

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council Ltd
65th Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday 12th February 2018 at 6.00pm
WSREC, 39 Napierhall Street, Glasgow, G20 6EZ

Minutes

Present

Board of Directors

1. Hanzala Malik (HM) Chair
2. Dr Malcolm Green (MG)
3. Harriette Campbell (HC)
4. Sharon Schlesinger (SS)
5. Onkar Singh Jandu (OSJ)
6. Vince Chudy (VC)
7. Cllr Anne McTaggart (AT)
8. Cllr Rashid Hussain (RH)
9. Tunweer Malik (TM)
10. Syed Jafri (SJ)
11. Munir Choudry (MC)
12. John Service (JS)
13. Dr Javed Gill (JG)

Observers

In attendance

Mohammed Razaq (MR)
Nadeem Hanif (NH)
Aumbreen Khalid (Volunteer)

Welcome

Chair, Hanzala Malik welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that he requested permission to add an agenda item at AOCB of 'politics'. This was agreed by the meeting.

1. Apologies

Board of Directors

1. Haji Mohammed Munir
2. Antony Kozlowski (AK)
3. Sheela Mukherjee (SM)

Observers

Cllr Junaid Ashraf (NLC)
Cllr Marie McNair (WDC)

2. Presentation on one of WSREC's projects

A presentation on WSREC's 'Minority Ethnic Employment Support and Training project (MEETS) was made by Nadeem Hanif – Project Manager It was a quick summary on the 3 years of outcomes of the project and its achievements.

Background to the project:

The project is coming to an end on 31st March 2018; the Big Lottery the present funder will not fund the project beyond this point. We are looking at alternative funding sources and have identified some potential avenues however; if we are successful with alternative funding then this will allow the project to carry on in a reduced capacity.

Project achievements in the last 3 years

A total of **1180** clients have been supported by the project (**381** females and **799** males).

A total of **164** clients were successfully supported into employment and a total of **183** were successfully supported into further education so far with another 1.5 months of the project still remaining.

Clients from a total of **64** different nationalities have accessed project services, with **44%** from Africa, **28.6%** from the Middle East, **15.3%** from Europe, **11.3%** from Asia and **0.4%** from South America.

NH advised that the project overachieved in almost all of its outcomes agreed with the funder.

After a number of questions and answers the Board thanked Nadeem for informative presentation.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of 11th of December 2018 were approved as a true and accurate.

4. Matters Arising

Action:

1. It was agreed that staff organise the annual dinner at World Buffet for 7.00pm Monday 8th January 2018. **MR** reported this was completed
2. It was agreed that in relation Community Ownership of ' Napiershall Street Centre' offer of meeting by Richard Watson of City Property would be useful accompanied by 2/3 Board members. MR reported that **GK** will be making the arrangements for this meeting.

In relation to agenda item 6c 'Partner Reports' JG advised that the MCS was happy to support the work with COPFS. There was some discussion and a suggestion that staff member Bushra Iqbal working on this work to consider involving WSREC's affiliated organisation in particular faith related organisations.

5. Conflicts of Interest (Board members)

There were none

For discussion

6. Reports

a. Finance- Variance Statement for month of December 2017

MR reported that variance for the month was:

Expenditure:

Budgeted was £46,384 with Actual spend of £40,452 variance of £5931. Mr Explained that

- Affiliation Fees: The period actual figure is higher than the period budget due to payments towards the newly acquired RBS Mentor Scheme
- Board Expenses: This figure covers travel costs for Board members

Income

Budgeted was **£1,000** with actual income of **£7,708** variance of **£6,708** MR explained that

- Scottish Government (3CH): This figure is payment of the 3rd quarter payment which was due in October 2017.
- Community Jobs Scotland: This figure is higher than budgeted due to budgeting for 1 rather the 2 job placements from CJS
- Misc: The Cumulative Actual figure includes the bank transfer of £20,000 from WSREC Reserve Account into the General Account

The Board noted the variance statement.

b. Quarterly Staff Reports

There were no questions and the Board noted the report

c. Partner Reports

There were no partners present and no written reports were received.

Action: MR to contact partners and request reasons for non-attendance

For Decision

7. Correspondence

A response had been received via letter from Patrick Grady MP registering WSREC's concerns about the treatment of Jagtar Singh Johal the British subject In India. The Chair advised that he had personally met Baroness Nosheena Mobarik to see if you could take the message to London and Mr with Johal's brother to offer support.

The Board noted the response from Patrick Grady MP

8. Amendment to WSREC's 'Complaints Policy and Procedure

MR spoke to the amendments and the reason for this

The Board agreed the amendments and approved WSREC's 'Complaints Policy and Procedure' subject to the simplifying of the sentence under 'Confidentiality' on Page 3.

MG thanks Ben Williams for the work he put into amending the policy document thus meeting the requirements of OISC and improving the way complaints to WSREC's of its services can be efficiently and appropriately resolved.

9. Report SAREC- MG provided a verbal report

He advised that SAREC had its AGM in Falkirk in November as reported at the last meeting and are progressing towards an application for stage 3 with Mental Health Foundation (MHF). HM provided a brief history of SAREC for the benefit of new members on the Board. A Board meeting of SAREC is taking place on the 5th March 2018 at ELREC offices. At this point there was question if other WSREC Board members could attend as observers; MG advised that there would not be a problem. HC showed interest in attending and was advised that if wished to accompany others then they were leaving WSREC offices at 10.30am.

Board noted the report

10. Update: Community Ownership of ' Napiershall Street Centre'

MR advised that progress had been reported under Actions in 'Matters Arising' above:

'It was agreed that in relation Community Ownership of ' Napiershall Street Centre' offer of meeting by Richard Watson of City Property would be useful accompanied by 2/3 Board members. MR reported that GK will be making the arrangements for this meeting.'

11. A.O.C.B.

Politics: the Chair advised that there was a new Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Racism (CPG on Racism) set up after the revelations by Anas Sarwar MSP and Humza Yousaf MSP of racism within political parties. The chair alluded to Labour Party's 'women only' candidates for 10 constituencies (how that affects other equality groups) and the fact Scottish National Party (SNP) had no Asians elected to Glasgow City Council at the last election.

It was agreed to that WSREC would like to support the work of the CPG on Racism and for this the Groups 'Terms of Reference' would be a start to see how WSREC can support its work.

12. Date and Times of future meetings

Monday 23rd April 2018

All meeting are at 6:00pm in meeting room ground floor, WSREC offices.