

## Attendance

➤ Karen Chisnall	Sector Connect
➤ Lily Roberts Everett	Camden Community Connections
➤ Mayra Bohacki	C'town Burnside Family Centre
➤ Kylie Richardson	Macarthur Ozanam Centre
➤ Dianne Coleman	Lifecare Relationship Services
➤ Susan Chapman	Uniting Care Burnside
➤ Kim McCausland	Wilma Womens Health/CFSS
➤ Mark Pepping	Wingecarribee Shire Council
➤ Brian Doyle	Member for Campbelltown
➤ Leonie Evans	Macarthur NILS
➤ Jane Mclvor	Sector Connect

## Apologies

### Acknowledgement to Country

Jane Mclvor

Jane welcomed Mr Bryan Doyle and Rachel (Mr Doyle's assistant) to the meeting.  
Round table introductions

### Aim of the meeting:

To build relationships between government & services.

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

Participants to look at minutes passed around

### Charter:

Developed by FONGA to give a clear position of what the not-for-profit sector stands for. It was noted that the charter needs to be passed on to other MP's so that government can recognise that we are a united sector & to acknowledge what we do.

### Brian:

Wants to lift the profile of Campbelltown – Opal of the South West.  
Partnerships are key to the work we do.  
Marketing, connecting & supporting people are key roles

### Tips for Advocacy:

Having a personal relationship is really important. Local member & his/her staff.  
State 2012 Plan – would be helpful to align with.  
How do we better work with government?  
Competitive tendering has a huge impact – small agencies competing with larger agencies are difficult.  
How do we effectively advocate to government? i.e.: how do we get their attention?  
Your local member is your most important tool. Engage your local member. Electoral boundaries could change.

October 28, 2011

If you have an issue it is helpful to page a one page summary of the issue and possible solutions to your local member.

**Priority Issues:**

PowerPoint presented on priority issues taken from survey run for Managers across the region.

Look at info based on state electorates i.e.: service spread by electoral area.

The projected growth of Camden will impact directly on service providers in neighbouring areas i.e.:

Campbelltown, Wollondilly & Wingecarribee.

Will reduce the availability of services to serve people in other LGA'S.

Continuing mismatch of funding across state – based on historical funding allocation, generally.

**State Plan:**

Jane asked for network to provide feedback by Monday on 3-4 priority issues via email as an opportunity has been presented through DPC to influence government. This information will go to cabinet for consideration.

It was raised that it would be helpful if the local MPs sought opportunities to meet the community services sector rather than always holding venues for them to come to. This would be seen as very favourable by the sector.

**Priorities:**

Priority issues were discussed further with Bryan Doyle and covered issues as follows:

- Lack of affordable housing & homelessness, particularly in young people with limited youth refuges -Ingleburn, Leumeah, Minto, Picton.
- Youth homelessness can be caused by family breakdown & other issues.
- Need a holistic approach to DV for men & women including a referral pathway for men. Recourses for DV needed as well as womens refuges for single women - nothing is available in the area currently.
- Massive issue with homelessness & housing affordability across all target groups and also a lack of health services available for homeless people.
- Transport was another priority issue touched on
- The environment we work and the lack of services to meet the need due to funding restraints was also raised as a major issue

**Other discussions:**

Highlighted the significance of volunteers & the important roles they play to assist underfunded organisations.

More corporate citizenship – need to be encourage to participate in giving back to the community.

Due to growth in Camden priority around activities for youth & availability of activities – a lot of disengaged young people across Camden with limited resources.

Large culture of young people & drinking in Camden.

Funders don't recognise areas that are dispersed as 'disadvantaged anymore' and this will become an increasing issue with redevelopment and the new social mix

Incoming management discussed as it is being trialled in Bankstown currently & Campbelltown could be next.

Bryan expressed his gratitude for being part of this meeting and the open discussion and stated he learnt much from the experience.

Next meeting: 9.30am – 12.noon  
Friday 16 December 2011  
BEC (training room)  
70 Topham Road  
Smeaton Grange

Meeting closed