

MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD ON THURSDAY 23 JUNE 2016, ROSEBERY HOUSE, EDINBURGH

	<p>Present: A Linkston (Chair), T Boffey (Vice Chair), B Stevenson, R Gibson, B Allan (Treasurer), F Falconer and D King.</p> <p>In Attendance: J Sweeney (Chief Executive), D Gillespie, M McLeod, T Frew and S Dow.</p>	ACTION
1.	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</p> <p>A Linkston welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from M Pitcaithly, J Wilson, L Chow, A Morrell, L Fergus, J Linden, L Macdonald, R Gallacher and G Lithgow.</p>	
2.	<p>MINUTE OF LAST MEETING (21 April 2016)</p> <p>The minute of the last meeting was approved as an accurate record without amendment.</p>	
3.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING</p>	
3.1	<p>2018 Year of Young People</p> <p>An email was sent to YouthLink Scotland members to ascertain their individual preferred level of involvement and received 14 replies plus our own submission. These have been forward to the Scottish Government Team concerned.</p>	
3.2	<p>Playing Together Symposium</p> <p>The formal report from the conference is now at the printer.</p>	
4.	<p>CONFLICT OF INTERESTS</p> <p>None declared.</p>	
5.	<p>FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE</p>	
5.1	<p>Verbal Report of Meeting held on 23 June 2016</p> <p>B Allan reported that the main item of the meeting was the Annual Audit of Accounts.</p>	
5.2	<p>Verbal update on Annual Audit of Accounts 2015-16</p> <p>A Croxford, Thomson Cooper, attended the meeting to report on the findings of the Annual Audit of Accounts 2015-16. There were no issues to report. All internal controls and polices were found to be robust and appropriate. Therefore the</p>	

	<p>Finance & Audit Committee recommended sign off of the Audit at the September Board meeting. B Allan will meet with A Croxford prior to the September Board meeting to discuss any possible material changes that may have arisen over the intervening period.</p> <p>This was agreed.</p> <p>B Allan reported that the year ended with a £42k deficit, having started the year with a planned deficit of £179k. This outcome is in line with Management Accounts presented over the year. However, taking the Pension actuarially adjusted position into account the year actually ended with a £4.5k surplus.</p> <p>D Gillespie reported that correspondence has been discovered which would appear to support our claim that Scottish Executive Education Department (SEED)/Scottish Ministers would act as Guarantor for Lothian Pension Fund. This has been sent to Lothian Pension Fund for pursuance. If Guarantor status is clarified this would result in YouthLink Scotland being assessed on an Ongoing basis as opposed to the current Gilts basis. B Allan noted that this would all take time to resolve but may ultimately mean a review of our approach to provision for pensions in the accounts. Unless the issue is resolved before September no adjustment would be made to the Annual Accounts. An update will be provided when available.</p>	BA/DG
<p>5.3</p>	<p>Management Accounts to 31 May 2016 (BOD/23/16)</p> <p>B Allan highlighted the salient points as being:</p> <p>Budget assumptions now confirmed, including £4k more in core grant than was assumed, CashBack for Communities Facilities Fund, AoS, #iwill and staff costs. Therefore approximately £100k has been achieved towards the deficit to date.</p> <p>B Allan felt this was an exceptional result at this point of the year and thanked staff for their contribution.</p> <p>The Management Accounts were noted.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>POLICY FORUM</p>	
<p>6.1</p>	<p>Draft Minute of Meeting held on 26 May 2016 (BOD/24/16) – For Information</p> <p>F Falconer reported on the meeting held on 26 May. His only disappointment was being unable to widen access digitally to what was a very interesting topic. The meeting concluded that it was essential that young people are involved in the development of the Mental Health Strategy. M McLeod advised that copies of Blame My Brain by Nicola Morgan had been purchased and would be available for those wishing to borrow them. J Sweeney noted that he was due to have a follow up meeting with Gregor Smith, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, and could use this as a possible way of getting the evidence brought to the wider attention of government and its agencies.</p> <p>F Falconer advised that recruitment of Policy Forum members would continue over the coming months.</p> <p>The draft minute and report was noted.</p>	

