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Project Update Meeting
Wednesday 20 April 2022
Conference Room, JMH

Attendees

Niven Rennie
Alastair Muir
Will Linden

S38(1)(b)

1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that Alastair Muir and S38(1)(b) S38(1)(b) had both intimated an intention to retire from Police Scotland about the end of May. Whilst there would be an informal gathering to bid farewell at some point in the future, Niven highlighted their excellent contributions to the SVRU in the course of their time with us and wished both well. He then observed that replacements may take a while due to the level of retirements from the Police at present and in the meantime there may be a requirement for remaining staff to cover meetings etc.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from S38(1)(b)

3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 9 March 2022 were adopted as a true record and Niven ran updated the action log as necessary.

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4. Partner Charity Updates

4.1 Braveheart Industries

Alastair reported that the interview for a Chief Operating Officer had been unsuccessful and a new job description for a CEO has been handed to a recruitment firm. An admin officer, S38(1)(b), has started on a part time basis and will split her time between the office and home.

In terms of trainees only one remains at present supported by volunteers from One Community Scotland, although with the student holiday's footfall has fallen. BHI are progressing a variety of funding bids.

ACTION: Al to arrange a meeting with BHI to discuss arrangements following his departure

4.2 One Community

Alastair reported on behalf of S38(1)(b) that she was assisting S38(1)(b) and S38(1)(b) at schools in the East End of Glasgow where violence had been a problem. The workload remains heavy and some of the young people are receiving therapy including one who S38(1)(b)

Alastair also provided a report on the very successful Lendrickmuir trip which he and S38(1)(b) had hosted with 6 young people and a sessional worker present.

5. Current Project Updates

5.1 The Crib – Edinburgh

In addition to his written report S38(1)(b) provided an update on the use of the CRIB bus, a mentoring programme commenced by Heavy Sound and the potential for FaceNorth, an Edinburgh organisation of standing who are seeking charitable status to be the 'You Decide' partners in Edinburgh.

ACTION: S38(1)(b) to arrange for further discussion with FaceNorth regarding 'You Decide'.

5.2 Dundee

S38(1)(b) reported that the projects she has been involved in will be taken to a suitable place before her departure from the service. The work on the Recovery App and map has now allowed the provision of information on tablets made available to patients in Doctors surgery's and with social providers.

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The current work at Perth Prison will be finished by S38(1)(b) with a final set of focus groups to be convened. Similarly, Positive Steps will progress the employment of a 'You Decide' worker to be based at the Boomerang Centre with numerous other agencies to co-ordinate responses.

Finally, S38(1)(b) reported on a presentation she had made at Dundee/Angus College and the potential for greater VRU involvement there.

5.3 Ayr Wallacetown

S38(1)(b) reported that the 'You Decide' funding is still stuck in procurement but will hopefully progress soon. He was delighted to have had the assistance of Grant for a couple of projects.

Disappointingly only 2 people have registered for the 'photo of us project' thus far although SIPR are starting a funded project in Wallacetown to see how the blue light services co-operate.

5.4 Custody Navigator

S38(1)(b) reported on sound progress with the next advisory group meeting being in June. Worthy of note was two allocations of £27,500 from Fife ADO to expand the project to Dunfermline and then a further allocation of £90,000 which will keep all 4 workers funded until late 2024. Finally, S38(1)(b) reported that the Positive Outcomes Project in Glasgow, previously delivered by Aid and Abet has now moved to SACRO who will deliver it in a similar fashion to custody navigator.

Alastair advised that conversations with SACRO and others regarding expansion to Ayrshire continue.

5.5 ECHO Project/You Decide

S38(1)(b) provided an update on progress at the North Glasgow base where S38(1)(b) continues on her own but is coping with a heavy workload. In the past two weeks she has had 4 people obtain places at the Jericho Centre and there has been a presentation to crisis centres on the support You Decide can provide.

Will reported on the wider you decide work highlighting the approach to the ADPs to support further funding through the Drugs Death Task Force money. S38(1)(b) continue to work with schools and are now engaging with S39(1) school in Lanarkshire. The post for an additional worker has been advertised. Finally Will spoke about the multi service meeting in March where the issue of youth violence in the city centre had also been raised. A further face to face event is planned for early June.

