

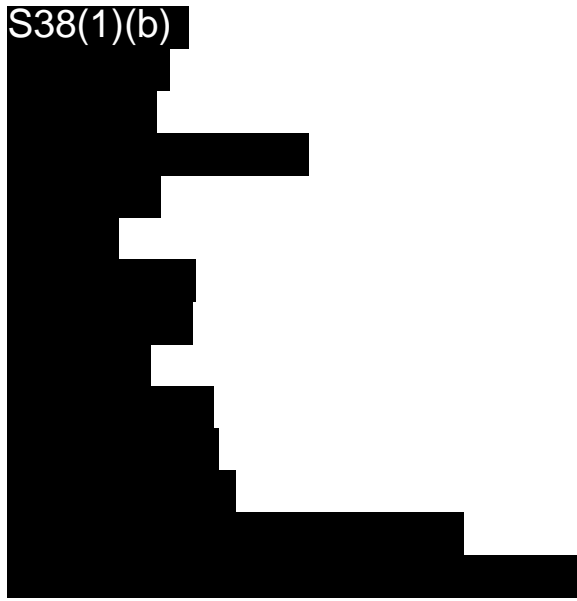
OFFICIAL

**Project Update Meeting
Wednesday 9 March 2022
Via Zoom**

Attendees

Niven Rennie
Alastair Muir
Will Linden

S38(1)(b)



1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided reiterated the current COVID situation as it applies to the SVRU. He also outlined plans to move the project update meeting to a 6 weekly cycle and intimated that diary alterations would follow. Finally he welcomed S38(1)(b) to his first meeting.

2. Apologies

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



3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 26 January 2022 were adopted as a true record and Niven ran suggested that the action log be updated as the meeting progresses.

4. Partner Charity Updates

4.1 Braveheart Industries

Alastair outlined the significant progress that had been made since the last project update meeting. 4 individuals will be interviewed on Monday for the Chief Operating Officer position and the appointment of this person will hopefully reduce continued demand on the SVRU. Moreover, the board have agreed to appoint an administration officer on a part time basis which will reduce ^{S38(1)(b)} workload.

At the dental hospital the return of staff has been slowly progressing and about £300/day income is being received. A survey of hospital staff was undertaken and the feedback was extremely promising allowing a slight change in menu and increase in prices. Finally, a redecoration has taken place and 'angel wings', a concept from Homeboy, have been painted on the wall by a graffiti artist from G20.

4.2 One Community

^{S38(1)(b)} had submitted a written report in advance which was noted. In addition, Alastair reported that a further 10 young people from the charity would be going to Lendrickmuir on 25/27 March and that 2 asylum seekers from OCS will be volunteering at the dental hospital for BHI.

5. Current Project Updates

5.1 The Crib – Edinburgh

In addition to his written report ^{S38(1)(b)} reported that the original CRIB bus was continuing a programme of activity in East and Midlothian. The second bus is in Saughton prison and an enthusiastic team are currently working on development of it. Heavy Sound are discussing the involvement of a further third sector charity to assist in the management and operation of the bus.

5.2 Dundee

^{S38(1)(b)} summarised progress with regard to the establishment of a 'You Decide' team in Dundee. This may be one individual partially funded by the Health and Social Care Partnership and employed by Positive Steps, who would be supported by other employees of Positive Steps in related disciplines. The main aim would be to reduce remand rates in Dundee, the highest in Scotland, and the employee would be based in the Maryfield area encompassing the City Centre.

^{S38(1)(b)} also reported on developments in relation to the Recovery App and Recovery Roadmap which will now be accompanied by a 'Stop Now' Harm Reduction booklet and will be available in about 4/6 weeks.

5.3 Ayr Wallacetown

S38(1)(b) commenced by intimating that the development of a 'You Decide' team in Wallacetown is close to completion with council progressing to procurement. The relationship with local policing is also significantly improved and their local focus is community wellbeing and enforcement as required.

Paradigm Landscapes are scoping out SVRU funded activity in the area and the council are assisting in this regard. Similarly, research work supported by SIPR/St Andrews University should commence in the short term.

5.4 Custody Navigator

S38(1)(b) provided an update and noted that the project steering group would meet that afternoon. It was hoped that an interim evaluation report would be available in the not too distant future.

Niven highlighted government funding for a second pilot site had been approved in the coming year's budget and that discussion was ongoing as to where this will be sited. PSOS have a preference for Lanarkshire with a partnership with the two ADP's which would supply 4 navigators in total given the throughput of custody in the area. The fall back position was Ayrshire and a decision is required in the short term.

