



Minutes of the VSS Board Meeting No 46
Tuesday, 13 March 2018, 9:30am
Board Room 2, 3rd Floor, Seatem House, Belfast
Board Meeting Type: Strategic Discussion

Board Members Present:

Oliver Wilkinson (OW)	Board Member (Chair)
Patricia Haren (PH)	Board Member
Beverley Clarke (BC)	Board Member

VSS Officers in Attendance:

Margaret Bateson (MB)	Accounting Officer and CEO
Andrew Walker (AW)	Head of Corporate Services
Caroline King (CK)	Acting Head of Health & Wellbeing
Maria Mckeown (MMcK)	Project Administrator (Minutes)
Nicola Nugent (NN)	Health and Wellbeing Case Manager
Rachel McConnell (RMcC)	Health and Wellbeing Case Manager

Others in Attendance (agenda item B only):

John Beggs (JB)	Secretary to the Commission
Judith Thompson (JT)	Victims Commissioner

Apologies

Richard Solomon	Board Member
Bertha McDougal	Board Member
Stephen McIlveen	Board Member

A Apologies

A1 Apologies were received from RS, BMcD and SMcI.

A2 CEO Update

The CEO provided a verbal update – covering only any changes, emerging issues since the last full quarter end report:

Going well

- The CEO participated on the panel for the Peace Foundation's Liverpool event to mark International Womens Day, with a focus on learning from Northern Ireland.
- The CEO has been invited to present to the Regional Assistance Network in Lisbon next month which is looking at the impact of trauma to individuals, communities and practitioners.
- A delegation from the EU Committee of Regional Development will visit VSS on 21 March 2018 – to hear about the PEACE IV Project implementation.
- CEO updated the Board on quality surveys VSS has received back from Individuals with feedback overwhelming positive and some really good areas to explore in terms of follow up.
- Recruitment of Communication Officer has been completed and the new staff member will start next month.
- VSS has received positive feedback from the 'Victims Choice' review. VSS is waiting on official confirmation of the Quality Mark achieved which is expected in April 2018.
- CEO updated board on the Chairman's recent engagement with Brazilian media. The Chair took part in an interview on the impact on victims and survivors of BREXIT.

Not going well

The CEO reported that there are currently no significant concerns. A few operational matters which are being closely managed and monitored:

- The finalisation of the Corporate Plan 2018-21 (including Delivery Plan 2018/19) is behind schedule (target date 28 February 2018). Targets to be discussed and finalised at a Staff Planning Day on 21 March 2018 for onward submission to TEO.
- CEO noted the current risk of an underspend with the Board and discussed all actions VSS is taking to reduce this. We expect to be within 1.5% tolerance with very careful management and extensive priority and follow up for the remainder of the financial year.

- Media query circulated to VSS Board.

Events

- CEO advised of upcoming events on 20 March, a Commemoration Service to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Warrington Bombing which will be attended by VSS Chairman.

B Board meeting with Commissioner for Victims and Survivors

Judith Thompson and John Beggs joined the meeting.

The Chair welcomed the CVS for taking time to meet with the VSS Board. The commissioner gave a presentation to the VSS Board giving an overview of the role of the CVS and outlining key outcomes that it aims to achieve in 2018-2021 (which are in line with VSS outcomes, and link back to the Programme for Government).

The presentation ended with Q&A with the VSS Board Members.

The Chair thanked CVS for attending.

Judith Thompson and John Beggs left the meeting.

C Clinical Governance and Caseworker Model

CK gave a presentation to update the VSS Board in relation the implementation of the new Service Delivery Model. CK provided an update in relation to the number of individuals engaged with a Health and Wellbeing caseworker, gender profile breakdown and detail on processing times of Individual Needs Consultations.

The Board welcomed the information and confirmed the approach to date is in line with the strategic direction of the organisation.

D AOB

Agenda item no longer required.

E Date of Next meeting

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 29 March 2018 at 10:00am at VSS.

Following the Board Meeting, the Board Members and VSS SMT met with the Victims Forum.