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**Project Update Meeting
Tuesday 13 September 2021
Via Zoom**

Attendees

Niven Rennie

Will Linden

Alastair Muir

S38(1)(b)

Norrie Conway (Police Scotland)

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1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven opened the meeting by thanking everyone that had contributed to the very successful launch of the 5 year strategy and 'You Decide' programme the previous week.

Niven also congratulated S38(1)(b) for being awarded a diploma from Cambridge University. As with S38(1)(b) previously, he remarked that this was a great achievement for S38(1)(b) personally but also a significant milestone for the VRU.

2. Apologies

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

3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 17 August 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

Alastair reported on progress at the dental hospital that had seen greater footfall and income. Such was the level of income and demand that S38(1)(b) had been brought back from furlough. That left 2 chefs and a trainee, thus SCVO had been approached and were able to offer finance for 3 further trainees at the hospital and 1 to assist with administration. This was being advanced with the board at present as was the need for a mentor with St Giles Trust having identified 2 potential mentors for the project.

4.2 One Community

S38(1)(b) was meeting with social workers and S38(1)(b) reported on a successful event at G20 involving youth from the BME and white Scottish community with the aim of having 'fun' coming out of COVID. Further events of this nature are planned. Applications for funding of a youth worker are progressing.

5. Current Project Updates

5.1 The Crib – Edinburgh

S38(1)(b) who was S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report.

5.2 Dundee

S38(1)(b) intimated that she had started help the helper training and the first of five sessions had been delivered receiving positive feedback. Money was almost secure for the incremental revamp of the recovery app with the police division locally potentially contributing £2500.

Dialogue continues with Alexander Community Development regarding a range of activity and it would be helpful for representatives to visit Glasgow to see S&A, You Decide etc. S38(1)(b) will arrange this visit.

ACTION: S38(1)(b) to arrange visit to Glasgow for S38(1)(b) from ACD and S38(1)(b) from Positive Steps in order to progress informed discussion in Dundee.

5.3 Ayr Wallacetown

S38(1)(b) highlighted the potential to expand 'You Decide' in the Wallacetown area with South Ayrshire Council securing £56K for 2 years from the COVID recovery fund. A meeting regarding this would follow. He also reported on progress which had seen 3 young men secure a place within the TIGERS construction academy locally.

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There are potential premises identified for a community hub in Wallacetown in the George Street area and these are being evaluated at present. This will allow the services to operate from different premises than the school.

Other progress included funding secured for research involving young people by St Andrews University and the fact the SeAscape will begin help the helpers work in October.

5.4 Custody Navigator

S38(1)(b) written report was noted.

5.5 ECHO Project/You Decide

S38(1)(b) reported on positive feedback from the 'you decide' launch and that the Wheatley Group may consider funding another worker in the Wyndford area. He outlined numerous other areas of training and intervention work. He also drew attention to the fact that the you decide launch had generated referrals from across the country with a future potential to create a you decide team in the South and East of the City.

S38(1)(b) reported on good progress at the Springburn Community Hub providing examples of issues that had arisen and services that were present on a variety of days. He also provided an overview of progress at Schools. S38(1)(b) suggested that S38(1)(b), Glasgow City Council, may be interested in becoming more involved in ECHO and linking it to the Glasgow Police Division Public Health Work. Will agreed to arrange a meeting to update S38(1)(b) on progress.

ACTION: S38(1)(b) to arrange an ECHO Update meeting with S38(1)(b) to explore ways of involving the council.

Niven also informed the meeting of progress with Glasgow Warriors who will meet with S38(1)(b) and himself on 21st September to discuss how they might support ECHO.

5.6 Peer Inclusion Project

S38(1)(b) summarised his current case load and the difficulties he encounters with many of his clients. Nonetheless, it would appear that the social work department are delighted with progress and S38(1)(b) is arranging an evaluation.

5.7 Help the Helpers

S38(1)(b) reported that the Alliance third sector health care organisation are in consultation about the potential to expand delivery of the training and provide it with accreditation. This will be discussed later this week. Differabled have also provided a modified version for parents of children on the autistic spectrum.

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5.8 Community Navigator Ayrshire

S38(1)(b) drew attention to his written report.

5.9 Prison Projects

S38(1)(b) highlighted progress at Edinburgh prison where a trauma informed strategy is being designed and she has been invited to discuss this with prison representatives. She intends to invite S38(1)(b) to join her.

5.10 Online Engagement

S38(1)(b) has asked the Union, who worked on the online engagement, to provide data to aid analysis of success.

5.10 Hope Collective

Niven reported that he was attending the next hack in Manchester over the coming weekend and that the Belfast hack will take place on 2nd October. A planning meeting for the Glasgow hack has been arranged. A further hack may take place in the Midlands and a civic reception is proposed at 10 Downing Street to which 50 representatives of the collective will be invited.

5.11 Football Initiatives

S38(1)(b) reported on progress at Dundee United where an input on youth violence and harmful sexual behaviour was being arranged. Niven also confirmed that there had been a successful meeting with Lt Col Moncur in relation to army cadets and further dialogue will follow.

6. Future Projects.

6.1 Caithness/Sutherland

S38(1)(b) gave a full account of her trip to Caithness and highlighted numerous issues in the area including a general lack of hope. Similar problems as highlighted elsewhere with regard to a disconnect between services were present as were numerous employment opportunities with no applicants. She believed that a help the helpers session would be particularly beneficial but there was also a need to give practical support on the ground.

ACTION: S38(1)(b) to arrange a meeting of interested parties to discuss the way ahead for Caithness

6.2 Youth Volunteers

S38(1)(b) reported on discussions with the team but a requirement to monitor progress in New Zealand.

6.3 Domestic Abuse

Further focus groups had taken place which were very positive and the relationship with women's Aid was developing well. The participants had requested a forum involving both males and females which was an unexpected development.

S38(1)(b) highlighted that Police Scotland had commissioned three projects with 'Fearless' the next of which will specifically focus on relationships. A survey had revealed very poor confidence in reporting by young people and there was a potential to link both pieces of work.

6.4 Kilmarnock Town Centre

S38(1)(b) highlighted capacity issues at the hub which has now become a safe haven for people in real crisis with naloxone being administered there regularly. He will monitor the situation.

6.5 Scottish Government Bystander

No report as S38(1)(b).

6.6 Human Library

No report given.

6.7 Injury Surveillance

No report given.

6.8 Vicarious Trauma

No report given.

6.9 Prevention Strategy

Niven and Will highlighted progress to date with timescales being the point of concern at present.

7. Media/Website

Discussion centred on the successful launch of the strategy and the publicity that resulted.

8. Training

No report as S38(1)(b) S38(1)(b)

9. Evaluation/Research

S38(1)(b) reported on the fact that she had been invited to take part in a research analysis forum involving 10 organisations hoping to share best practice in relation to crime, violence and justice. Thereafter she highlighted ongoing work from her written report.

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10. AOCB

10.1 Moira's Run

June informed the meeting that 86 people had registered for the run thus far.

10.2 COP26

Callum reported that 3 young people had been employed to assist at COP26 but that this would be the last piece of work undertaken by unlock employment as they had lost their grant funding and were winding up. Alastair added that he and Jason would be involved in COP26 from last week of October for about a month.

10.3 Scottish Government

S38(1)(b) highlighted that S38(1)(b) would be moving on from the department and would be in touch.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 1000hrs on Tuesday 12th October 2021.

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