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Project Update Meeting

Tuesday 19 August 2020

James Miller House, 98 West George Street, Glasgow

Attendees

Niven Rennie

Alastair Muir

Will Linden (by Zoom)

S38(1)(b)

1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven welcomed everyone to the meeting and made particular welcome to S38(1)(b) who was attending as an observer for the first time.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been S38(1)(b) was absent S38(1)(b)

3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 21 July 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) had submitted a paper providing an update in advance. Most of the discussion centred on issues that Alastair needed to progress with the board. The next board meeting was in mid-September and issues required to be addressed then. In particular, board membership required to be increased and several people who had expressed an interest had received no further contact.

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ACTION: Alastair to raise issue of board members with S38(1)(b), interim chair, prior to next board meeting.

Alastair also provided an update on new arrangements with S38(1)(b), accountants, which will place a firewall between the VRU and BHI as requested by Police Scotland. This will be trialled for 4 months and, if it works, will then become the new system.

Niven reminded Will that the board required a job description for S38(1)(b) new role and that this should be submitted in advance of the next board meeting.

ACTION: Will to submit new job description to the board in respect of S38(1)(b).

Niven then raised the issue of the proposed bakehouse at Kilmarnock Railway Station and the potential for BHI involvement. He stressed that the offer required an early response but that the VRU did not have the expertise to say whether this was viable or not. He asked Alastair to approach the board to seek funding for an external overview of the potential. Similarly Alastair stated that without support from the Division this was a non starter as the core VRU staff do not have the capacity. It was agreed that both issues need progressed.

ACTION: Alastair to ask BHI to have an external body provide a report into the viability of a venture at Kilmarnock Railway Station

ACTION: Niven to discuss the secondment full or part time of a PSOS officer from U Division with the Divisional Commander.

In terms of the existing business, it was noted that takings were low at the dental hospital but that proposals were being discussed to widen the market potentially with pop up restaurants.

Niven highlighted that the two furloughed members of staff require to be updated on their future and that this should be discussed in the short term.

S38(1)(b) stated that the Multiplex site was not closed to the VRU and that the issue would be re-visited in mid September when more staff return. In the interim the storage arrangements for the small airstream continue with S38(1)(b) free of charge. S38(1)(b) added that he had a plan B if we were required to move same.

S38(1)(b) informed the meeting that a further trainee, S38(1)(b), is likely to start soon.

4.2 Navigator

Neither S38(1)(b) were present and Niven reported that a meeting had taken place in respect of Navigator funding and expansion. S38(1)(b) had asked that we leave the hospitals until the end of August before increasing pressure regarding the funding proposals.

Niven stated that there was an intention to advertise for 2 Navigator supervisors which will probably be internal appointments with new navigators being recruited in respect of the successful candidates.

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S38(1)(b) reported contact from S38(1)(b) of the Health and Safety Partnership in Edinburgh wishing to discuss the CTAC proposal. This is already an action for S38(1)(b) and Niven said he would remind S38(1)(b) to make contact.

4.3 One Community

S38(1)(b) was on holiday and therefore could not submit an updated report. Niven was delighted to confirm however that One Community had been awarded charitable status and could now start to expand. He thanked Alastair for assisting in getting this progressed.

4.4 The Crib – Edinburgh

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report and highlighted issues including the potential for the second bus to enter Saughton Prison to be fitted out. A review of the evaluation plan for the first bus had shown that the purpose and outcomes had changed and that Heavy Sound now hoped that the second bus would also operate in the Lothian area.

The NHS Lothian workforce plan had been delayed due to COVID and this will now not probably happen until next year.

4.5 Dundee

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report and highlighted the success of the non-fatal overdose group in Dundee which was now expanding to include other vulnerabilities. Discussion with the Dundee Management Team had led to the expansion of this group to Perth and Angus with the involvement of the assertive outreach team.

Dialogue at Perth prison had led to a number of developments including the potential to replicate the Saughton Bus project with smaller former mobile bank vehicles for use in Tayside.

4.6 Custody Navigator

S38(1)(b) reported that letters of employment had been sent to three individuals but vetting was still being concluded. It was hoped that the service would start in Kirkcaldy in September or October but by virtual means at first.

