

Child and Family Chapter

INAUGRAL MEETING

Venue: 123 Paradise Road, Slacks Creek

Time: 9.30-11.30am 16 December 2015

Attendance: Matthew Cox, Debbie Miscamble, Leith Sterling, Nadine, Karen Dawson-Sinclair, Susan Cary, Roger Marshall, Di Faulkner, Louisa W, Ashely Biermann, Sandra, Cheryl Wardrobe, Mike (YFS), Margie Richards, Chris Saunders, Aunty Robyn, Kerry Rose, Jan Miller, Sherene Staines, Norma Williams, Dr Kym Macfarlane, Charmaine Stubbs, Kim Wright, Holly Rynsent, Gwen Rayner, Bev Brooks, Angela T, Geraldine Harris.

Summary of main actions

1. **Next meeting: Late January**
2. **Convenors for next meeting:** Debbie, Ashley, Kim, Nadine and Kym
3. **Proposed action groups:** Convenors to work with Logan Together team to refine list and propose priorities for the next meeting
4. **Child and Family Chapter structure and Q&A:** Matthew and Leith to draft final paper outlining Chapter, it's roles, scope and Q&As before next meeting.

Minutes

Welcome and introduction

- Acknowledgement to traditional owners – Debbie Miscamble (DM)
- Welcome and meeting overview – Matthew Cox (MC)

MC discussed Logan Together's aims for Child and Family Chapter. This chapter will aim to be:

- An *Active* chapter with an action focus
- An integrating forum for all child and youth issues in the Logan Area
- Built on the work of the existing work of LLA, CFC, Consortium, Logan Together and other key stakeholders in the community
- How the 'disparate comes' together to best service children and families
- Become a coordinating point for the development of action groups

MC highlighted this would be undertaken via:

- further discussion exploring the ‘How to do this questions’
- setting both a planning and delivery agenda for 2016
- project planning to articulate who is doing what
- vision to have the program plan active by Jan-Feb 2016

Agenda

MC facilitating the discussion

- How do we build leadership groups across Logan: need to get some sense of how we do this already
- MC discussed the diagram and what agendas are already happening in the community
 - Logan Together – prebirth to 8 years
 - Communities for Children pre-birth to 12 years
 - LLA – pre-birth to 18 years
 - Others
- MC discussed the need to bring these together in a tight community response and commissioned the group to think about the broader agenda of pre-birth to 18 years
- MC highlighted the Child and Family Chapter as a group that coordinates and understands the landscape of children and youth by:
 - Looking at topic based approaches as per LT
 - Clusters that may emerge over time (see page 3 of document)
 - Sharing knowledge, understanding the agenda & coordinating the action groups
 - Prioritizing where action groups will sit (and how they will be lead)
 - Identify, prioritize and plan action groups

MC stated that the number of priorities and actions will be up to the Chapter but would need to consider:

- How much energy to do people have for the work and to lead this work
- What is the capacity to achieve identified priorities via action groups
- No shortage of leaders but this is hard work so needs to be realistic
- Key Message: action groups should not replicate existing (new for new sake) but find gaps

MC discussed the ‘ultra’ local place based services emerging in school neighbourhoods (clusters) and the models of the school and ECEC feeders as examples

LLA Update

Nadine and Leith gave an LLA update

- a. LLA discussed as per handout
- b. Browns Plains will be an individual LLA but engage where possible within other structures
- c. Logan and Beenleigh – membership keen to have an integrated structure – instead of another geography based group – they desire an issue based action groups – have local level data that support both geographical and issue based groups (similar to neighbourhood networks)
- d. Keep focus on issue and action areas rather than based on geography, as other systems are in place

- e. LLA (need clarity by Department) driving actions: LLA will still have to maintain deliverables – on specific roles of LLA (actions may be time limited with specific focus)
- f. DV new priority for 2016 – awaiting more specific guidelines from Department – will be brought back to the C&FN to see if there is an action group that needs to be formed
- g. Responding to emerging needs, short sharp interventions
- h. Balance top down-bottom up
- i. Listed action groups based on what is coming up
- j. Family Support Collective – separate structure set up through the HOF. Case management –operational program. Client focused integration. Continue separately but will feed in where relevant. Another avenue to promote integrate work

MC asked if everyone was comfortable with the proposal so far?

