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Project Update Meeting

Tuesday 10 March 2020

James Miller House, 98 West George Street, Glasgow

Attendees

Niven Rennie

Alastair Muir

Will Linden

S38(1)(b)

1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from S38(1)(b) S38(1)(b). Similarly, nobody was available from Police Scotland Safer Communities to attend this meeting.

3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 20 January 2020 were adopted as a true record and Niven ran through the action log updating as required.

4. Current Projects – Update

4.1 Braveheart Industries

S38(1)(b) reported that two trainees, S38(1)(b), had completed their time with Street and Arrow and found employment elsewhere. Another notable success for the project and Niven congratulated all concerned.

Thus we now have three trainees plus S38(1)(b) who has remained with the programme for a short time. An advert has been circulated for two new trainees and to enhance the volunteer support. Niven suggested that bodies such as the Police Federation and the Credit Union might be asked to fund a place or two to increase the number of trainees.

ACTION: Niven to contact Police Federation and Dario to contact Credit Union in this respect.

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Due to Wills involvement in the North Glasgow project, the strategic point of contact between VRU and BHI will be Alastair from now on. Niven will write to the BHI board to inform them and Will shall write to withdraw as a Director.

ACTION: Niven to write to BHI board informing them of senior amendments as point of contact and Will shall resign as a director of BHI.

4.2 Navigator

§38(1)(b) was unable to attend due to the induction for the new Edinburgh navigators. Niven stated that securing funding for the original hospitals was the main issue at present and a meeting in this regard has been organised for next week.

4.3 One Community

§38(1)(b) informed the meeting that the paperwork for charitable status had been received and accepted and confirmation of status was awaited.

§38(1)(b) had been approached by a group of people from §38(1)(b) in Ethiopia who have settled in Glasgow and are encountering difficulty in gaining employment despite settled status, in understanding the law and communicating. There are about 200 in this community and §38(1)(b) is engaging with them.

4.4 The Crib – Edinburgh

§38(1)(b) updated the meeting on progress in respect of the Crib. It is now on the road 4 days a week and is being taken to the identified communities to engage with young people. Indeed, due to a request from community leaders and local police, the bus has been diverted to Liberton High School to engage with a group who have been involved in violence and disorder in the area. It will visit there for the next 8 weeks. The second bus, destined for Dundee enters Saughton Prison next week.

§38(1)(b) was also approached by housing associations in Niddrie through an introduction from the Wise Group. They want to utilise spare space in one of their premises to engage with a group of youths who have been causing trouble locally. This project, which will be similar to 'You decide' will also involve Scottish Youth Assist and will be at no cost to the VRU other than time.

§38(1)(b) also said that he was engaging with a repeat victimisation study and was taking this work to the Scottish Borders.

4.5 Dundee

§38(1)(b) reported on the fact that she had visited the Vow in Edinburgh and had taken learning from that back to Dundee. She has spoken to a similar organisation to Aid and Abet called positive steps and she hoped to secure 3 posts from them to link with 3 divisional police officers to start a similar project in Dundee. Niven suggested that she

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visit DIVERT in London as there may be an opportunity to go slightly further than the Vow. He offered to arrange a visit to DIVERT.

ACTION: Niven to arrange a knowledge visit to DIVERT In London

S38(1)(b) also reported on changes in policing management in Dundee and other contacts she has made.

5. Future Projects

5.1 Community Navigator

Will informed the meeting that the bids had been scored and presentations will now follow. There were four submissions. The chosen agency will then require vetting but it was hoped that they would start as soon as possible.

5.2 Inverclyde

No report

5.3 Caithness/Sutherland

S38(1)(b) reported on another very successful meeting in Sutherland which had also been attended by the local MSP. Having discussed this in some depth, the need is greater in Caithness but those involved want to start in Sutherland and move to Caithness. It was decided that the focus should be on toxic stress and community toxic stress presenting itself in violence and other social issues. The aim will be to create resilience hub with a variety of partners, have linked conversations about the problem areas and engage the community themselves in finding solutions.

5.4 Prison Project

No report given

5.5 Football Related Violence

S38(1)(b) also reported on dialogue with Pollok Juniors FC and aims to provide trauma informed support to coaches, families and young people. This is with their management board for approval but if successful can be rolled out to other football clubs to engage violence at football, bullying etc.

Alastair reported that he and S38(1)(b) have been asked to visit Glasgow warriors to make their staff aware of wider violence issues and see how they can contribute to the work of the VRU.

5.6 Custody Navigator

Progress continues with this project with interviews within the next week. Following a decision being made vetting and OVG by SACRO will take 3 weeks and then staff will start. As with navigator the first ¾ weeks will be networking and finding feet allowing any issues to be ironed out. A steering group has been formed involving a variety of

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agencies and S38(1)(b) will evaluate success having access to health, police, Criminal justice and housing data through this group.

