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Project Update Meeting

**Tuesday 8 December 2020**

**Via Zoom**

**Attendees**

Niven Rennie

Will Linden

Alastair Muir

S38(1)(b)

**1. Welcome and Introduction**

Niven thanked everyone for attending and welcomed Chef S38(1)(b) from BHI who was observing.

**2. Apologies**

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

**3. Minutes and Action Log**

The minutes of the meeting of 10 November 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 s written report and Niven invited, S38(1)(b) and S38(1)(b) to add to this.

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Alastair commenced by outlining that the tier 4 COVID restrictions had adversely impacted BHI and that, as a result, the dental hospital outlet had been closed with staff, with the exception of S38(1)(b) placed on furlough. S38(1)(b) had been working with S38(1)(b) in North Glasgow looking for new opportunities for BHI.

S38(1)(b) was currently attending a Skills Development Scotland event seeking to secure future funding for trainees.

A board meeting will take place on Friday 11 December and Will has been invited to provide an overview of ECHO and how BHI can become involved. Initially, BHI have offered to employ the community navigators but there is also potential to become further involved in mentoring.

S39(1) added that the announcement of the new tiers later that day may allow for a short re-opening of the dental hospital outlet for a period of 8 days or so before Christmas. S38(1)(b) confirmed that daily checks were being maintained with the trainees involving James, S38(1)(b) and himself.

### 4.2 Navigator

Neither S38(1)(b) were attending the meeting and Niven observed that this project was now being delivered by MAV in the main and thus VRU input had reduced significantly. Will had recently met with Dr S38(1)(b), virtually, and was asked to provide an update on the project based on his understanding from that meeting.

In terms of external funding for the Navigator Pilot sites, Will understood that only the £80K the VRU had secured from the Glasgow ADP had been received. That said, Dr S38(1)(b) had secured £50K from an NHS endowment fund for Glasgow. The concern was that these monies were apparently for one year only and thus the funding for the pilot hospitals moving forward remained something of a concern. The three remaining hospitals appeared to be on track for next year although some doubt remained regarding Wishaw, which was more of a bespoke service and differed slightly from the rest.

MAV have appointed two area co-ordinators to support S38(1)(b), a step that was required, but how these posts are to be funded moving forward is also not clear. It is possible that the programme will be reliant on continued government funding at similar levels to previous years. It was acknowledged that the NHS has had other priorities throughout the pandemic and that securing funding has been a challenge.

Through the CORRA foundation, MAV has also been engaged to employ workers to act in a similar fashion to navigators working with the drugs death task force. It may be that some of this funding will provide support for the requisite infrastructure.

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Notwithstanding, Dr S38(1)(b) also intimated that MAV is looking into further Navigator expansion into Aberdeen and also the children's hospital in Glasgow – the latter possibly being financed by the Yorkhill Children's Charity.

Niven thanked Will for providing this update and acknowledged that the requirement to resign from the MAV board has largely left the VRU unsighted on Navigator development and without any ability to influence the project or its direction.

### 4.3 One Community

S38(1)(b) reported on the successful creation of an OCS board and the content of its first meetings aimed at outlining and establishing the aims, objectives and strategic vision for the charity moving forward. Board positions had been allocated and a further meeting would take place this week.

Other activities of the charity were highlighted including aiding young people dropping out of education to seek employment and a particular problem with domestic abuse and violence involving young people from an Ethiopian background who had arrived in Scotland in the past couple of years. A series of workshops are planned to address this latter problem.

Finally, S38(1)(b) provided an update on the annual OCS Christmas appeal which had secured £7700 in donations.

### 4.4 The Crib – Edinburgh

As Jim S38(1)(b) Alastair reported on his behalf. In particular he highlighted discussions around digital based training potentially creating numerous jobs across the country for young people. In Edinburgh, the Hearts FC Foundation have become involved and they have agreed to engage with young people across the city not just in their traditional Gorgie base.

### 4.5 Dundee

S38(1)(b) had been required to attend another meeting but had submitted a written report which was noted. Alastair highlighted a document S38(1)(b) had produced with a Dr from Positive steps which will provide essential information for services attending an overdose which potentially could prove fatal. This is being progressed with Police Scotland.

### 4.6 Custody Navigator

Alastair highlighted a hurdle that had been encountered with one of the chosen staff members which has caused some delay and is being overcome at present. This has taken up a lot of S38(1)(b) time, was unforeseen and has required diplomacy. That said, the project should be back on track in the near future.

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#### 4.7 ECHO Project

S38(1)(b) reported that the boxing programme had been suspended due to the COVID tier 4 restrictions but it was anticipated that it would resume shortly. 7 boys aged about 12 and 5 older boys had attended the first meeting but only the 7 younger boys had attended the second, potentially due to the second meeting being on a Friday night when there are other attractions. It is anticipated that all will return when boxing resumes.

S38(1)(b) then stated that his family had encountered COVID restrictions that had caused him to isolate, thankfully now completed. In his absence S38(1)(b) had conducted the 'You Decide' programme. Unfortunately only two young people had attended but they were the two that had needed the input the most and they had made significant steps to be there.