6.2	<p>Youth Work Changes Lives Call to Action Monitoring Framework (BOD/25/16)</p> <p>The Monitoring Report was noted.</p> <p>F Falconer advised that discussions are taking place with the Gannochy Trust to look at researching young people’s experiences of youth work and how youth work is funded. The hope is that other funders will come on board. Intelligence gathered could then be presented to Government to support the call for better funding for youth work.</p>	
7.	<p>NVYOS</p>	
7.1	<p>Verbal Report of Meeting held on 7/8 June 2016 – For Information</p> <p>R Gibson reported that the Group held a brief Business Meeting as part of the joint residential with LA Youth Work Managers.</p> <p>Fergus McMillan, LGBT Youth Scotland is the new Chair of the Group with Denise King and Bill Stevenson as Vice Chairs. The Strategy Group will also be refreshed.</p> <p>T Frew reported on the joint residential noting that feedback received has been very positive with over 40 delegates in attendance. A formal evaluation will be carried out. The special guest at the evening reception and dinner was Paul Johnston, Director-General Learning and Justice. Inputs were provided by:</p> <p>Bethia McNeil, Centre for Youth Impact UK Kelly McInnes, Northern Star Dr Susan Batchelor and Dr Lisa Whittaker, University of Glasgow Susan Hunter, YouthLink Scotland Joe Wilson, Education Consultant Julie Wild, Scottish Government Don Ledingham, CEANNAS and Queen Margaret University.</p> <p>A direct outcome of the residential was an invitation to attend the Education Summit.</p>	
8.	<p>LA YOUTH WORK MANAGERS GROUP</p>	
8.1	<p>Report of Meeting held on 18 March 2016 (BOD/26/16) – For Information</p> <p>The report was noted.</p>	
8.1	<p>Verbal Report of Meeting held on 7/8 June 2016 – For Information</p> <p>Unfortunately L Fergus was unable to attend the Board meeting. J Sweeney advised that B Miller stood down as Chair. L Fergus, previously Vice Chair is now Chair of the Group. Vice Chairs will be confirmed.</p>	<p>GL/LF/JS</p>
9.	<p>DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER VISIT</p>	
9.1	<p>Verbal report of visit by John Swinney MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills – For Information</p> <p>J Sweeney noted that we had the privilege of hosting Mr Swinney just 2 days into</p>	

	<p>his new role as Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills. J Sweeney thanked Education Scotland for organising the visit. Mr Swinney met with a number of individuals including members and young people. He also met with staff and heard about the work of the organisation. An open session was held comprising representatives from statutory, voluntary and schools sectors where strong and relevant inputs were made by all in relation to Raising Attainment and the youth work offer.</p> <p>J Sweeney and L Macdonald also attended the Scottish Leaders Forum and raised the issue of attainment with the First Minister. L Macdonald also raised mental health specifically with regard to young girls. A group session focussed on raising attainment, chaired by Paul Johnston and attended by J Sweeney.</p> <p>F Falconer noted that the Play and Youth Work sectors had been making real progress but the split in Aileen Campbell's portfolio could put the Play Strategy in real jeopardy. J Sweeney advised that he was due to meet with the new Minister for Childcare and Early Years, Mark McDonald over the summer and could raise particular issues then. F Falconer felt there was much less cohesion since the election and suggested a Chatham House rules meeting. A Linkston suggested an informal meeting with Paul Johnston given his central role in upcoming changes.</p> <p>J Sweeney intimated that our analysis showed we are now required to deal with 9 different members of government at Cabinet Secretary or Ministerial level.</p>	
10.	CASHBACK FOR COMMUNITIES	
10.1	<p>Presentation on Progress – For Information</p> <p>S Paterson presented on the recent CashBack for Communities campaigns. The first of these was the CashBack Selfie Campaign followed by the CashBack Busk held in Glasgow's Central Station. The next will be a postcard campaign which will include a selfie of a young person from around Scotland with 10-15 words describing how youth work benefits them. Young people will be provided with electronic versions of their postcard to share with their local MSPs and Councillors. It is then hoped to hold an exhibition as part of a parliamentary reception during Youth Work Week in November.</p>	
11.	SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT	
11.1	<p>Team Report (BOD/27/16) – For Information</p> <p>T Frew highlighted that the LFNB contract had not been renewed this financial year. This was in no way a reflection of the work undertaken to date. As a result of this A Goulding's contract will finish at the end of June. T Frew formally thanked A Goulding for all her hard work.</p> <p>J Sweeney advised that a joint seminar will be held with senior staff from YouthLink Scotland and Education Scotland on 22 August. The Memorandum of Understanding will be a key part of these discussions.</p>	
11.2	<p>Youth Work and Schools Progress Report – For Information</p> <p>J Sweeney and B Maxwell will meet over the summer to discuss further.</p>	

12.	CONSULTATION RESPONSES	
12.1	Consultation on Children’s Rights & Services Planning (Children and Young People’s Act 2014) – YouthLink Scotland Response – For Information (BOD/28/16) The response was noted.	
12.2	Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility – YouthLink Scotland Response – For Information (BOD/29/16) The response was noted.	
12.3	Consultation on Police Powers to Search Children and Young People for Alcohol – YouthLink Scotland Response – For Information (BOD/30/16) The response was noted.	
12.4	Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015: Participation Requests, Consultation on Draft Regulations – YouthLink Scotland Response – For Information (BOD/31/16) The response was noted.	
13.	PUBLICATIONS	
13.1	Supporting Young People To Take Action on Sectarianism: A Toolkit – Year 2	
14.	EQAULITIES REFLECTION	
14.1	There were no issues to note.	
15.	AOB A Linkston, on behalf of the Board, congratulated J Sweeney on receiving an MBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours.	
16.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	The date of the next meeting will take place on Thursday 22 September at 2pm, Rosebery House, Edinburgh.	