Dr Kym Macfarlane posed the question: Where is the research in the priorities, not just evaluation but research also. She discussed:

- Can we bring this together or is it at the higher LT level?
- DM asked GH to give feedback from the Griffith Research Alliance (new group forming around research)
- GH gave brief overview of meeting (who attended and key points for action)
- Important to have action research groups attached to topics
- KM stated the need to be very clear, very quickly about where research will fit both at chapter and higher level
- MC suggested it be ‘parked’ for future discussed as it is important

MC lead group in the activity of prioritizing the action groups for the Child and Family Chapter for 2016. MC asked people to consider:

Putting in details in the document

- How it supports the coordination, integration and information sharing for children 0-18 years
- How does it respond to the agendas of Logan Together, LLA, CfC, other priorities

Action Groups need to be:

- time limited
- require a community of people to launch the work
- Have terms of reference
- Purposed for reducing meeting times and frequency
- Further discussion required to articulate purpose of meetings

The chapter will become:

- The advisory group for Communities for Children (with agreement from Commonwealth Government)
- The Logan Child Friendly Consortium
- Support the work of the LLA (have in principle agreement from State Government)
- These may need specific action groups to respond to funding/contractual requirements where needed
- Browns Plains LLA will run concurrently as an LLA (but where possible not duplicate services)
- Logan and Beenleigh LLA will be topic based but may identify geographic priorities in the future
- Consider where research/action is needed within the chapter framework

MC and Logan Together will produce and release a diagram in the new year visually depicting the chapter. The chapter is the culmination of the 3 months of dialogue.

MC stated that LT will be working to Results Based Accountability framework

Discussion around how does the chapter task and scope RBA?

- Simple framework – being absolutely clear about your action and goals
- Eg Children do better in AEDC (put in figures) action groups eg Kindergarten attendance
- This action group which is focused on Kindergarten – kindergarten attendance up to eg 80% this equates to x amount of children- our action much respond to that – needs to target the amount of children – draw chain of logic, and who you should partner with, what each partner contributes to
- Chain of thinking
- What’s my job in this procersss?
- Logic chain within an action group – takes thinking
- Evidence indicates that results appear with the discipline
- Action groups
- Systems up front: eg data collection and how are you going to manage data
- Importance of research in data collection so information becomes useful
- List of what action groups are
- January – look at details (research, data, administrative data etc)
- What is the new data? – what have be already got? What is new data telling us? Always evolving?
- Sector awareness – collecting data to their KPI’s not outcomes – build sector awareness

Activity of prioritizing first stager thinking on action groups commenced with MC asking group to consider:

- Using Source Material (LT Roadmap and documents) or identified emerging needs
- Getting in a delivering the road map from LT action group
- Considering the ‘Cluster’ priorities in the LT document
- Diagram – projects and action groups
- Getting the ‘Say/Do’ ratio right – ensuring we are committed to doing what we say
- Break into 3 groups
- Prioritise the key action groups for 2016

A brief discussion raised by group on:

- Overlapping issues – overlapping chapter participation – doesn’t matter where topic gets driven? Debate on approach – doesn’t matter where it sits – but what are we driving?
- Energy-making sense
- Citizen engagement – child and family has a particular inteerst – mechanism – - family member and children actively shape -how do families shape the chapter, groups, systems etc – what needs to be embedded
- Can’t be done in isolation – focus on Collective Impact – equity and participation McAfee, Murdoch, not doing to – with and through
- Question raised What happened with the Logan Charter?
- Community alliance – there is work to do? Important to work on. Realistic about it – a fundamental

- Action group on citizen engagement
- MC said there is an active process in LT about how to do citizen engagement

MC asked everyone to consider the ‘Logan Together: Getting in and delivering on the roadmap’ document.

People broken into 3 groups with Nadine, Kym and Ashley facilitating them . (20 minute activity)

