

Minutes of meeting held via Teams, Weds 19 May 2021 10am-1pm

Present:

Steve Drowley (Chair), Catrin James, Grant Poiner, Andy Borsden, Josh Klein, Tim Opie, Donna Lemin, Jo Sims, Gill Price, Rachel Burton, Lin Howells, Hayden Llewellyn, Paul O'Neil.

In attendance:

Liz Rose (ETS Adviser)

Apologies:

Hannah Wilcox, David Algie, Martin King-Sheard, Mike Greenaway.

1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

SD welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting. LR apologised for having internet connection problems so joined by telephone which made communication more difficult.

2. NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

These were accepted as an accurate record. Most actions had been achieved.

3.0 – A WDPG subgroup had met to discuss apprenticeships. Apart from the Framework, issues around infrastructure and sector capacity were raised. **Action: Further work is needed on apprenticeships, LR to reconvene the sub-group with a formal agenda**

5.0 – SD had submitted the ETS response to the IYWB Initial Report and Wavehill Report.
Action: circulate to members

3. ETS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

SD asked if everyone could review their membership of the Committee and confirm with their nominating organisation that they are the correct individuals to continue. EC having left University of South Wales in now a wider field representative and a new TAG Cymru member is needed. Mark Isherwood will be joining as an observer from NAEL.

Action: All to consult with organisations they are representing and confirm (or amend) by email to LR by 11th June their continued membership of the Committee, especially those who are formally nominated

A discussion around the lack of attendance of the JNC Professional Adviser took place. As this is a Councillor, the following was agreed:

Action: TO & PO'N to liaise with Cllr Marsden re. JNC Employer representation on ETS Committee (SD to follow up with letter to WLGA if necessary)

The importance of increasing diversity of the Committee was also noted.

Action: TAG to seek arrangements for nominating a young person/student to ETS Committee (in addition to a TAG member)

4. ETS WORKPLAN

SD reported that we are currently negotiating with Welsh Govt an update to our workplan.

Action: ETS Workplan - LR to circulate once finalised with Welsh Govt

A replacement for Gareth Newton, who had been invaluable in supporting the work of the WDPG, was being sought.

Action:LR to circulate job specification for consultant role to support work of WDPG

5. WELSH GOVERNMENT UPDATE (IYW Board / Strategy Participation Groups / WDPG / Other)

DL gave the following update:

- A new Education Minister (Jeremy Miles) is in place, lots of preparation is taking place and he will be meeting key representatives in due course
- The staff team has been joined by Hayley Jones who will be co-ordinating the work of the IYWB and leading on some of the SPGs. There is also a secondee, Paula Beaman, from Caerphilly who will deal with grants
- Ellie Parker has been appointed as Marketing Officer. This one-year post is based at CWVYS and Ellie will take on the Youth Work Awards, National Conference and regular information updates
- The IYWB has appointed a writer to help them finalise their report to the Minister It is important to get the report right as the recommendations, if taken forward, will have huge implications
- The 'Youth Work is Accessible and Inclusive' SPG is seeking to expand its membership in an attempt to be truly diverse and this may have implications for other SPGs
- The Youth Engagement & Progression Framework is being refreshed and currently out for formal consultation
- A pilot for Welsh language work is being proposed. Of the local authorities who currently deliver less than 20% Welsh medium projects, one will be selected to identify what barriers are preventing them from delivering more. The successful LA will need to partner with a voluntary organisation and this proposal has been raised with the PYO group
- An advisory board is being established to distribute funding as part of the International Learning Exchange fund (replaces EU funding)
- Youth work Covid guidance is being updated now that Wales has moved to Alert level 2.

6. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAMME

SD gave an update on progress:

- The programme has been updated and finalised and new material written
- It is especially aimed at current managers across all sectors
- Two awareness-raising sessions were held on 23 April with over 50 people registering their interest but there will only be places for 18-24 on the actual programme
- Adverts for trainers had been circulated and a small group established with a briefing event held for them shortly
- The pilot programme is due to start in the autumn with three 2-day modules held in September, October and November 2021
- Thanks to generous funding from Welsh Govt this pilot will be free of charge for participants but this cannot be guaranteed in future
- An impact assessment and evaluation will be carried out in order to seek endorsement from NAEL.

7. QUALITY MARK

AB shared a presentation and provided a detailed update on progress. This included:

- New guidance and documentation with new branding now available on EWC and WG websites
- Successful awareness campaign held with positive feedback and additional Assessors recruited

A discussion then took place about how applicant organisations are interrogated at the start of the process to ensure they adhere to youth work principles and values as some organisations that have achieved the QM are not obvious 'youth work' ones. AB confirmed that a lot of work goes on behind the scenes and applications are taken to the steering group so felt that sufficient checks and balances were in place.

Action: LR to circulate presentation

8. EDUCATION WORKFORCE COUNCIL

HL gave an update on three areas:

- National Workforce Survey of registrant sectors closed Friday with a good response from Youth Workers (40+%) but a poor response from Youth Support Workers. The report will be available in July.
- Educators Wales site will have a soft launch on 7 June and a Ministerial launch 2 weeks later. Multiple demonstrations of the site are being run and EWC is keen for organisations to set up their profiles and upload data ahead of the launch.
- The next annual fee collection is due and EWC will be writing to employers to check the register to ensure they are complying with registration requirements.

9. ENDORSEMENT ACTIVITY

- 9.1 **Cardiff Metropolitan University – BA & PgDip/MA programmes** – CJ has agreed to chair the meeting for the 1-year extension to programmes. **Action: LR to liaise with CJ and CMU to arrange date for meeting**
- 9.2 **USW BA programme** – preparations for the endorsement panel visit in summer are being finalised.
- 9.3 **Trinity Saint David – BA & PgDip/MA programmes** – endorsement has now been finalised.
- 9.4 **Wrexham Glyndwr** – EC reported that a book on teaching youth work in Higher Education has been produced with a chapter written by Glyndwr University staff Hayley and Jess. **Action: EC to check with Glyndwr staff on permission to share with colleagues**
- 9.5 **Agored Cymru** - Progression from old L2 Award to the new L2 or L3 Certificate (despite a 95% match) still needs a process to confirm for ALW as they have so many students. **Action: LR to check process with DB or another member of staff**

10. JNC UPDATE

DA was not present but had provided an update for circulation which said the Employers's Side are expecting a pay and conditions claim from the Staff Side shortly, and a workforce survey has been undertaken (February-April) and a report is being finalised.

Action: LR to circulate

11. AOB

PhD research group – Joh Rose had submitted a short paper about ETS support for the setting up of a research group as there have been an unprecedented number of individuals completing or signing up for PhD research this year. The group would also seek to publish papers through the Youthworkwales e-library. This was seen as a timely idea as excellent pieces of work are being highlighted (and through the QM process too) that warrant publication. It was agreed that ETS could support the setting up of an initial group but that no commitment could be made to any additional funding for the e-library without a mandate.

Action: SD/LR to follow up with John Rose setting up a group of past and current youth work researchers (Masters, PhD etc)

12. Date of next meeting – 13th Oct 2021 via Teams (10am-1pm), 9 Feb 2022