

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council Ltd
78th Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday 24th June 2020 at 6.00pm
Via Zoom
1st meeting after the AGM

Minutes

PRESENT

Board of Directors

1. Cllr Hanzala Malik (HM) Chair
2. Vince Chudy (VC)
3. Harriette Campbell (HC)
4. Sharon Schlesinger (SS)
5. Haroun Malik (HM)
6. Malcolm Green (MG)
7. Dr Javed Gill (JG)
8. Cllr Anne McTaggart (AT)
9. Cllr Rashid Hussain (RH)

Observers

Non

In attendance

Mohammed Razaq (MR)
(chair for 1st bullet point on item 4)

Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Board of Directors

1. O.S Jandu
2. Syed Jafri

Observers

N/A

2. Minutes of the previous meetings

Minutes of 8th June 2020 were approved as a true and accurate record with the exception that the under AOCB the city name 'Edinburgh' needs to be changed to 'Kirkaldy'

3. Matters Arising

Action Point: WSREC to collate information on mental health support provision available and to send to all Board members. MR said that mental health services list was circulated amongst Board members by email.

Action Point: MR to make sure that all WSREC Board members are contacted by IT individually and offered training on ZOOM. Mr Advised that all Board members had been contacted and offered ZOOM support by Mohith Lakhanpal from WSREC's MESS project.

4. Elections of Office Bearers

At this point Mohammed Razaq took the Chair and asked for nominations for Chair

- **Chair:** Haroun Malik moved Cllr Hanzala Malik seconded by Dr Javed Gill, as there were no other nominations **Cllr Hanzala Malik** was duly elected.

At this point Cllr Hanzala Malik took over the Chair and asked for nominations for Vice-Chair

- **Vice Chair:** Harriette Campbell moved Dr Malcolm Green seconded by Cllr Anne McTaggart, as there were no other nominations **Dr Malcolm Green** was duly elected.
- **Treasurer:** Sharon Schlesinger moved Harriette Campbell seconded by Cllr Anne McTaggart, as there were no other nominations **Harriette Campbell** was duly elected.
- **Company Secretary:** Harriette Campbell moved Sharon Schlesinger seconded by Vice Chudy, as there were no other nominations **Sharon Schlesinger** was duly elected.

5. Co-options

The following co-options were agreed

1. Ms Sheela Mukherjee
2. Mr Antony Kozlowski

6. Formation of Committees

The Chair proposed committees membership remain the same as last year. This was moved by Vince Chudy and seconded by Dr Malcolm Green.

Personnel Committee	Finance Committee	Marketing & Training Cttee
Vince Chudy – Chair	Harriette Campbell - Chair	Sharon Schlesinger – Chair
Harriette Campbell	Vince Chudy	Rashid Hussain
Rashid Hussain	Mr O S Jandu	Malcolm Green
Anne McTaggart	Mr S Jafri	Syed Jafri
Sharon Schlesinger	Antony Kozlowski	Harriette Campbell
		Dr Javed Gill

Strategy Committee	Membership Panel
Dr Malcolm Green – Chair	Mr O S Jandu – Chair
Sharon Schlesinger	Patricia Iredia (ACWA)
O S Jandu	Ramzan Shah
Anne McTaggart	Tunveer Malik

7. A.O.C.B.

- The Chair brought up WSREC's 'Return to office Plan' he advised that the draft plan and risk assessments had been emailed to all Board members on 23/06/2020 and wished members to have an opportunity to read and ask questions. MR supplied further information saying that safety of staff and services users was paramount in the plan. Returning to the office will be cautious, slow and gradual as a lot of work will need to be carried out as the plan suggests in terms office environment and staff returning.

The Board agreed in principal to the 'Return to the Office Plan' and 'Risk Assessments' subject to any questions and queries by Board members being satisfactorily addressed. It was agreed that if no questions or queries were received within a week it will be considered that both the plan and risk assessments have been approved and staff to implement the plan.

- Cllr Anne McTaggart asked what WSREC was doing in relation to Covid 19 report by health inequalities and Black Lives Matter protests as we should be at the forefront of these issues.

In responding the Chair said that WSREC has always been at the forefront of equality issues as it is what it does day-in day-out. WSREC will always strive to obtain resources, increase capacity and deal with issues accordingly. He also advised that the Chief Executive since returning from being stranded abroad due to Covid 19 travel bans has had to cope with office closure and home working while overseeing WSREC services continue. He also noted how well staff had adapted with home working and continue and add new (due to Covid 19) service provision for our service users in an innovative and thoughtful manner.

MR reported that he had since returning to work been in a number of meetings with the Scottish Government, Glasgow City Council and 3rd sector Equality Networks in relation to Covid 19 and the inequalities and Black Lives Matter protests. Also, WSREC as the Secretariat for the Scottish Government Cross Party Group on Racial Equality agreed with the Chair Fulton Mcgregor MSP to have both issues on the agenda for the next meeting. The Chair also advised that he had written to Humza Yousaf the justice minister in relation to Police and their methods of physically restraining suspects.

8. Date and Times of future meetings

Future meetings at 6.00pm **Via Zoom** or if the situation allows in meeting room ground floor, WSREC offices agreed as follows: Monday **07th September** 2020; Monday **23rd November** 2020 ; Monday **8th February** 2021 and Monday **26th April** 2021