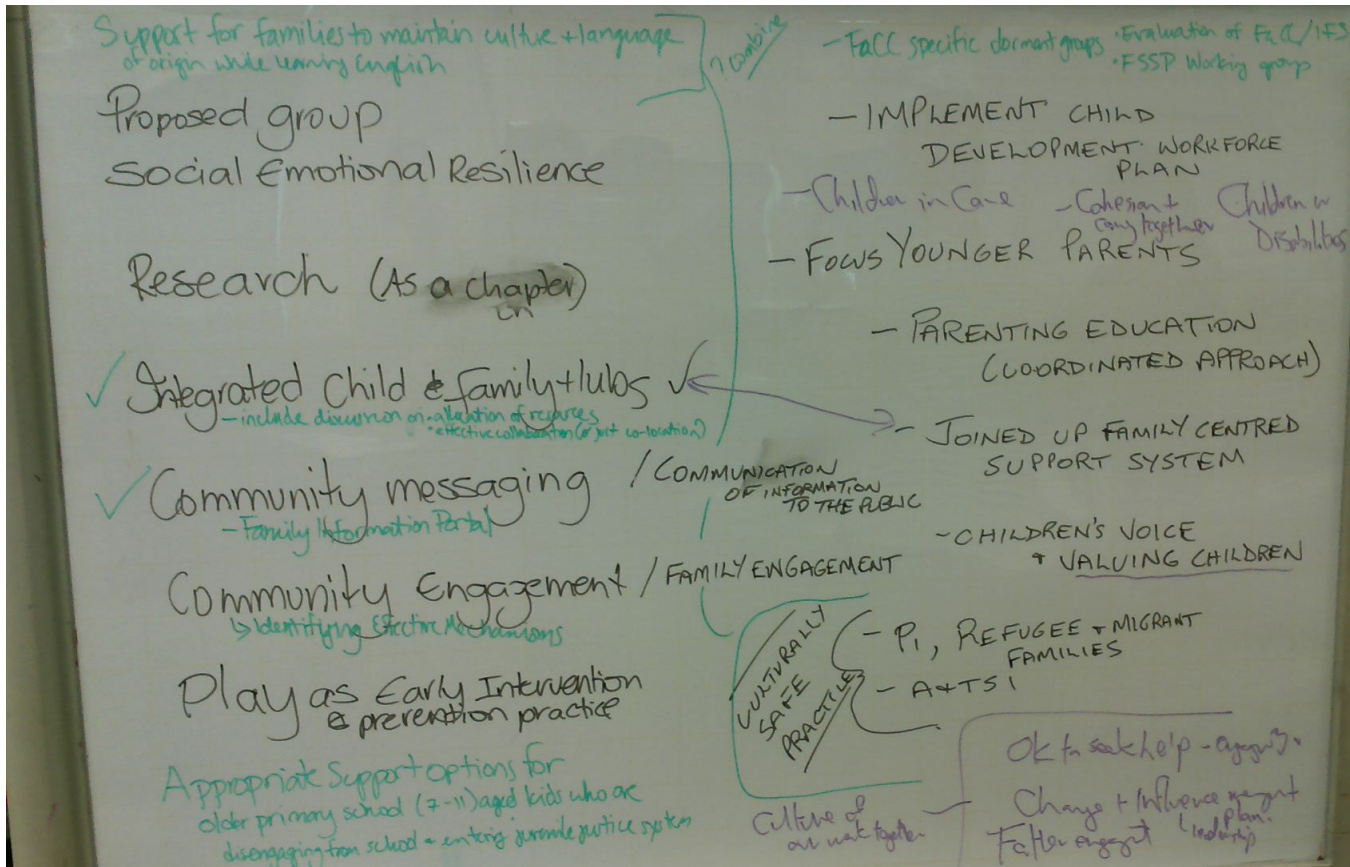
The long list of proposed Action Groups is below

1. Social and emotional resilience
2. Joined up family centred support system
3. Integrated child and family hubs
4. Community education / information campaign
 - a. Including family information portal
5. Integrated parenting education and lifeskills campaign
6. Community and family engagement
 - a. Best practice approaches
7. Shared family engagement team
8. Play as early intervention and prevention practice
9. 7-11 year old engagement and support
10. FACC technical working groups
 - a. Evaluation
 - b. FSSP Working Groups
11. Workforce plan for the broad child development sector
12. Young parents
13. Children’s voice
14. Specialist focus on culturally safe practice
 - a. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families
 - b. Pacific Island families
 - c. Refugee and migrant families
 - d. Support for families to maintain culture and language
15. Father engagement

There was also support for a new chapter:

Research

The whiteboard notes of this discussion are here:



A quick roundtable discussion was had around the priorities from 3 group leaders Kym, Nadine & Ashley (as per imaged above).

MC asked everyone to take a few minutes to reflect was there anything on there that was not already on the board. Leadership came up as one area to prioritized. KW raised inclusion of disabilities it may be considered a chapter within itself. Most people identified with what was proposed.

MC brought meeting to a close by discussing how does the chapter move forward.

Next meeting

- January
- To be convened by Debbie, Ashley, Kim, Nadine and Kym who will help identify the additional people who need to be involved in the next stage of the planning. MC then proposed next meeting be:
 - a larger meeting up to about 60 people plus of key stakeholders
 - Identify the leadership of the chapter
 - Priorities, action groups and delivery plans for 2016
- Matthew thanked group for the progress in the first 2 hours meeting
- Meeting closed 11.45am