

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council Ltd
73rd Meeting of the Board of Directors
 Monday 9th September 2019 at 6.00pm
 WSREC Offices, 39 Napierhall Street, Glasgow, G20 6EZ

MINUTES

PRESENT

Board of Directors

- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1. Cllr Hanzala Malik | (Chair) |
| 2. Harriette Campbell | (HC) |
| 3. Dr Malcolm Green | (MG) |
| 4. Onkar Singh Jandu | (OSJ) |
| 5. Sheela Mukherjee | (SM) |
| 6. Vince Chudy | (VC) |
| 7. Haroun Malik | (HM) |
| 8. S Jafri | (SJ) |
| 9. Syed Jafri | (SJ) |
| 10. Sharon Schlesinger | (SS) |

Observers

In attendance

- | | |
|------------------|------|
| Mohammed Razaq | (MR) |
| Mohith Lakhanpal | (ML) |
| Manal Eshelli | (ME) |

WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and also welcomed Haroun Malik as new co-opted member on the Board at his first meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Board of Directors

- | | |
|------------------------|------|
| 1. Dr. Javed Gill | (JG) |
| 2. Cllr Rashid Hussain | (RH) |
| 3. Antony Kozlowski | (AK) |
| 4. Cllr Anne McTaggart | (AM) |

Observers

Stuart Cassidy (COPFS)

2. PRESENTATION

A presentation on “Shine Bright” Oral Health was made by project lead Dr Manal Eshelli, the presentation was a quick summary of the new project, start date (July 2019), end date (June 2022), its outcomes and activities.

- a) Minority Ethnic families/carers’ of infants in Greater Glasgow have increased awareness in recognising and improving oral health and general wellbeing.
- b) Minority Ethnic families/carers’ of infants including vulnerable communities and those most at risk in Greater Glasgow have increased access to mainstream services around oral and general health including taking steps to instil long term behaviour changes.

Activities

- Registration of 25 parents or carers of infants families committed to improving their oral health as well as their wellbeing through direct support with 1-2-1 sessions)
- Build a social media presence targeting 500 individuals to share information.
- 50 individuals / families are supported into accessing local dental and other health services
- 100 individuals attending fortnightly engagement sessions benefitting individuals / families including carers of infants
- 1 x awareness events in collaboration with local health practitioners to benefit
- 25 individuals/families have reduced their exposure to oral health risk factors due to long term illness, poor dietary choices and smoking.
- 2 community led organisations are capacity built to share awareness and the best practice to their services users particularly parents and carers of infants around implementing good oral hygiene

After a number of questions (such as the free “goody bags”) and answers the Chair on thanked Dr. Manal Eshelli for a very informative presentation.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of 72nd meeting held of 26th June 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record

4. MATTERS ARISING

Action: The Chair recommended a revisit to the Board Twinning's and a list of who was currently twinning to be sent out along with invitations for any new projects.

SS highlighted that they have not received any correspondence from their twin project, in the last year. It was agreed by most is it the responsibility of both (the board member and project) to keep in contact.

MR presented the Board with information on all the ongoing projects and contact details for the person responsible. Also grid for them to chose 1st and 2nd preference in view to twinning with projects. All Board members present completed the grid with their preferences and passed this to MR.

5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were none

6. FOR DISCUSSION

Reports

a) Finance – Variance statement for month of July 2019

Expenditure: actual **£35,947** and budgeted **£42,575** with a variance of **£6,628** under spend

Income: actual **£77,799** and budgeted **£108,587** with a variance of **-£30,787** over budgeted

The Board was content with explanation of under/over budget spends/income and noted the report

b) Executive Director

MR asked for any questions on his report. SS asked if funders gave reasons for the unsuccessful applications. MR advised that all funders provide feedback and he will forward to her feedback received on the unsuccessful Young Start funding application.

Action: MR to forward to SS feedback received on the unsuccessful Young Start funding application.

The Board noted the report

c) Partner Reports

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

d) Funding Report (01/04/18 To 31/03/19)

MR spoke to the report and noted the main details

1. Applications submitted	Total 13, amount requested	£752,196
2. Successful applications	Total 5, amount requested	£50,549
3. Successful applications	Total 5, amount received	£49,077
4. Unsuccessful applications	Total 5, amount requested	£208,306
5. Live Applications	Total 3, amount requested	£57,394
6. Applications being prepared	Total 1, amount requested	£85,000

Current success rate is 50% MR mentioned that the rate was lower than previous years.

The Board noted the report

FOR DECISION

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. There was none

9. GOOD Community Relations Issue

The Chair advised the Board that he was pulling this item from the Agenda as he had not received the full information to be able to discuss the matter.

FOR INFORMATION

10. UPDATE: OFFICE SEARCH:

MR reported that Building survey report was received this afternoon carried out by Lambert Smith and Hampton (pro bono for WSREC) for a property that met most of the criteria WSREC Board agreed to previously. The report which has not been fully studied however once this is done then we will approach the owners to discuss the report and clarify responsibility for repairs etc before entering into any lease/contract.

The Board noted the report.

11. Police Scotland- Digital Device examination consent event

MR advised that this was consultation recently by the Police Scotland with some NGOs. He felt that the word consent may not be appropriate as Police have powers to seize equipment like mobile phones and laptops. What worries him is that a device like phone could be seized for a good length of time i.e. 4 weeks before its return with the information held in these devices it would be a nightmare not having access to it i.e. telephone contacts/address/emails, banking /payments for goods and service with the phone and many other aspects like whatsApp groups and messenger etc. MR also reminded the Board about the 'Stop and Search' legislation that proved to be being utilised on BME communities disproportionately leading to mistrust of the police. He also was of the opinion that the word 'consent' was misleading as the police have other legislation that they are able to seize the equipment.

MG spoke about the starting point being that a house search where the police would require a search warrant if consent was not forthcoming. MR advised that this was fine and agreed with that principle however seizure of electronic device could be from not only a suspect of crime but from witness or bystanders etc. not only that, if the device contained any illegal or incriminating information then police would have the right to charge the individual.

It was agreed by the board that this report and the guidance alluded to it should be acquired and forwarded to Board members. The Chair suggested that this matter may be taken up by SAREC.

12. REPORT SAREC

MG (Chair of SAREC) reported that the organisation is having a meeting on 25th September 2019 with the Scottish Government officials in relation to hate crime and how we collectively support victims. SAREC CEO's meeting went well and their some action points for working collectively and in partnership on various areas of work. SAREC Board will meet at 12.00noon on 7th October 2019 at WSREC offices

The Board noted the report.

13. AOCB

Mr tabled a report that went to personnel committee on gender and ethnicity of WSREC staff over the period 2010-2019.

The report showed that apart from the 'White Scottish' all other ethnicities have been represented in staff well above the Census 2011 and updated information on populations in the area that WSREC serves over the whole period. MR advised that over representation in BME staff is due to the nature of WSREC's work in particular the need for knowledge of diverse communities and spoken language other than English.

14. DATE AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings at 6.00pm meeting room ground floor, WSREC offices agreed as follows:

Monday 18th November 2019

Monday 10th February 2020

Monday 27th April 2020