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Project Update Meeting

Tuesday 11 May 2021

Via Zoom

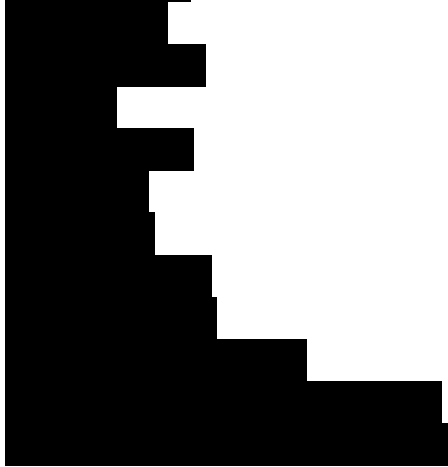
Attendees

Niven Rennie

Will Linden

Alastair Muir

S38(1)(b)



1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from S38(1)(b), Norrie Conway (Police Scotland) and S38(1)(b).

3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 13 April 2021 were adopted as a true record and Niven ran through the action log updating as required.

4. Partner Charity Updates

4.1 Braveheart Industries

S38(1)(b) updated accordingly. The hospital café has been running for a month but income is very low due to footfall. At the next board meeting on Friday 14 May a paper will be

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submitted detailing numerous options for the trainees on offer from SCVO. S38(1)(b) also advised that the small food truck had been sold.

4.2 One Community

In S38(1)(b) absence S38(1)(b) reported that funding applications were progressing. One Community Scotland are also working with Crimestoppers/Fearless to update the Scots Law Guide into numerous languages with funding from Crown Office.

S38(1)(b) advised that numerous meetings were currently taking place with Fearless regarding exploitation of Young People. It was agreed that OCS should be involved in this work and S38(1)(b) was asked to contact Inspector S38(1)(b) or Chief Inspector Jim McMillan of PPCW in this regard.

ACTION: S38(1)(b) to contact Chief Inspector McMillan/Inspector S38(1)(b) regarding the work with Fearless and connection to OCS.

5. Current Project Updates

5.1 The Crib – Edinburgh

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report and highlighted the following issues. In general, all projects are gathering momentum as the COVID restrictions relax. The young people involved with the CRIB bus remain in attendance and there has been no drop off. The next step will be to develop the curriculum in order to present the young people for examination but that will require the input of a qualified teacher and a variety of avenues are being sought for this.

The discussions over Princes Street Gardens continue as do the previous dialogue over the NHS employability scheme.

S38(1)(b) asked what had been achieved from the recent meeting with the local police command team. S38(1)(b) responded that it was largely a briefing for Supt Thomas and that he meets CI Neil Wilson regularly.

5.2 Dundee

S38(1)(b) drew attention to her written report. She highlighted the continued development of the recovery app in Angus and interest elsewhere in Scotland as noteworthy. Moreover, the S38(1)(b) who had previously been involved is now working in Custody in Dundee and raising further awareness. Hard copy of the recovery maps are now being given to persons leaving custody and difficulties with origins of prisoners are being overcome.

An away day for families from Lochee at the Scripture Union base near Perth had been particularly successful. Despite the restrictions of COVID 7 families comprising 10

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adults and 19 children had attended. Alastair highlighted that this facility was open to other groups across the country to utilise.

S38(1)(b) also highlighted the further development of Heartstone as a positive with 10 story circles now up and running. Finally, she advised of a mental health and well being package being developed by the local mental health charity 'feeling strong'. This is intended to be SQA accredited and will be a unique product which may be of interest across the country.

5.3 Ayr Wallacetown

S38(1)(b) highlighted that the team at **S38(1)(b)** school had now increased in size with other organisations including the fire service contributing. An initial C2 event had been held with 17 people attending, mostly from services in the area but also some residents. Feedback had been positive and another meeting takes place next week.

S38(1)(b) summarised a number of meetings he had attended and the analysis work that will be undertaken in the short term by **S38(1)(b)** along with Police Scotland and South Ayrshire Council analysts.

5.4 Custody Navigator

S38(1)(b) expanded on his written report and highlighted that referrals to the project were 'flowing' on the electronic connections. This has allowed **S38(1)(b)** to make online interventions and she is currently supporting about a dozen clients. Interviews for a new member of staff will take place this week with induction and support training to be provided thereafter.

Some discussion followed regarding the cluttered landscape of police custody interventions schemes with the latest being a proposal in Inverclyde for a drugs related pilot involving Turning Point Scotland. **S38(1)(b)** confirmed that she is evaluating the Kirkcaldy pilot, the Dundee project with Positive Steps and will include one other PSOS pilot with an aim to identify the best practice in this area.

5.5 ECHO Project

In addition to the written report, **S38(1)(b)** provided an operational update highlighting that the community were 'emerging from hibernation'. The new 'street navigators' had commenced their employment and were currently undergoing training and induction.

