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**Project Update Meeting
Wednesday 24 November 2021
Via Zoom**

Attendees

Niven Rennie

Alastair Muir

S38(1)(b)

1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven opened the meeting and reflected on a busy few months. He welcomed S38(1)(b) to her first meeting and introduced her to the staff. Finally, he underlined the recent COVID figures and advised that home working should be the rule where possible and office visits reduced to the minimum at the present time.

2. Apologies

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

3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 13 September 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 advised that he had been at COP26 and had therefore had little BHI contact over the period. That said, a board meeting was to take place on Friday coming. During this period chef S38(1)(b) had left the project and interviews for a replacement would take place on Tuesday. Similarly one trainee had secured employment outside

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BHI and had intimated an intention to leave. That will leave two remaining, S38(1)(b) until February and S38(1)(b) for a period of 6 months. Alastair observed that 6 month secondments were not successful in this context and alternative trainee funding is probably required. Niven suggested an approach to the Police Federation or Scottish Police Credit Union as previously discussed and asked Alastair to obtain board approval for this approach to be explored.

Finally Alastair confirmed that an advertisement for a BHI Chief Operating Officer was being released with the hope of appointment in January. Niven also noted the work S38(1)(b) had been doing to move the payroll to S38(1)(b), a significant contribution to her workload.

ACTION: Alastair to raise trainee funding with BHI board

4.2 One Community

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report in advance which was noted. Alastair added that he and S38(1)(b) would shortly accommodate 20 young men on the edge of criminality all of, Asian or African heritage, to Lendrickmuir for a weekend of activities.

5. Current Project Updates

5.1 The Crib – Edinburgh

S38(1)(b) reported that the CRIB bus was being deployed more often throughout East and Mid Lothian and that today it was highlighting this project at S38(1)(b) where Advanced Modern Studies pupils from across the region were attending a conference. The work of Heavy Sound at Cockenzie is expanding at pace and they have now started to work with pupils from S38(1)(b) in Edinburgh. Unfortunately a change in procurement practice by East Lothian Council will require significant submissions of paperwork in coming weeks.

The second CRIB bus has entered Edinburgh Prison for fitting and a team from the prison recovery café supported by a trained staff team and expertise from Edinburgh College will conduct the refit.

The Princes Street gardens project has stalled currently due to strategic discussions within Network Rail but the partners remain on board and it is expected this will progress significantly in the next financial year.

5.2 Dundee

S38(1)(b) and Alastair reported that the recovery app had been subject of great discussion potentially expanding to Perth and Angus in the short term. A team from DD8 in Dundee had visited Heavy Sound and are looking to replicate a CRIB bus in

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Dundee. Similarly a team from positive steps had been in Glasgow and were looking to introduce a 'You Decide Team' in Dundee in partnership with Street Soccer, Alexander Community Development and others.

5.3 Ayr Wallacetown

█^{S38(1)(b)} was involved in a training event and had submitted a written report. Niven updated on the potential expansion of 'You Decide' to Ayr through the council who had also employed a 'trauma informed co-ordinator with assistance from the SVRU. █^{S38(1)(b)} added that the council were keen to have us assist them to set evaluation criteria for this post.

5.4 Custody Navigator

█^{S38(1)(b)} reported that the navigators had now had 5 weeks of face to face engagement with a 200% increase in referrals and a waiting list developing. There was also a request to expand the service to Dunfermiline. An examination of projected available finance suggested that it was possible to employ a third navigator and expand into Dunfermiline. Pheonix Futures are also looking to place extra finance into the project.

█^{S38(1)(b)} also outlined interest from a variety of other areas including Lanarkshire, Inverclyde and West Lothian due to recent reporting on remand and bail statistics. His intention is to organise a meeting of interested parties to discuss future expansion of custody navigator.

ACTION: █^{S38(1)(b)} to organise meeting of interested parties to discuss expansion of custody navigator.

Finally █^{S38(1)(b)} highlighted the visit of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice to the Navigator project in Kirkcaldy which would take place the following day.

5.5 ECHO Project/You Decide

█^{S38(1)(b)} commenced his report by highlighting the recent high profile violence in the East End of Glasgow and the requirement to divert himself and the trainee █^{S38(1)(b)} to that area to help with an intervention programme. Working in partnership with FARE they have been delivering the 'streetwise' programme in 6 schools where gang members had self identified. This programme is planned to run for 8 weeks and has been operating thus far for 4. At one time one school identified 96 potential gang members but the total across all 6 schools has been greatly reduced and now the team are working with a hard core of under 50. Sports Futures are also now involved and there is a desire to build something more sustainable. To this end, Niven highlighted █^{S38(1)(b)} suggestion for a mini summit and said that he and Will had spoken to FARE who are supportive of this idea. Will shall arrange the summit on his return from leave.

