



Children's Commissioner for Jersey

Promoting and Protecting Children's Rights

MINUTES

Meeting of: Adult Advisory Panel
Venue: Brunel House, Old Street, St Helier
Date: 29 October 2020 (Teams)
Time: 09.30-11.15am

Chair: Deborah McMillan

Present:

Dr Peter Green
Maggie Atkinson
Gailina Liew
Sally Johnson
Sarah McDermott
Andrea Le Saint
Jorge Cabrejas
Sam Le Quesne

■■■■ (Minutes)

Apologies:

Dragan Nastic
Philip Gower
Mike Graham
Simon Hoffman

Deborah welcomed everyone and mentioned the recruitment of new members for the panel is anticipated. The minutes of the previous meeting will be sent to the panel for sign-off.

1. Restructure

A powerpoint presentation and explanation of the process undertaken for the formal restructure was provided to the panel. ■■■■ ■■■■ took part in the job matching process as an independent advisor and provided a written commentary and assurance as part of the process.

Deborah also thanked ■■■■ team for their involvement.

The panel were pleased with the process. The budget controls were queried, and it was confirmed the budget is aligned with the Government Plan which the Commissioner submits to Government. The Commissioner confirmed that

the current budget is sufficient to carry out all of the statutory functions. Commissioner confirmed that the Law allows the Commissioner to contract with any person in order to discharge the Commissioner's functions and may pay fees as determined are reasonable.

2. LOIPR - Commissioner's report to CRC Committee

■■■■ explained the process that was followed that has led to writing the report. ■■■■ explained the key issues in Jersey: Access to healthcare, Income Support, Housing, Equity in Education, Youth Justice, alternative care including Off-Island care. The report has drawn evidence from our data, surveys, research, case work and workshops. A link was provided to the draft report which will be finalised and put onto the portal by 1st November. **Action: ■■■■ The final version will be emailed to the Panel.**

Seven workshops were held with members of civil society and were very successful and the aim is to follow-up with further workshops and resources. The intention is to build a strong coalition of NGOs. A Child-friendly version of the report to the CRC Committee will also be created.

There was a discussion on the voice of the child in health. ■■■■ confirmed that there had been very few health cases coming into casework.

Action: ■■■■ and ■■■■ to discuss how to raise the voice of children in relation to health

3. Casework

■■■■ provided an update on the following

:

- Audit & Review system implementation
- An update on casework numbers and themes. Currently we have 32 open cases.
- Key themes are children's social care, education especially special needs, private law issues and policing.
- Waiting times for children to be seen at Health

■■■■ provided a Casework powerpoint presentation and related articles.

Peter asked if children have been provided with relevant UNCRC articles connected to their issue. ■■■■ confirmed that our casework focuses on the child's rights and that they are often interconnected and interdependent. Poverty is a determinant of child health.

ACTION: ■■■■/■■■ to discuss with ■■■■

4. Participation

■■■■ update was supplied via email.

In essence:

- ENYA group have been difficult to form during lockdown and was therefore a decision was made for our youngsters not to take part in ENYA this year.

- Youth Advisory Panel (YAP): it is envisaged the panel would be more inclusive with two panels made up of different ages. There will be further ad-hoc panels for children with disabilities/special needs. A recruitment campaign will be launched shortly to attract new youth members.
- Rights Respecting Schools (RRS): [REDACTED] provided an update that all state schools apart from Le Sente are now registered for the award. [REDACTED] has been able to restart visits to some schools and training is being delivered for teachers on-line.

5. Comms

[REDACTED] update:

- LOIPR will be submitted by 1st November
- Life in Numbers project has provided good statistics which informs the LOIPR report but will also inform our ongoing work
- Life on the rock: [REDACTED] provided an update on how this project work will be presented and used to inform our wider work.
- [REDACTED] will work with Deborah to recruit new members to both adult panels.
- [REDACTED] gave an update on [REDACTED] meetings with the Jersey Identity Board meeting.

Due to limited time DMC will provide a written update for the agenda items on child friendly justice and the operational plan.

The meeting closed at 11.15am.