Task 2

Handout 18: Effective Interagencies

Characteristics of an effective interagency group

- Positive interdependence. This means the group members believe they sink or swim together.
- The group must meet regularly
- The interagency receives rewards for its efforts.
- Individual accountability. All members must be responsible for the activities of the groups and account for the work they do for and on behalf of the interagency.
- Social skills. Effective communication, good leadership, trust, efficient decision-making and conflict management skills are required for effective interagency or networking group
- The interagency group reflects upon and processes its activities
- All interagency members should take responsibility for ensuring that the interagency is working.
- All participating members should feel a sense of ownership of the interagency and its activities. They should not feel that the group is a front to push the ideas of a few member’s and their agencies.

Characteristics of an Ineffective interagency group

- Dwindling attendance at meetings
- Conflict within the group which becomes personal in its nature and is unable to be resolved
- The group is not achieving its goals
- Ineffective use of time
- Only a few members sot take responsibility for the interagencies activities