

VOCypf Update

Gemma Williamson – VOCypf Officer

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Voluntary Organisations for Children
young people & families

Aims of VOCypf

- **Identify** the needs of children, young people and families
- **Assist** the sector to work effectively and deliver quality services
- **Involve** the sector by facilitating effective communication, networking and collaboration
- **Inform** the sector by disseminating information on sector developments and opportunities for funding and training
- **Advocate** on behalf of the sector
- **Encourage engagement** between the sector and statutory partners, by working collaboratively to enable the diverse views of the sector to be represented

Work in Central Bedfordshire - 2018/19



- **Advocating** on behalf of the sector – by attending specified **strategic meetings**
- **Supporting the sector** – new **Safeguarding Project**

Work in Bedford Borough - 2018/19



BEDFORD
BOROUGH
COUNCIL



Bedford Borough
Safeguarding Children Board

- **Advocating** on behalf of the sector – by attending specified **strategic meetings**
- **Assisting and informing** the sector – through work on a **Safeguarding Project**

VOCypf

Voluntary Organisations for Children
young people & families

Safeguarding Projects

The Safeguarding Project in Bedford is being supported by **Bedford Borough Safeguarding Children Board**



Aim: To work with voluntary sector organisations to ascertain what safeguarding procedures are in place and how staff/volunteers are trained in safeguarding

This year we are now also available to start supporting agencies in **Central Bedfordshire**



VOCypf communications

- **Newsletter** - produced fortnightly
- **Annual Report** – circulated in June
- **Facebook group** - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/vocypf/>
- **Twitter** – our twitter handle is @vocypf please engage with us today using the hashtag #talkingvocypf
- **CVS Directory of Organisations:** www.cvsbeds.org.uk/find
- **CVS Funders in Bedfordshire**
<http://cvsbeds.org.uk/fundersinbedfordshire>

Other work – 2018/19

- **Counselling Collective** – network of 7 organisations - meeting held every 6 months
- **Bursary Fund for training** - assists organisations to access training for their staff and volunteers. A maximum of £100 funding is available per person per course and a maximum of £200 is available per organisation per year - <http://cvsbeds.org.uk/training>
- Support for launch of **Independent Poverty Action Group** in Bedford Borough

VOCypf Strategy 2018 - 2021

- **Recently updated** by VOCypf's Executive Group
- **Agreed priority action for VOCypf** over the next 3 years

VOCypf Strategy 2018 - 2021

Aim 1 – Continue to deliver and sustain our local authority funded work in Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire

- Attend specified **strategic meetings** in BB and CB
- Arrange 2 **forum events**
- Produce a regular **newsletter**
- Manage **safeguarding projects** in BB and CB

VOCypf Strategy 2018 - 2021

Aim 2 - Strengthen our relationship with all stakeholders and build stronger partnership links between the VCS and the statutory sector

- **Strengthen the Executive Group** by increasing the representation from Central Bedfordshire agencies
- Organise **2 Forum events** for VOCypf members
- Identify **3 issues** from the local agenda that VOCypf can specifically work on to develop partnership between the local authorities and VOCypf agencies. (An Executive Group member will take the lead on each issue).

VOCypf Strategy 2018 - 2021

Issues to work on in 2018/19

- Poverty
- Children's mental health
- ?

VOCypf Strategy 2018 - 2021

Aim 3 - Secure the longer-term financial future of VOCypf

- Develop a Funding Plan for VOCypf
- Take forward the initial necessary action identified in the Funding Plan