

# Minutes

| <b>MYSN Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                      |
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| <b>Date:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> August                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Time:</b> 10am-12pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Venue:</b> Campbelltown City Council – Queen Street, Campbelltown |
| <b>Attendees</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cath Brennan – Sector Connect/Connect Consulting</li> <li>▪ Karen Chisnall – Sector Connect</li> <li>▪ Cathy Chopping – Centrelink</li> <li>▪ Melissa Brennan – Mission Australia</li> <li>▪ Shareen Banu – MTC Work Solutions</li> <li>▪ Bruce Pikula – Mission Australia</li> <li>▪ Jodie Grundy – Camden Council</li> <li>▪ Mark Scambary – Camden Police</li> <li>▪ Tracy Dunn – Break Through Mentoring</li> <li>▪ Rachelle Barber – Wollondilly Shire Council</li> <li>▪ Erin Hoffman – MDSI</li> <li>▪ Kate Dixon – Campbelltown City Council</li> <li>▪ Michelle Williams – Wingecarribee Shire Council</li> <li>▪ Karen Yuen – UnitingCare Burnside</li> <li>▪ Jenny Buenell – Community Links Wollondilly</li> <li>▪ Ashley Searle – Northcott Disability Services</li> <li>▪ Tegan McEwan – Northcott Disability Services</li> <li>▪ Lily Roberts-Everett – Camden Community Connections</li> </ul> |                                                                      |
| <b>Apologies</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deborah Hulks – UnitingCare Burnside</li> <li>▪ Veronica MacDonald – UnitingCare Burnside</li> <li>▪ Maria Esma – Camden Community Connections</li> <li>▪ Luke Roki – Community Links Wollondilly</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                      |
| <b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                      |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moved: Cath Brennan – Sector Connect</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                      |
| <b>Presentation –Cathy Chopping</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                      |
| <b>Centrelink</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                      |
| <p>Qualifications for youth allowance are based on parent’s income; however, the threshold has been increased.</p> <p>Student’s Start-Up Scholarships for Full-Time University Studies are available for up to \$1097.00 each semester. If young people are entitled to \$1 of youth allowance they are also entitled to the Student Start-Up Scholarship.</p> <p>If a young person is doing a course they are better off receiving youth allowance benefits as they can earn more before it effects their payments.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                      |

# Minutes

A jobseeker that is on youth allowance can have up to 1000 working credits. Once their working credits are depleted it will affect their youth allowance. The young person must let Centrelink know when they start work and declare their income each fortnight.

Students who are on youth allowance it is important to know that every fortnight they do not work, \$236 goes into an income bank for them. The maximum amount which is able to be accumulated in an income bank is \$6000.

Indigenous customers are better off on Abstudy than youth allowance if they are studying as there is extra assistance with incidentals available.

Customers with a partial disability may be entitled to a pension supplement and a pension concession card.

Centrelink and Job Services Australia will not help customers under the age of 21 to look for work if they have not completed their HSC or a Cert II. If a youth customer leaves school, they will still be linked to a job service provider and they will help the customer to get into some sort of training until they complete a Cert II qualification.

If the customer is in receipt of the maximum rate of youth allowance, they are entitled to a half fare concession card which they need to ask for as it is not automatically given to them.

If the customer is not entitled to youth allowance they are still entitled to the full assistance from Job Services Australia and can be accessed by a job capacity assessment to get them in the right stream. The higher the stream the more assistance is available to them.

## Consultation: Office of Communities Better Futures Funding – Tony Wiseheart

Better Futures is a \$3 million funding program. This funding program is the only funding that the Minister for Youth has responsibility over. Victor Dominello is the Minister for Youth.

More than 320 applications were received for the Better Futures funding. The new Minister hasn't allocated the funding yet as he wants to review the funding round first.

Tony conducted a consultation with the group based on the four main questions that have been asked during the review. Services can send in comments regarding the Better Futures funding review until the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011. A report will then be sent to the Minister in early September based on the feedback from the review.

## Transport Working Group Update

- Campbelltown City Council currently has a student developing a resource guide for transport options in Macarthur. Clayton will be contacting services to conduct this research project.

# Minutes

## Crime & Safety Working Group Update

- The Crime & Safety group will be taking a bus trip to Erina fair to see their shopping centre youth strategy
- The Thursday night engagement strategy at Macarthur Square is working well

## Communication & Participation Working Group Update

- Youth Advisory Council coordinators for Macarthur and Wingecarribee are getting together at Sector Connect and will be discussing the organisation of an event for October 2011

## Items without Notice

- Midnight Basketball Meeting: no services from Campbelltown have RSVP'd to the Midnight Basketball Stakeholder Meeting. Midnight Basketball needs more services to be involved.

## Information Share

### Camden Council

- Don't really know how to study? Can't manage your time properly? Want to get better marks this year? Now you can discover the skills you need to make this happen. Visit [www.library.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://www.library.camden.nsw.gov.au) and click on youth services and email us your name and library card number for a login to access the handbook [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)
- YourTutor is back for Term 3: young people with library memberships have FREE access to an online academic extension service from any internet connection. Personal homework, assignment, study, and exam preparation support with a qualified tutor for years 4-12; Monday-Friday; 4pm-8pm. All you need is a library membership and your card number. Visit [www.yourtutor.com.au](http://www.yourtutor.com.au) for more information
- Camden Council has been nominated as 1 of 10 finalists in the NSW Local Government Youth Week Awards. This nomination recognises the work of Camden Council staff in partnership with 14 community groups, organisations and services to deliver the 2011 Camden Youth Week Program in April earlier this year. This is a fantastic achievement for everyone involved.

## Meeting Date

**7<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**Time:** 10am-12pm

**Venue:** Airs Youth Space – Riverside Drive, Airs

**RSVP:** [networking@sectorconnect.org.au](mailto:networking@sectorconnect.org.au)