</p> <p>Alison Yeomans (AY) ran through the new form, which contains the questions and descriptions of the answers required, along with requirements and documents</p>	

	<p>needing to be provided. It was highlighted that the new form speeds the process up on both the council's side and the provider's side.</p> <p>JF finished by reinforcing that his team are keen to work in partnership with local community-based organisations on influencing changes like the ones that have been presented in the development of this form.</p> <p>AY and JF finished by leaving their contact details:</p> <p>John Francis: John.francis2@rbkc.gov.uk</p> <p>Alison Yeomans: Allison.yeomans@rbkc.gov.uk</p> <p>This concluded this section.</p>	
4	<p>Mental Health Provision – Henry Leake, NHS North West London Clinical Commissioning Group's Head of Children & Young People, Learning Disabilities and Autism Commissioning</p>	
	<p>Henry Leake (HL) started by explaining the direction in which the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) is going, historically being one CCG for Kensington and Chelsea. This has now merged with areas of Brent, Hounslow and Hillingdon. This change means that resources can be pooled, and create a consistency of access across the areas. HL noted that it's important to decide where to put certain resources to make them an equitable services.</p> <p>HL explained that there are also Place Based Partnerships in each borough, that comprise of local authorities and health services (mental health services, GPs etc.). These will guide the local services and adapt the more generalist offer into a local process.</p> <p>HL added that within Kensington and Chelsea Place Based Partnership, the priorities identified include obesity, care homes and specifically for children this had been broken down into three key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speech and Language - Autism - Mental Health and Wellbeing <p>HL noted that with regards to the later of the three options, though the borough is well resourced, the third sector plays a big part in relation to aiding people with lower level mental health issues and it's about making sure the sector is helped with that.</p> <p>JG asked HL about bringing VCS organisations together on this, if there are any specific plans or ideas to do this. HL responded by acknowledging the Mental Health Partnership Board for young people, which brings together partners to make sure that each organisation is supported and on the same page about what is currently available. HL said that if organisations are interested in being part of this, to get in touch with him.</p> <p>This concluded this section.</p>	
5	<p>Family Friends Update – Bragela Hornal, Operations Manager</p>	

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Bragela Hornal (BH) began by giving a background on Family Friends. BH described the charity as being one that supports families and young people in Central West London through a network of volunteer Befrienders, aiming to improve the quality of life of families going through hard times. Families are referred to the service largely through social work.

Two services that Family Friends offer are Family Befriending (which supports families featuring multiple hardship during a 6 – 12 month period), and Big Buddies (a volunteer lead programme aimed at those aged 10 – 18). BH went on to give an overview of the history of the charity.

BH noted that some of the types of families Family Friends may work with include:

- Single Parent Families
- Families with multiple children
- Families that include a child with SEND
- Refugees
- Families whose first language isn't English
- Families who have family members living with mental health difficulties
- Families who have family members living with disabilities
- Families that have financial hardships

BH said that the charity doesn't tend to turn any family away, where as previously the eligibility rules were more stringent.

Families can self-refer to the service, assessments are then made and families will then be paired with a family support worker until they are matched with a volunteer. A meeting takes place with the volunteer once paired, and families can also take part in various groups that Family Friends run, where they can meet other families in the local area. At the end of the process, families are welcome to stay in the 'eco system', and still have access to Tea & Chat groups and various other network events.

BH listed some of the key barriers that families are facing as:

- Housing
- Long Covid
- Cost of Living
- Mental Health in Young People
- Childhood Obesity
- Social isolation of young people
- Mental Health in Parents
- Grandparents as Caregivers

BH opened for questions.

A member asked how successful the work that Family Friends does in relation to overcrowded housing has been. BH replied that Nucleus have been a helpful organisation in Kensington and Chelsea, and Hammersmith and Fulham. BH said that although there has been movement, nothing has been resolved with the situation of overcrowding, and that the best way to handle the situation is to find key contacts.

	This concluded this section.	
6	Breakout Rooms	
	<p>Members broke out into smaller breakout rooms for 12 minutes, to discuss how the cost of living and coming out of lockdowns have effect services.</p> <p>Once everyone had returned to the meeting, members had an opportunity to share their thoughts and discussions.</p> <p>One member noted huge issues around food provision, mental health, and huge demand for mental health services from schools.</p> <p>Another member added that financial impact, and making decisions between buying food and paying bills was a big talking point.</p> <p>Another member added the lack of resources that VCS organisations have in relation to the volume of service users and problems coming through.</p>	
7	Updates from Young K&C	
	<p>Nicola Butler (NB) briefly touched on upcoming events, including workshops and trainings, and particularly highlighted upcoming funding based around equities. This is focused on supporting girls, disabled young people, and LGBTQ young people.</p> <p>More information can be found on the Young K&C website.</p>	
8	AOB	
	<p>Brenda Nambooze (BN) highlighted the upcoming trainings that KCSC are offering. Information for which can be found on the KCSC website.</p> <p>BN also drew attention to The Holiday Activity Fund Programme, details of which can be found here.</p>	
9	Close	

The information above will appear in minutes for this meeting which will be made available to all the attendees and published on KCSC's website.