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Senior Management Meeting

Tuesday 25 May 2021

By Zoom

Attendees

Niven Rennie

Alastair Muir

Will Linden

S38(1)(b)

S38(1)(b)

1. Welcome and Introduction

Niven welcomed everyone to the meeting and reflected on a very successful Royal Visit the previous day. He thanked all that had made the day possible but stressing in particular the outstanding work of S38(1)(b).

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting of 6 April 2021 were accepted as a true record.

4. Risk Register

No new risks were identified at this time.

5. Financial Update

S38(1)(b) reported that the final accounts report for the previous financial year had been received from Police Scotland although some issues required clarity as it had been presented in a different format from the norm. Essentially the final information required for closing the government report for the year was now available and there had been arrangements put in place to defer payments from last year into this to cover delayed expenditure on the social media campaign and the 5 year strategic plan.

6. Overview of Current Projects

6.1 BHI

Alastair introduced this item by outlining recent decisions taken by the board of BHI and the continued difficulty in trading being experienced at the Dental Hospital.

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He discussed the process of potential recruiting to the programme of trainees given that 51/2 places have been offered by SCVO to be taken in the short term, the desire to utilise some of these at the ECHO project and the difficulty of running the programme with a backdrop of low income and footfall. It is recognised that's steps are being taken by BHI to recruit a Chief Operating Officer and relieve the VRU of the demand currently falling on a daily basis on Alastair's shoulders from an operational point of view.....this is an essential development.

It was decided that the board of BHI must be presented with viable options and that we should discuss with G20 and Lambhill Stables whether or not the programme could be partially sited there in the interim.

ACTION: Alastair and team to discuss potential options for BHI support from G20 and Lambhill

Similarly ^{S38(1)(b)} outlined daily problems she is encountering ^{S30(b)(i)&(ii)} he highlighted potential reputational risk given the lack of an apparent process at present. It was agreed that Alastair and ^{S38(1)(b)} would speak to ^{S38(1)(b)} as a matter of urgency and address this issue. Niven offered to provide additional support as necessary.

ACTION: ^{S38(1)(b)} and Alastair to review the cash handling processes for BHI and improve ensuring any new process is adhered to.

6.2 One Community

Alastair reported continuing problems at the Royal Bank of Scotland relating to the opening of the OCS bank account. This has now taken over 3 months and maybe referred to the financial ombudsman. Our ability to assist is restricted by us not being party to the account but alternative payment arrangements have been required to be created with BHI in the interim and monies budgeted for payment to OCS cannot be handed over until this is resolved.

6.3 ECHO Project

Will provided an update on progress and that the new 'navigators' have commenced work receiving a number of self referrals in the first instance. A name other than 'navigator' is being sought. ^{S38(1)(b)} has also commenced work with the NW Glasgow Social Work team working directly with 6 troubled young people. This work has potential for expansion and Will shall have a meeting with the SW lead ^{S38(1)(b)} in the coming days.

6.4 Online Engagement

S38(1)(b) highlighted links to the ECHO Project and the need for the name of the 'navigators' to be clarified urgently for social media use. This project will now occupy the vast amount of S38(1)(b) time until July. There have been positive contacts from both the Samaritans and Victim Support Scotland to become involved. Work now continues to make similar progress in the second location, Dundee.

7. Hub Development

The work being undertaken in each 'hub' area was discussed and a number of issues highlighted. Niven drew attention to the 5 year strategy which identifies highlands and Aberdeen for additional sites. In this regard he reported on a recent meeting organised by Police Scotland regarding issues in Caithness at which he had presented. As yet, no further developments had been highlighted. Will suggested a series of workshops at middle management level and Niven offered to take this to PSOS to explore.

ACTION: Niven to raise issue of middle management workshops with PSOS

8. Staffing

8.1 Communications Manager (job Share)

Will updated on this issue and the identification of a Scope problem that had caused further delay. He believed that this had now been negotiated and the post would be advertised within the week.

9. Planning

9.1 Strategic Plan

The final draft had been receipt and everyone was in agreement that it was of a very high standard. A list of people to be consulted in this respect was agreed and Niven undertook to conduct a short consultation with a deadline for responses of Tuesday 1 June.

ACTION: Niven to circulate to consultees.

9.2 PSOS Strategic Planning

Will highlighted developments that suggested that PSOS had moved direction to a more preventative agenda and that they may not now wish to develop a violence strategy. Niven raised the issues of weapons recording and the important element relating to schools. In response, Will stated that the analysis undertaken by PSOS in this regard was very shallow and he had a meeting arranged to question some of their initial conclusions.

10. AOCB

10.1 St Giles Trust

Alastair raised the issue of our continuing involvement with St Giles Trust and their connection to several project areas. He highlighted that S38(1)(b) had no base in Glasgow when he visited the City, often once a week. As such, S38(1)(b) utilises a hotel bedroom for his work. Alastair requested that he be allowed to utilise the VRU office on a trial basis in the first instance. This was agreed.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be arranged taking annual leave into account.