ACTION: Will to arrange an mini summit of interested parties in the East End of Glasgow

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S38(1)(b) paid tribute to S38(1)(b) for stepping in to oversee the running of the You Decide Programme in Glasgow North where referrals are still coming in requiring action. The trainee programme has also been amended due to the work in the East and this requires constant review and attention.

5.6 Peer Inclusion Project

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report and stressed his continuing problems with access Barlinnie Prison.

5.7 Help the Helpers

S38(1)(b) highlighted her written report and drew attention to the fact that Alliance had made a bid for funding for an extended help the helpers programme and, if successful, two co-ordinators would be based at various times in the SVRU.

5.8 Community Navigator Ayrshire

In addition to S38(1)(b) written report S38(1)(b) said that she had an interim evaluation report almost ready with numerous excellent stories of change within. Niven said that the SVRU governance group had asked to see some of these evaluations and asked S38(1)(b) to prepare some to share.

ACTION: S38(1)(b) to prepare suitable evaluation reports for submission to the SVRU Governance Board.

5.9 Prison Projects

S38(1)(b) commenced by updating on Perth Prison where work continues with remand prisoners. Thereafter S38(1)(b) said that he was picking up more prison work particularly at Edinburgh Prison which wishes to become 'trauma informed' a first in Scotland. Accordingly, S38(1)(b) has accepted a position on the strategic group and chairs a sub group on lived experience. S38(1)(b) also summarised work he is doing in Glenochil, and Polmont where he paid tribute to the work of Sgt S38(1)(b) and that of a current prisoner S38(1)(b) who have created a group to talk about conflict with the law. On release S38(1)(b) is moving to S38(1)(b) and aims to maintain momentum with this group. Finally S38(1)(b) said he was speaking with the Cyrineans charity about a young persons project they were launching in prisons.

5.10 Online Engagement

S38(1)(b) said a report was being pulled together in respect of this project and the Union are looking to put it forward for an award. It is apparent that there has been significant engagement and if even one person changed their life course as a result then the £30K investment would have provided dividend. Due to the problems in the East End of Glasgow an additional £5K is being spent to expand the adverts onto snap chat and Instagram.

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5.10 Hope Collective

Niven underlined his great satisfaction at the quality of the Glasgow Hack. He has written to TIGERS to thank them for their support and involvement and also thanked all the staff at the SVRU who had contributed. The final hack will take place in Cardiff today with a reception at no10 Downing Street later in the week. It is planned that another 20 hacks will take place across the UK next year.

5.11 Football Initiatives

S38(1)(b) reported that the session delivered to Hamilton Academicals will be extended to Dundee United. Work with Hamilton continues and contact has been made with Glasgow Warriors Rugby team in the hope that they might provide support to the ECHO project.

S38(1)(b) also highlighted that 40 volunteers from the Army, Navy and Sea Cadets had received help the helper training and there is a desire now to undertake train the trainer modules.

6. Future Projects.

6.1 Caithness/Sutherland

S38(1)(b) said that ACC Ritchie had approved a proposal for resources to be deployed to develop a VRU style hub in Caithness and to Dundee where hopefully they will support S38(1)(b). It is intended that the Caithness resource will be deployed to Wick and be there before the end of January.

S38(1)(b) also outlined other PSOS projects of note, including a national survey of young people being undertaken by Fearless in conjunction with PSOS, some SPA inspired research of deprived communities in Scotland, which would hopefully tie in with SVRU work and finally she once again highlighted an issue with sexual offending by former members of the armed forces who very often end up in prison. S38(1)(b) suggested some form of bystander intervention may help here.

ACTION: S38(1)(b) to discuss the issue of harmful sexual behaviour by former members of the forces and identify any means to address this.

6.2 Domestic Abuse

S38(1)(b) summarised group work to date and the fact that most of the young people they are engaging with don't know what a healthy relationship is. She said that more needs to be done in schools and that MVP may be a vehicle for that.

6.3 Kilmarnock Town Centre

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

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6.4 Scottish Government Bystander

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

6.5 Human Library

S38(1)(b) highlighted the item on her written report.

6.6 Injury Surveillance

As above.

6.7 Prevention Strategy

Will was **S38(1)(b)**

7. Media/Website

S38(1)(b) outlined recent coverage and the successful strategy launch. She is now working with **S38(1)(b)** on a comms strategy.

8. Training

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

9. Evaluation/Research

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report but highlighted that the violence evidence review was now concentrating on domestic abuse as the original scope had been too ambitious.

10. AOCB

10.1 Festive Cover

Niven provided an overview for plans for festive cover and operating hours.

10.2 Brothers in Arms

S38(1)(b) drew attention to this male mental health charity aiming to provide alternative options for young men contemplating suicide. She believed it was worth supporting and offered to arrange a meeting with **S38(1)(b)** to see if it were something we could highlight on our website.

ACTION: **S38(1)(b)** to arrange meeting between Brothers in Arms and SVRU Comms.

11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 1000hrs on Wednesday 26 January 2022.

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