S38(1)(b) also reported that asset based work in the ECHO area is gathering based after initial signs of reluctance. This has required the removal of 'blockers' and the formation of a variety of different groups. The fact that the VRU are not involved in internal local politics has allowed many of these issues to be overcome and groups such as the Springburn Youth Forum have engaged. The next step is to actually formulate the strategic group and operational group to advance the asset based work and this should be concluded by the next project update meeting.

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S38(1)(b) thereafter provided the meeting with an overview of the work he is undertaking with the North West Glasgow Social Work Department as part of the ECHO project. This will require him to 'mentor' 6 young people who are detached from support and out with their family circle. Aged between 17 and 25, S38(1)(b) has already met a few of the individuals and his aim is to place them on a 'better trajectory'. This work involves regular meetings with social work colleagues. S38(1)(b) also requires premises in the area to meet with the people he is supporting and he will consider the ECHO offices for this purpose.

Niven observed that this was a splendid development from the ECHO workstream and one which offered a path to a new project that could be introduced elsewhere in the country. As such, he proposed that this become a workstream in its own right with S38(1)(b) reporting progress on this project as a standalone item at future project update meetings.

5.6 Help the Helpers/You Decide

S38(1)(b) highlighted the contents of her written report and that the internal VRU train the trainers programme will continue this week. The Abelour training has been delayed due to demand on the charity but will start before too long and will be evaluated by S38(1)(b).

The train the trainers for Dumfries Prison concludes this week with similar interest now being expressed by Edinburgh Prison.

5.7 Community Navigator

S38(1)(b) drew attention to his written report in which he advised that the navigators had now been given access to the wings of the prison. Will added that dialogue had commenced regarding future funding and the VRU may be approached to assist.

5.8 Prison Projects

Once again S38(1)(b) highlighted the potential expansion of 'help the helpers' to Edinburgh Prison for the staff involved with the most violent offenders there. S38(1)(b) added that Perth Prison remained engaged and discussions there will recommence post pandemic.

S38(1)(b) observed that the lead contact with SVRU at Edinburgh Prison is moving to Glenochil Prison where 2 murders have occurred in the past 14 months. There may be opportunities for SVRU involvement there as a result.

S38(1)(b) drew attention to recent information that she had received regarding ex service personnel who have offended and are in prison across Scotland. There are as many as 200 at present 60% of whom are in prison for sexual offences.

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5.9 *Online Engagement*

S38(1)(b) reported that ideas from the marketing company had been shared with S38(1)(b) and S38(1)(b). Videos are to be filmed by Police Scotland of the 'Community Navigators' in action in the ECHO project area. Messaging will then be targeted to specific demographics but within Police Scotland rules regarding these approaches.

6 **Future Projects.**

6.1 *Caithness/Sutherland*

Niven informed the meeting that a discussion on Caithness and Sutherland would take place later that week with interested parties.

6.2 *Legal Aid Project*

Niven proposed that this item be removed from the agenda until SLAB were in a place to revisit the proposal.

6.3 *Youth Volunteers*

S38(1)(b) updated the situation and the receipt of a response from Police Scotland to the effect that they were appointing a new officer to head up the PSYV and re-invigorate the programme. Dialogue remained open however and S38(1)(b) will keep us updated on developments.

6.4 *Hope Collective*

Niven provided an update on the Hope Collective and plans for a 'Hackathon' to take place in Glasgow. Youthlink Scotland are now represented on the Strategic Group by S38(1)(b) from Includem has taken the Scottish seat on the Youth Advisory Board. Now that the election has concluded Scottish Government support will be sought.

6.5 *Domestic Abuse*

S38(1)(b) underlined her written report and highlighted that Glasgow Women's Aid are now contributing to this project, an excellent addition. The steering group is now enlarging substantially and includes Youthlink Scotland. The aim remains to target perpetrators by working within youth clubs on harmful sexual behaviour and violence.

7 **Media/Website**

S38(1)(b) advised that a new blog had been received from S38(1)(b), an external contributor, and would be published shortly. S38(1)(b) is updating the website and adding accessibility features.

8 Training

S38(1)(b) summarised his written report which included updates on train the trainer, training for the new navigators and the development of the programme for Scottish Government on relationship based practice/bystander.

9 Evaluation/Research

S38(1)(b) ran through the substantial number of evaluation projects she is currently developing.

10 Strategy Development

S38(1)(b) provided a progress report on the 5 year strategy development which almost at final draft stage. Once the publishers submit that to her it will go out for final consultation before publication.

Will advised that the business case has now progressed to final sign off and the grant letter has been issued by the government. Work on the Strategic assessment with Police Scotland continues.

11 AOCB

12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 1000hrs on Tuesday 8 June 2021.