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5.6 Peer Inclusion Project

S38(1)(b) summarised had submitted a written report summarising some excellent progress with the young people he has been working with. He expanded on that by explaining that he was conducting social prescribing for some of these individuals as they are often socially isolated with their only contacts often professional ones. Thus S38(1)(b) helps them to expand their networks.

Will outlined an excellent meeting with S38(1)(b) at the Social Work department who had been delighted with the work S38(1)(b) was doing and was now discussing with S38(1)(b), her senior, how this can be sustained.

5.7 Help the Helpers

S38(1)(b) drew highlights from her written report and said that a meeting was to take place with S38(1)(b) who wrote the national trauma informed training report and if she were to provide support for hth it would assist the Alliance in their funding bid. There has been approaches from Perth and Kinross for training but with S38(1)(b) departure the best option may be for them to engage S38(1)(b) who created the programme with S38(1)(b). The training in the highlands has been delayed due to absence of the lead officer but will hopefully start in May.

5.8 Community Navigator Ayrshire

S38(1)(b) said that the project was stable and S38(1)(b) added that the final touches are being put to the evaluation which hopefully will lead to longer term investment by the local authority ADP's.

5.9 Prison Projects

S38(1)(b) outlined his work at Edinburgh and Glenochil with violence levels having dropped at the latter. He then highlighted Polmont as a prison where greater investment should be considered in terms of prevention work which he believes would bring results. He suggested that Police Scotland should be more involved here.

5.10 Online Engagement/Media

S38(1)(b) had previously summarised the online engagement programme and circulated the report. She thanked a number of people for their contribution and stated that the project had been nominated in 2 categories for a marketing award and had been shortlisted in both.

5.11 Hope Collective

Niven provided an update regarding recent developments and that S38(1)(b) will replace Alastair as SVRU representative on the VRU sub group which will arrange the forthcoming series of hacks.

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5.12 Violence Against Women and Girls

S38(1)(b) drew attention to her written report and added that group work should start soon based on the focus group data.

5.13 Football Initiatives

S38(1)(b) advised that there has been little contact recently and whilst we will continue to pursue this initiative but it can be removed from the agenda at present.

6. Future Projects.

6.1 Caithness/Sutherland

S38(1)(b) but it is apparent that an officer has been appointed to work in the area by PPCW.

6.2 Kilmarnock Town Centre

S38(1)(b) highlighted his written report.

6.3 Scottish Government/SWDF Bystander

S38(1)(b) said that Scottish Government numbers and names are still awaited. Moreover, the SWDF training has been delayed.

6.4 Human Library

S38(1)(b) had met with the UK lead and are now exploring the possibility of hosting an event in Ayr involving some of our wallacetown contacts and other SVRU personnel such as potentially **S38(1)(b)** added that SAC were happy to support this and discussion continues.

6.5 Prevention Strategy

Niven reported on the last Scottish Government session, the 4th of 6.

7. Training

In addition to his written report **S38(1)(b)** reported on work at **S39(1)** schools relating to the East End 'gang' activity and a 6 week programme being delivered there called 'what is justice' by Dr **S38(1)(b)** of Glasgow University.

8. Evaluation/Research

S38(1)(b) reported that the first draft of the toolkit is almost complete and will be placed on the website. She also reported that a funding proposal is being submitted by Stirling University to study violence against women and girls.

9. Website

S38(1)(b) outlined the progress in respect of the research hub which will provide a focus for a lot of people wishing to contact the SVRU. Added to this the website had passed an accessibility review and increased security had been introduced. Finally he summarised his own contribution to the Wallacetown project where he is facilitating access to technology.

10. AOCB

10.1 Onside Youth Zones

Niven reported that progress had stalled with Glasgow City Council and he will now try to engage local authority representatives in Dundee and Edinburgh.

10.2 Annual Returns

Will thanked those who had written and submitted their annual returns for the Scottish Government report and asked for those outstanding to be submitted as soon as possible.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 1000hrs on Wednesday 1 June 2022.