S38(1)(b) also had held a meeting with the Glasgow Police Division who were looking to develop a peer mentor project in Custody similar to the VOW. PSOS Criminal Justice senior management do not want to pilots in custody however thus dialogue is ongoing to build this project in similar terms to custody navigator.

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4.7 ECHO Project

S38(1)(b) reported on good progress on the ground to support young people with whom we had engaged. The plan now was to support organisations including G20 and lambhill stables. G20 in particular may provide access to the target audience in respect of young people.

Will underlined this fact and said that he and S38(1)(b) had identified enough money in the MAV account to recruit one community navigator at present who would assist S38(1)(b), S38(1)(b) with individuals freeing up time to work with organisations.

S38(1)(b) reported on the SMART model which was entering its final week of 10 and had been very well evaluated. Representatives of 9 different organisations had taken part and had developed fresh ideas and connections. She said that this model could be refined for use in many different settings across the country providing a base for trauma informed/skilled action.

Will reported that he was about to have a meeting with S38(1)(b) from Glasgow City Council on how ECHO could be supported by the council and how their city plans were developing and impacted by COVID.

Niven asked will to develop structural plans for the forthcoming year in order that funding bids can be advanced.

ACTION: Will to prepare structural plans to enable funding bids to be advanced.

4.8 Community Navigator

Will said that 3 people had been recruited but due to problems with Bowhouse Prison one could not get access. This is not insurmountable as it allows for 2 prison navigators and one community navigator – a situation that will need agreement from the three local authorities. S38(1)(b) of we are with you, the employment body, is advancing this.

5 Future Projects.

5.1 Caithness/Sutherland

S38(1)(b) reported that she was in discussions with contacts in Caithness and Sutherland to utilise the SMART model.

5.2 Prison Project

S38(1)(b) reported that yet again the management at Low Moss was changing and their contact was being changed for the 5th time in Nine months. They were now of the belief that we should utilise Dumfries or Perth for this training rather than Low Moss due to continued problems being encountered.

5.3 Football Related Violence

S38(1)(b) had submitted a report on ongoing dialogue with Hamilton Academicals and S38(1)(b) expanded on this. Work with Pollok Youth FC continues to develop and will highlighted dialogue with the FA and SFA around bystander. All of these approaches have potential.

Will also highlighted contact with centre for good relations around about the activities of S35(1)(a)&(b).

Niven asked Alastair to follow up a previous approach from Glasgow Warriors now that they were back in training.

ACTION: Alastair to contact Glasgow Warriors regarding their earlier interest in violence prevention.

5.4 'You Decide' Project

S38(1)(b) reported on ongoing work around the issues in Castlemilk and with campus officers in the area who have requested further training around a trauma informed approach.

5.5 Legal Aid Board

S38(1)(b) reported that he was having difficulty accessing the CEO of the Scottish Legal Aid Board but that they had previously agreed to fund a pilot programme and employ a Navigator. The problem was where this individual would be based. S38(1)(b) had thought a lawyers office but SLAB had felt it beneficial to be based either in their office or a public defenders office. Edinburgh Public defender claims they are too busy but Falkirk is interested. Iain Smith is still engaged and Tony Bone's interest is noted but two pilots may not be practicable.

5.6 Mentoring Accreditation

S38(1)(b) has requested a meeting about the value of progressing this given the climate at present and this will take place on 21 August.

6 Media

Niven confirmed that S38(1)(b) will return in Monday 24th August on a part time basis. A job share is being progressed.

7 Training

S38(1)(b) was unable to attend the meeting due to the fact that he was on a training course. His submitted a written report which was noted..

8 Website

S38(1)(b) was not present to report.

9 Evaluation

S38(1)(b) submitted a written report in advance which was noted. She highlighted that the students at Glasgow University who are examining the role of masculinity in relation to violence in Scotland will no longer provide an international comparison which was disappointing but the report should still be of value with the executive summary due in September.

10 Strategy Development

Niven reported on progress to date and hoped that an initial draft would be able to share with partners and the government in the short term. Will undertake to prepare some documentation for the following week.

ACTION: Will to prepare initial documentation regarding the strategy in advance of Monday 24th August.

11 AOCB

11.1 *Budgets*

Niven highlighted that the Government were starting next years budget process earlier due to COVID and were seeking an early response. A meeting was arranged for Friday 21st August to discuss.

12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 1030hrs on Tuesday 15 September – at JMH.