



# CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FORUM

Tuesday 14 November 2017, 10.00am – 12.30pm  
Kensington Town Hall

**Chaired by:** Siobhan Sollis (KCSC)  
**Minutes taken by:** Alice Lowry

*Attendance list attached*

1	<b>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES</b> Siobhan welcomed everyone to the forum and invited members to introduce themselves. Apologies were received from Zainab Al-Shariff (Al-Hasaniya).	<b>ACTION</b>
2	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING</b> Minutes of previous meeting were approved.	
3	<b>Working with Young People Affected by the Grenfell Fire</b> <i>Mohamed Mohamed (MM), Baraka Community Association (BCA)</i> <i>Gillian Hawdon (GH), Xenzone/Kooth</i> Followed by a general discussion	
3.1	<u><a href="#">Download Baraka Community Association Presentation</a></u> Baraka Community Association (BCA) is an organisation that provides educational support, field trips, advocacy and other services to children and young people living in west London, particularly those of Somali and other ethnic minority backgrounds. MM gave a presentation on the new services they have launched in response to Grenfell and the trips they have provided. MM explained that the support and sessions they have provided are important as they give Grenfell victims time away from their sorrow.  BCA also informed the group of how important it is to signpost families to key services such as Citizens Advice and Law Centres, as they themselves are not experts in areas such as housing etc. This is important because a lot of families are unaware of these services due to language barriers. There was some recognition that although BCA is allocated a small amount of funds, they are able to do a lot of work that makes a real difference. An attendee mentioned that the new Youth Foundation proposal may be a way for small organisations like BCA to work in partnership with larger ones to provide more opportunities.	
3.2	<u><a href="#">Download Xenzone/Kooth Presentation</a></u> XenZone is a provider of online mental health services for children, young people and adults. Kooth, from XenZone, is an online counselling and emotional well-being platform for children and young people aged 11-19, accessible through mobile, tablet and desktop and free at the point of use. Qwell is the adult equivalent of Kooth; however it is only available in contracted areas such as Kensington & Chelsea. GH gave a presentation which gave an overview of the services and how Kooth and Qwell	

	<p>have been used to respond to Grenfell. Both Qwell and Kooth have online forums discussions (which are monitored regularly by a clinical professional) where users can discuss Grenfell if they wish. A lot of the work Kooth/Qwell are currently doing is being closely linked into schools and counsellors are receiving trauma training to aid them in working with children and young people affected by Grenfell. Feedback from schools has been positive and parents are also being educated on Kooth.</p> <p>There have been discussions around having a translator for online counselling but this idea is still being developed. Alice Scott (AS) works at the Citizens Advice Outreach service at The Curve. She stated that the work that Kooth/Qwell are doing would be good to promote at The Curve due to the amount of young people and families who access services there.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Introduction to our work with Schools</b>  <i>Louisa Mitchell (LM) and Joe Prendiville (JP), West London Zone</i></p>	
	<p><a href="#">Download West London Zone Presentation</a></p> <p>West London Zone (WLZ) is a registered charity funded by public health, representing a partnership of local organisations all working towards the same goal: that the children and young people in our area grow up safe, happy and healthy. They do this by helping charities, local authorities, schools and children’s centres deliver the best possible support to the children and young people in this community. Link workers are based in schools and other environments with young people and can support them by connecting them with appropriate services and projects. They have helped 160 children over the past two years. An attendee asked about the dropout rate and LM and JP informed the group that it is 6%.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b>South Kensington Community Champions and Maternity Champions</b>  <i>Linda Thomas (LT), Public Health</i></p>	
	<p><a href="#">Download Maternity Champions</a>  <a href="#">Download Chelsea Champions</a></p> <p>Community Champions are funded by public health and West London CCG and run across the three boroughs. There is now a new Chelsea Champions project which will be working with partners to deliver the project over 1 year. They will work with partners and local residents to deliver activities.</p> <p>LT also explained that there is now a new Maternity Champions project, which will be funded for four years. Michelle Poponne will be heading up the project at Venture centre. Michelle will be working with maternity services and children’s centres as well as other community champion projects. The project will involve working with parents to be as well as well as mothers with children up to one year of age. This new project will be training up a skilled team of local people to provide support for expectant and new parents through pregnancy, child birth and the transition into parenthood.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Attendance and feedback from other forums/meetings</b></p>	

	<p><i>Borough Voluntary Organisations Advisory Group</i> Reps submitted specific questions to Cabinet members on Grenfell related matters. Many of the questions could not be answered because of the public enquiry but some were answered. Most of the meeting focussed on challenges facing the council and the voluntary sector post Grenfell with the council highlighting housing residents from the tower as most challenging. Reps highlighted concerns on how to meet demand to support the local community long term. It was discussed to look at new approaches to community engagement at next meeting in January.</p> <p><i>Main Voluntary Organisations Forum</i> The next meeting is cancelled but instead KCSC will be holding a <a href="#">Health and Wellbeing afternoon</a> on 11 December. All staff and trustees of voluntary organisations are welcome.</p> <p><i>Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership Group</i> The <a href="#">latest training calendar</a> was available at this meeting</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Issues to raise at strategic meetings</b>	
	Abdullahi Ali (AA) suggested that the issue of school exclusions be raised at strategic meetings.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	
	Tuesday 15th May 2018, 10am – 12.30pm at Kensington Town Hall	

## ATTENDANCE LIST

	Name	Organisation
1	Abdullahi Ali	Baraka Community Association
2	Alice Lowry	Kensington & Chelsea Social Council
3	Alice Scott	Kensington & Chelsea Citizens Advice
4	Beth Salmon	BBC Children in Need
5	Dee Dainton	Lancaster West Children's Community Network
6	Gazala Alvi	West London Action for Children
7	Gillian Hawdon	Xenzone
8	Jane Southwell	Corner Nine Arts Project
9	Joe Prendiville	West London Zone
10	Karima El-Haddad	Home-Start Westminster
11	Keni Thomas	Epic CIC
12	Linda Thomas	WLC community Champions
13	Louisa Mitchell	West London Zone
14	Maxine Willetts	Epic CIC

15	Michelle Poponne	Venture Community Association
16	Muhamed Muhamed	Baraka Community Association
17	Patricia Alert	World's End Under Fives Centre