



Minutes of the VSS Board Meeting No 51
VSS, Seatem House, 28-32 Alfred Street, Belfast
Board Meeting Type: Strategic Board Meeting
13 September 2018

Board Members Present:

Bertha McDougall (BMcD)	Board Member (Chair)
Patricia Haren (PH)	Board Member
Beverley Clarke (BC)	Board Member
Stephen McIlveen (SMcI)	Board Member

VSS Officers in Attendance:

Margaret Bateson (MB)	Accounting Officer and CEO
Andrew Walker (AW)	Head of Corporate Services
Joanne McConville (JMCC)	Head of Health & Wellbeing
Caroline King (CK)	Acting Head of Health & Wellbeing
David Reid (DR)	Member of Audit and Risk Committee
Maria McKeown (MMcK)	Executive Co-ordinator (Minutes)

Apologies

Apologies were received from Richard Solomon and Oliver Wilkinson. In the Chair's absence, BMcD chaired this meeting.

A Minutes of Previous Meetings

A1 31 July 2018. The minutes of this meeting were agreed.

B CEO Reporting by Exception

The CEO advised the Board that the employment tribunal that was scheduled for week commencing 20th August did not go ahead as the ex-employee withdrew their claim on Friday 17th August. The CEO had nothing further to report.

C Take 5 Social Support

The CEO provided the Board with the most up to date guidelines for complex PTSD – a diagnosis only recently recognised and categorised in the ICD-11. (International classification of diseases – launched June 18)

The Board reviewed pages 16 -18 and 40-41 of this document.

The CEO supplied the Board with a Take 5 resource tool kit, the Board took time to review the Take 5 model. This was followed with an open discussion surrounding the benefits, if all VSS funded organisations used this style of tool kit for monitoring and evaluating the client journey in relation to social support. The Board noted it was important not to enforce this style of monitoring and evaluating if it already exists in a different format. MYMOP and CORENet are two reporting tools already being used and should not be duplicated.

The VSS Board confirmed they are content for VSS to adopt an implement Take 5 principles for social support reporting. VSS should consider rebranding of this reporting tool and ensure it is available regionally. VSS staff and VSS funded organisations will require training before implementation.

D Victims Choice Quality Mark - Feedback

The CEO presented the report to the Board.

The Board noted the recommendations and congratulated the VSS staff for their hard work in achieving the quality mark.

E AOB

E1 VSS Corporate Governance Framework

The Board asked the Head of Corporate Services to present this paper.

The Board approved this paper which includes the Board terms of reference. The Chair thanked AW for the work he put into this document.

E2 Child Safeguarding Policy

The Board approved this policy.

E3 PEACE IV – Project Extension

The CEO updated the Board on the possible project extension through PEACE IV. There is an additional 1.9 million Euro available for VSS to bid for due to the exchange rate gains in the programme. The expenditure will need to be aligned with the existing project as any more radical departure would require Ministerial approval.

The Board had an open strategic discussion in how these funds could be best spent to address emerging needs and gaps in services. There was agreement that preliminary work could be done in relation to:

- Oral History preparatory work including
 - Literature review
 - Other Peace measures.
 - Multimedia
 - Storytelling
 - Creative
 - Imagination.

- Different approaches to resilience programme
- Gender lens
- Young People and projects or interventions working with families.

F Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday 23 October 2018 at 9:30am venue to be confirmed.