ACTION: Alastair S38(1)(b) to progress discussion of a further custody navigator site with PSOS

5.5 ECHO Project/You Decide

S38(1)(b) has been assisting to introduce system changes and reporting controls in the Glasgow North area where currently only one Navigator is working as recruitment for a replacement is ongoing.

Thereafter S38(1)(b) reported on significant progress in the East End of Glasgow with a variety of partners and in various schools. He also advised of excellent relationships being developed between local police officers and the young people we are working with including police attending social sessions on Friday nights in plain clothes.

Will summarised preparation for a seminar in the area on 17th March involving a multitude of agencies to be followed by a slightly different event in May. He also reported that recruitment for the vacant navigator post and the two new posts funded in the East End will be coordinated in conjunction with BHI in the next couple of weeks. Similarly there remains a potential for the social work department in Aberdeen to develop a you decide programme.

5.6 Peer Inclusion Project

S38(1)(b) summarised his work with 6 young people, four of whom are currently in prison, and the evaluation being conducted by S38(1)(b). Will S38(1)(b) are continuing dialogue with S38(1)(b) from Social Work regarding the development of the project.

5.7 Help the Helpers

S38(1)(b) reported that she had met the CEO of the Mental Health Education Scotland and government lead for ACES to discuss the development of HtH with the Alliance. It is believed that this project may help to inform the development of trauma informed practice in Scotland.

5.8 Community Navigator Ayrshire

S38(1)(b) reported that an interim evaluation report had been delivered to the management board in February and had received positive feedback. Discussion was now ongoing regarding the funding of the project moving forward.

5.9 Prison Projects

S38(1)(b) summarised ongoing discussions with Perth prison with regard to issues arising from the incarceration of former military personnel, an issue first raised by S38(1)(b) at a previous meeting. These discussions are in the early stages but there is concern expressed about culture in the military that may be leading numbers of veterans to offend so significantly that they go to prison for first offences.

S38(1)(b) provided an update in relation to Glenochil Prison where a violence reduction group has been attempting to reduce incidents of violence in the prison and S38(1)(b) is assisting them. Violence levels have been reduced due to enforcement action but more sustainable solutions are being sought.

Finally, S38(1)(b) highlighted further work at Perth Prison with regard to support provided to remand prisoners focussing on alternatives to remand.

5.10 Online Engagement/Media

S38(1)(b) summarised the conclusion of the marketing campaign and steps being taken to develop a new SVRU logo whilst S38(1)(b) outlined developments on the Website.

5.10 Hope Collective

Niven informed the attendees of current developments with the Hope Collective and the creation of a VRU Sub Group upon which Alastair will represent the SVRU.

5.11 Violence Against Women and Girls

The strategic group are looking to develop this project and not 'reinvent the wheel' ^{S38(1)(b)} stated and as such are looking to utilise the research from 116 young people who attended the focus groups to best effect. That said, an interview with a ^{S38(1)(b)} who had a significant history of ^{S38(1)(b)} had provided different evidence from the focus groups. As a result 2 distinct approaches may be required, prevention and recovery. At the request of the government further research will take place outside Glasgow to ensure findings are similar across the country.

5.12 Football Initiatives

^{S38(1)(b)} advised that an event planned for Hamilton on Saturday had been cancelled due to COVID but will be reorganised. Discussion had also taken place with the Comms manager at Dundee United with domestic abuse being the focus there due to issues particular to the area.

6. Future Projects.

6.1 Caithness/Sutherland

^{S38(1)(b)} had submitted apologies due to the fact that she is involved in interviews to appoint an officer to lead work in the area.

6.2 Kilmarnock Town Centre

^{S38(1)(b)} highlighted his written report.

6.3 Scottish Government/SWDF Bystander

Work is ongoing although confirmation from Government of those to take part is awaited. The SWDF session is planned for 25/26 April.

6.4 Human Library

The international lead in Sweden is seeking guidance on whether or not a cohort with offending history can be used.

6.5 Prevention Strategy

Will summarised progress to date.

7. Training

In addition to his written report ^{S38(1)(b)} highlighted work being undertaken by ^{S38(1)(b)}, ^{S38(1)(b)} to engage mum's of the young people that we are working with in the east End and complimented ^{S38(1)(b)} in particular for the progress he has made as part of the team.

8. Evaluation/Research

S38(1)(b) reported that the first draft of the toolkit is with S38(1)(b) before being placed on the website. She also reported on the interim custody navigator report being submitted in May with a more detailed outcomes report being available in October.

9. AOCB

10.1 Glasgow City Centre

S38(1)(b) drew attention to recent problems in Glasgow City Centre S35(1)(a)&(b)

Alastair confirmed that Police Scotland were responding significantly to this problem.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 1000hrs on Wednesday 13 April 2022.