5.7 'You Decide' Project

S38(1)(b) reported that the 1st phase feedback had been quite humbling and the evaluation is now available. The 2nd pilot with 6/8 girls will be led by S38(1)(b) with S38(1)(b) having an overview and starts on 27th march for 8 weeks. It is then planned that this initiative will be delivered as the starting phase of the North Glasgow project. Dialogue has also continued with no knives better lives and the Wise group about linking projects.

5.8 Legal Aid Board

S38(1)(b) reported that a meeting had been arranged to progress this initiative.

5.9 Mentoring Accreditation

Alastair said that there had been a lot of progress but this was a 'slow burn'. S38(1)(b) was to attain an external mentor's accreditation in any event to support the work that he is doing.

5.10 Lanarkshire

No report.

5.11 Adverse Community Experiences

Will summarised a lot of work that has been undertaken since the last meeting. Long term there was a need to obtain external funding and work has progressed in this respect through contact with a variety of funding bodies. Meetings have taken place with a variety of potential partners from across the sectors. In particular the re-established MATAAC had broken Glasgow into 200 sectors and although agreeing that the Saracen area required this intervention, had placed the area 111/200 in terms of crime, violence and anti social problems. This was due it was believed to a reluctance to report and that, potentially, starting work in this area may initially cause an upsurge in the reporting of criminality. The local police are aware.

A soft start will be the plan this will involve scoping work with a social researcher and a you decide programme engaging 8 young people from the Wineford area who are causing problems across the city. Glasgow Life have already done some social research and this data has been requested.

Niven asked that a meeting be arranged urgently with the Wise Group as we need to work together on this and agree priorities and a way ahead. Alastair also asked for the Wheatley Group to be involved.

ACTION: Will to arrange senior team meetings with Wise Group and Wheatley Group

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6. Royal Military Tattoo Programme 2019

^{S38(1)(b)} reported on progress to date and plans to make a presentation to Brigadier Alfrey at the castle on the night the Chief Constable takes the salute. This will involve graduates of the programme and 2 have been contacted thus far. Will asked that great care be taken with regard to cost as the budget is tight.

ACTION: ^{S38(1)(b)} to project a budget for the tattoo programme for approval.

7. Media

^{S38(1)(b)} thanked all the persons who had contributed to the panorama programme and said that she had viewed the footage and the VRU emerges with great credit. It is planned to screen on 23 March.

Other press contacts included the BBC who are wanting blogs or 'long reads' for their website and the Times who want to do a piece on navigator based on the Dundee launch.

8. Training

^{S38(1)(b)} provided a written report which was acknowledged.

9. Website

^{S38(1)(b)} reported that the SVRU.com website was now in place. He requested some new material and Niven offered to write a blog. Niven also asked ^{S38(1)(b)} to publicise the new site.

ACTION: Niven to write a blog for the new website

ACTION: ^{S38(1)(b)} to publicise the new website

10. Evaluation

No report.

11. AOCB

11.1 Conference

The preferred venue for the conference was the botanic gardens in Dundee but concern was expressed to the effect that there was a lot of work to do in a short time and it coincided with the scare around Corona Virus. Given that it was suggested that this be delayed until the Autumn. Will said that government agreement to roll the money over would be required.

ACTION: Niven to seek government approval to delay the conference until Autumn due to Corona Virus

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11.2 Staff Away Day

It was agreed that this had been a success and there was plans for another when the time was right.

11.3 CoronaVirus

Niven summarised government advice to date and suggested that personal hygiene and office hygiene were most important to date. It was agreed that sanitising wipes and hand gel should be purchased and desks and work areas kept clean. Moreover, the WHO advice on cleanliness should be laminated and displayed in the office.

ACTION: ^{S38(1)(b)} to obtain wipes and gel and prepare laminated signs containing WHO advice.

Should advice change and the 'Delay phase' commence, staff will work from home. Those with blackberry's and Dongles can gain access to email and some others have non-pnn accounts they can work from. Unnecessary journeys have not to be undertaken during this time and meetings, in general, should be cancelled. Contact will be maintained by telephone and ^{S38(1)(b)} should ensure that the up to date numbers are available.

ACTION: ^{S38(1)(b)} to compile accurate list of addresses and telephone numbers to maintain contact.

The same advice would apply to street and arrow with NHS guidance at the hospital also to be followed. Police Scotland reporting procedure for sickness absence was highlighted.

11.4 University Evaluations

Will informed the meeting of a multi million pound research proposal that has been submitted by Strathclyde University to look at the ecological model of violence, the impact of direct and indirect violence (Gaming, film etc).

A further research submission has been made by professor ^{S38(1)(b)} and others to look at the wider influence of the VRU on cultural issues and policy development across the UK and this should have a response in the short term.

Our own evaluations are progressing – Abertay University have finished their interviews at BHI and a report should be forthcoming and Strathclyde University have begun work on the impact of knife images although this has been passed to their department of ethics for approval given the groups with whom they will be engaging.

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12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 1000hrs on Tuesday 10 April – at JMH.

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