

Stakeholder forum – meeting note

Held online –Wednesday 17 May 2023 10:00am - Noon

Attendees:

Charlene Brooks	Parenting NI – Chairperson
Gerry McCurdy	Interim Chief Commissioner
Andrea Brown	Disability Action
Tony Clarke	Start 360
Mary T Conway	Omagh Forum for Rural Associations
Michele Crilly	Special Olympics Ulster
Catherine Cooke	Foyle Women’s Information Network
Denise Copeland	NICVA
Michele Crilly	Special Olympics Ulster
Conor Flanagan	Supporting Communities
Lorraine Griffin	COSTA
Colin Hayburn	Extern
Clare Jenner	Parentkind
Lisa Keys	Boys Brigade NI
Louise Little	North Down Community Network
Diarmuid Moore	Early Years
Bill Megraw	County Down Rural Community Network
Valeria McConville	CO3
Brenda McMullan	Halifax Foundation
Leslie-Anne Newton	ARC NI
Treasa Rice	Brain Injury Matters
Ashleigh Roberts	East Belfast Community Development Agency
Ann Breslin	CCNI – PDM, Notetaker.
Emma O Neill	Board apprentice - observing

Apologies:

Cara McCann, Derek Powell, Denise Hayward, Tommy Stewart, Ian Simpson

Ref	Item	Action point/Decision
1	Apologies	
2	Notes of previous meeting	Decision: Note of meeting accepted.
3	Update on charities who work locally but are headquartered outside Northern Ireland – s.167.	AP.1 Send out note explaining s.167 to the forum.

		AP.2 Commission to write to funders to alert/remind them of the legal situation with s.167s. Brenda, from Halifax, will raise this with the funder's forum.
4	<p>Update on redesign of website of website and feedback from user experience testing.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Next stage of redesign due in the autumn. Asked for redesign user acceptance testing volunteers.</p>	AP.3 Eight people volunteered, and their contact details to be shared with HCorps.*
5.	<p>Update on draft engagement strategy</p> <p>Discussion and feedback</p>	AP.4 Commission to make it explicit in the finalised strategy what the online surveys are and indicate data re participation in these surveys will form part of the review of the engagement strategy.
6.	<p>Discussion re DfC consultation on a Scheme of Delegation and how/whether the forum should respond.</p>	<p>Decision: Forum agreed that given its diverse membership it was not appropriate for the forum to try to reach a collective view.</p> <p>AP.5 - Chair to respond to DfC welcoming extension to consultation and, while the forum will not respond as a forum, members will encourage the organisations represented on the forum to make their own response. Will also note that the technical nature of this consultation may explain the poor response rate to date.</p>
7.	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Tone of refusal letters are still very formal and may be 'scary' for trustees.</p> <p>Re Letters from recent mailout, issue of situation where several charities share a building. As letters had trustee names but no charity name, this can cause confusion as reception may only know the charities names.</p>	<p>AP.6 Commission asked to review text.</p> <p>AP.7 Let M&C and IT know and ask if the charity name can be added in future.</p>

	<p>Contacting the Commission by phone, were told by NI Direct to email the Commission and ask for a call back.</p> <p>Commission considering phasing out of combined list – invitation to attend meeting to be updated.</p> <p>Thank you email to Emma Harte who has resigned from the forum.</p> <p>Need for new Vice-Chair</p>	<p>AP.8 Raise internally, to pass on feedback to provider.</p> <p>AP.9 PDM to pass names and contact details of those who would like an update to HCS.</p> <p>AP.10 PDM to draft and send email on behalf of Chair of forum.</p> <p>AP.11 Resend request for expressions of interest in role of Vice chair.</p>
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- Volunteers:

Andrea – someone from Disability Action will review.
Denise C.
Brenda
Bill
Lisa
Tony
Michele
Treaa.

Prepared by: Ann Breslin.

Next Meeting: online on 27 September 2023, from 10:00am – Noon.