

Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2019

PRESENT: Mr Islwyn Humphreys (Samaritans) (Chair)

Local Authority

Councillors Kenneth P Hughes, Gwilym O Jones,
R Meirion Jones, Llinos Medi, Alun Mummery

Voluntary Sector

Mr Aled Evans (Age Cymru - Gwynedd & Môn)
Mr Andrew M Hughes (Medrwn Môn)
Mr Alwyn Rowlands (Medrwn Môn)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Alwyn R Jones (Director of Social Services)
Mr J Huw Jones (Head of Democratic Services – IOACC)
(Chair for Items 1 & 2)
Mrs Sian Purcell (Medrwn Môn)
Mr Dafydd Bulman (Strategic Transformation & Business
Manager)
Mrs Lindsey Williams (Medrwn Môn)
Mrs Shirley Cooke (Committee Officer)

APOLOGIES: Mr Iwan Jones (BCUHB)

1. CHAIRPERSON

Mr Islwyn Humphreys was elected Chairperson of the Liaison Committee to the end of March 2020.

2. VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Councillor Alun Mummery was elected Vice-Chairperson of the Liaison Committee to the end of March 2020.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest was received.

4. MINUTES

The draft minutes of the meetings of the Liaison Committee held on the following dates were presented and confirmed as correct:-

- 9 February 2019
- 27 July 2019

5. THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The Strategic Transformation and Business Manager reported that the Anglesey Compact has been updated and simplified recently, and its name changed to the Isle of Anglesey Partnership Agreement.

The Director of Social Services reported that he would like to see the Council commit to 5 or 6 objectives to strengthen the Partnership Agreement. He stated that the purpose of the Agreement needs to be more positive, with the Council adopting a more robust approach, using statements such as “we will”, “you will”, “collectively we will”.

Clarity was sought by the Voluntary Sector regarding its role in relation to the Council, and vice versa. It was noted that the Voluntary Sector would support the Council in delivering its messages to the community.

It was further noted that Medrwn Môn have discussed the Liaison Committee’s relationship with the Consultation and Engagement Board established by the Council. Medrwn Môn has agreed to present its proposals to the Director of Social Services, who in turn has agreed to share the Council’s objectives with the Committee in 3 or 4 weeks.

The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn reported that the Voluntary Sector feels disengaged to influence budgets in relation to the partnership approach, particularly the Health Board.

Discussion focused on best practice to ensure the Health Board fulfils its role in the Partnership Agreement. It was suggested that a joint working plan be put in place to address this issue.

RESOLVED:-

- **That Medrwn Môn forwards its proposals regarding the Partnership Agreement to the Director of Social Services.**
- **That the Director of Social Services:-**
 - **acts upon feedback from Medrwn Môn; and,**
 - **prepares the Council’s objectives regarding the Partnership Agreement; and**
 - **forwards the draft Agreement to the Committee in 3-4 weeks for approval.**
- **That the Director of Social Services presents the final version of the Isle of Anglesey Partnership Agreement to the Voluntary Sector at its next meeting in March 2020.**

6. THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL’S VOLUNTEERING POLICY

The Strategic Transformation and Business Manager reported that the Council’s Volunteering Policy has recently been updated in relation to safeguarding and training for volunteers. The Policy will need to be updated further to include comments made by the Council’s Human Resources Department in due course.

The Council’s Volunteering Policy will be reviewed annually by the Liaison Committee as part of its remit to implement the principles in the Partnership

Agreement.

Resolved to note the information presented.

7. THE ANGLESEY CODE OF PRACTICE FOR FUNDING THE THIRD SECTOR

The Strategic Transformation and Business Manager reported that the Code of Practice adopted by the Council has recently been updated by the Finance Department. It was suggested that the Partnership Agreement and Code of Practice be combined into one document.

Concerns were raised regarding the timing of external grant funding for the Voluntary Sector. The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn reported that it is a requirement of the Code, that the Council gives three months' notice of any available grants. However, this policy does not apply to grants outside the Council's management.

RESOLVED to note the information presented.

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMITTEE

The Head of Democratic Services presented the Committee's Terms of Reference to review its content. He stated that the term NHS in Section 2 of the document needs to be amended to BCUHB.

Clarity was sought as to why the term 'elect' is used to appoint representatives from the Voluntary Sector on the Liaison Committee. The Committee agreed to change the wording to 'nominate'.

The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn highlighted that the Liaison Committee's membership is only renewed when seats become vacant. The Committee discussed whether to change its membership more frequently, and how often meetings should be convened. It was agreed to continue with the current system of appointing new members only when seats become vacant, and convene meetings to 'up to 3 times a year'.

It was noted that two new representatives have been appointed to the Liaison Committee, namely Mr Aled Evans from Age Cymru - Gwynedd and Môn, and Mr Iwan Jones, a Corporate Officer from the BHCUB.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the Health Board's lack of attendance at meetings. The Director of Social Services agreed to pursue the matter with the Health Board regarding its role in the Partnership Agreement. He suggested that the Committee considers nominating a second member of the Health Board to sit on the Committee, from a team led by Ffion Johnstone, who work locally on Anglesey.

The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn reported that Ann Griffith, the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales, who is an observer on this Committee has expressed her wish to attend meetings.

RESOLVED:-

- **To implement the changes noted above in relation to the Liaison Committee's Terms of Reference.**

- The Director of Social Services to liaise with the BCUHB regarding its role within the Partnership Agreement and the Liaison Committee.
- That the Director of Social Services nominates a second member of BCUHB to become a representative on the Liaison Committee.
- That point 1.7 of the Terms of Reference be amended to read ‘that the minutes of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee be presented to the Executive in due course’.
- That an invitation be extended to the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales Police to attend the Liaison Committee’s meetings.

9. THE EXECUTIVE’S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Liaison Committee be held at 2.00pm on Tuesday, 3 March 2020.

The meeting concluded at 3.05 pm

**MR ISLWYN HUMPHREYS
CHAIR**