

# VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE

## Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2016

**PRESENT:** Mr Islwyn Humphreys (Chair)

### **Local Authority**

Councillors Jim Evans, Aled Morris Jones, Alun Mummery

### **Voluntary Sector**

Mr Andrew M Hughes (Medrwn Môn)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs Annwen Morgan (Assistant Chief Executive – IOACC)  
Mr Alwyn R Jones (Head of Adults' Services)  
Mr John R Jones (Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn)  
Ms Lyndsey Williams (Community Voices – Medrwn Môn)  
Shirley Cooke (Committee Officer – IOACC)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Alwyn Rowlands, Ieuan Williams;  
Ms Eleri Lloyd Jones (Age Cymru - Gwynedd and Môn);  
Mr Wyn Thomas (Assistant Director of Community Development,  
BIPBC)

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### **1 CHAIRPERSON**

The Committee discussed electing a Chair for the Liaison Committee for the forthcoming year.

**It was agreed to defer electing a Chairperson until the next meeting of the Liaison Committee, to obtain clarification on the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board's current role within the Committee.**

### **2 VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

As above.

### **3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No declaration of interest was received.

### **4 MINUTES – 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2016**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee held on 15th January, 2016 were presented and confirmed as correct.

**Arising thereon:-**

**Item 3 - Minutes - 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2016**

The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn referred to the first point in Item 3 of the minutes. At the previous meeting of the Liaison Committee, it was agreed with the Council Leader that the Chief Officer could have a copy of the Head of Resources' detailed analysis of the Authority's investment in the Third Sector. The Chief Officer stated that this information has not been made available to him to date.

**ACTION:**

**Assistant Chief Executive to follow up with the Head of Resources, the Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn's request for information on the Authority's investment in the Third Sector.**

**5 REVIEW OF THE FUNDING CODE OF PRACTICE AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR ALLOCATION 2015/16**

The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn reported that the Funding Code of Practice has been agreed and Voluntary Sector's funds have been allocated. He stated that the Committee now have an opportunity to review the Code of Practice. It was noted that Medrwn Môn have sent out a questionnaire to the Voluntary Sector to review experiences, progress and communication.

With reference to reduced funding for the Third Sector, the Chair, representing the Samaritans on this Committee, reported that the Charity had not been allocated funding for this financial year. The process of form filling had created barriers due to confidentiality. He stated that a new approach would need to be considered for future funding of the Third Sector.

**The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn referred to the Charitable Trust, and requested clarity from the Head of Resources on any potential funding available through the Trust.**

**ACTION: As above.**

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

**6 THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR'S STRATEGY AND THE LIAISON COMMITTEE'S ROLE**

The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn reported that the Compact has been agreed, including the principles and the Funding Code of Practice, which demonstrate the obligations of the Volunteering Policy and Working in Partnership document.

It was noted that progress had been made in several areas to develop effective engagement arrangements for partnership working. However, more can be achieved on a more formal basis by structuring the relationship and developing one

strategy for joint working eg. Compact, Lleisiau Lleol, Engagement Board, AONB, Anglesey Welsh Language Forum.

**It was agreed that the Medrwn Môn Board discuss further options to build on the current partnership arrangements. The Chief Officer agreed to draft a strategy to encompass the above documents and how they could be used in practice.**

**ACTION: As above.**

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

## **7 THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR'S ROLE IN THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S SCRUTINY STRUCTURE**

Clarity was sought on why the Voluntary Sector does not have a statutory role on Scrutiny Committees.

Following consultation with the Head of Function (Council Business), the Assistant Chief Executive confirmed that the Third Sector's role and attendance at both Scrutiny Committees was by invitation only. It was noted however, that members of the Roman Catholic Church and the Church in Wales were invited to attend as co-opted members.

The Chief Officer, Medrwn Môn reported that he is regularly invited to attend the Scrutiny Committees by the Head of Democratic Services and is provided with a copy of the Scrutiny Work Programme and Executive's Forward Work Programme, which is of interest to the Third Sector. He further reported that although representatives from the Third Sector have no voting rights, he hoped that the Scrutiny Committees would be able to benefit from the work of the Citizens Panel. He stated that he would like a more formal process to be adopted.

Councillor Aled Morris Jones suggested that Medrwn Môn should be supported, and **the Voluntary Sector's role in the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee's be formalised with voting powers.**

**ACTION: As above.**

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

## **8 UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE CITIZEN'S PANEL**

The Project Manager (Community Voices) provided an update on the Community Voices's Citizens Panel and the Youth Panel. With regard to community engagement, it was noted that the Project Manager had attended meetings of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Scrutiny Committee recently.

The Project Manager referred to the framework adopted by the project for community engagement activities including the establishment of the Citizen's Panel and Youth Panel.

The Project Manager referred to Lottery Funding, and that Medrwn Môn would be seeking external funding for continuation of the projects but that as the funding currently stands, funding for Llais Ni would be ending in April.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

## **9 PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE RE: SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELL-BEING (WALES) ACT 2014 AND FUTURE GENERATIONS**

The Head of Adults Services gave a summary of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act, 2014, which has been in force since 1st April, 2016 together with key challenges, service issues and future demands.

He referred to the aims of the Act as follows:-

- giving the individual a voice, with power over the services they receive;
- enabling individuals to achieve by building on their circumstances, abilities, networks and communities;
- early intervention - including preventative services;
- co-working and co-designing strong partnerships.

Arising from discussion, it was reported that **the Assistant Chief Executive invite Llio Johnson, the Senior Partnership Manager to attend the next meeting.**

**Action: As above.**

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

## **10 COMMUNITY VOICES**

The Project Manager (Community Voices) provided an update to the Committee on the key tiers of consultation used in partnership work between Community Voices and the County Council in relation to the following:-

1. The 'Building Communities Approach;
2. The 'middle of the road' approach (Libraries Consultation/Budget Consultation/Community Hubs Consultation);
3. The 'basic' approach' (Breakfast Clubs/Extra Care Approach)

Reference was made to the framework and methodology used.

**RESOLVED to accept the report.**

## **11 THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Executive's Forward Work Programme for the period from July, 2016 to February, 2017 was presented and noted.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

## **12 NEXT MEETING OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee scheduled for Friday, 13th October, 2016 be held at Gwelfor Community Centre, Holyhead.

The Chair thanked Mr John R Jones for his tireless contribution to the Voluntary Sector and Medrwn Môn, and wished him health and happiness in his retirement.

**Mr Islwyn Humphreys  
Chair**