S38(1)(b) also highlighted concerns regarding the wellbeing of the G20 staff. It has become apparent that they thought they could attend the 'You Decide' programme as participants and that had maybe contributed to reduced numbers. A subsequent meeting with the G20 staff identified a huge workload and little by way of wellbeing or self care to support them. As such, we will conduct a self care/wellbeing series of meetings with them.

This weeks 'You Decide' will be led by S38(1)(b) and, as such, it is anticipated that numbers will increase once more.

S38(1)(b) who had approached the VRU with an offer to become involved having seen the Panorama programme is being trained as a mentor by the St Giles Trust in their first Scottish Programme and has been given a mentoring role at G20 to get the experience he needs to complete the programme.

S38(1)(b) also reported on VRU activity to help a youth violence problem in Cadder. This had been particularly successful in that the VRU had brought Lambhill Stables and G20 together to tackle a problem as partners for the first time. Funding had been identified for youth intervention by local elected members. This had been provided to Lambhill Stables who engaged G20 to provide the service.

S38(1)(b) reported that the 'Help the Helpers' programme had now completed Stage 2 with 6 organisations in North Glasgow pairing up to deliver the service more widely. All 6 will start to deliver a programme in January. This has connected numerous organisations that previously worked in isolation. An 11,000 page training manual has been developed and will be produced to support this work. S38(1)(b) have run a focus group of participants and the project is currently being evaluated.

Will highlighted that C2 asset based training will commence in the following week after S38(1)(b) had made the preliminary arrangements in Springburn. Similarly, S38(1)(b) has been trying to identify an operational base in the locality which will be crucial when the community navigators are employed by BHI in the forthcoming weeks.

Added to this, positive discussions have taken place with North West Glasgow Social Work colleagues who had held a series of 'listening events' in Saracen 'pre-covid' at which about

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100 residents had been in attendance as 'local voices' highlighting community issues and suggesting solutions. It is hoped that these discussions can be resurrected in the spring as they need to take place in person. It has been proposed that local mentors be employed to assist the young people in the area and provide positive role models, funded from social work budgets but potentially employed by BHI as further diversification of the charity.

Finally, Will outlined the demand on Springburn Foodbank throughout Christmas and that S38(1)(b) had been attempting to identify a means of assisting.

### 4.8 Community Navigator

Will suggested that this standing item should come off the agenda as it is now being delivered by the three Ayrshire ADP's. Our new hub will monitor and assist as it develops.

## 5 Future Projects.

### 5.1 Caithness/Sutherland

S38(1)(b) reminded the meeting of previous work in the area where Domestic Abuse, drug taking and suicide were identified problems in the area. There had been a desire to create a resilience hub in the area involving statutory and third sector partners but COVID had intervened. It was now decided that a help the helpers programme should be delivered involving the statutory services (who hadn't engaged in Glasgow). This will start with 4 online sessions over 4 weeks delivered by S38(1)(b) lasting a total of 10 hours to start a trauma informed discussion. This will commence in January with help the helpers and a train the trainer approach following in the Spring.

S38(1)(b) then update on Police Scotland developments in the area. They are keen to engage and play a part in a more joined up approach to the area. That said, they are about to start a campaign and think that they should conclude that before committing to the developments as outlined. Valerie will engage with the division and identify a suitable date for Niven to provide a strategic input on the work of the VRU early in the New Year

**ACTION: S38(1)(b) to identify a suitable date for a strategic input and discussion regarding the issues in Caithness and Sutherland.**

### 5.2 Prison Project

S38(1)(b) provided an update on developments at Perth and Edinburgh prisons and Alastair summarised progress and Dumfries prison where he has taken over the VRU element previously delivered by S38(1)(b). This will now progress via Zoom.

### 5.3 North Ayr (wallacetoun) Hub

Niven reported that interviews in respect of this post will take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December and that the VRU hub should start in January. He has visited the primary school where the hub will locate and also met strategic partners.

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S38(1)(b) outlined discussions with the South Ayrshire Health and Social Care partnership and an intention to have a strategic meeting involving numerous agencies aimed at identifying the problems and the barriers to progress in the area. It was hoped that the new Inspector would be in place and able to attend. Niven asked that the invitation also be extended to him to ensure VRU participation.

### 6 Media

S38(1)(b) summarised some recent activity and the desire to have some form of launch in respect of the 'recovery app' in Dundee.

The marketing campaign proposal is currently progressing through Police Scotland procurement and she is getting the strategic plan into a format for circulation to partners for comment. It is anticipated that this will be before the turn of the year, will have a limited consultation and response period allowing publication and launch within the specified timescale.

### 7 Training

S38(1)(b) highlighted a number of issues including work with Police Scotland on numerous training issues and the development of the Bystander programme for Government. He also highlighted a potential to link with the Police Scotland Cyber Crime Harm Prevention Unit regarding online abuse and bullying etc

### 8 Evaluation/Research

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report and highlighted a number of evaluation projects she is progressing. The youth violence report now extends to 20,000 pages. Niven has also linked S38(1)(b) to the College of Policing in England who are creating a database of public health responses in a policing context.

### 9 Website

S38(1)(b) outlined Website developments which should see more video content etc in the coming months..

### 10 Strategy Development

Will had nothing further to add to the report given by S38(1)(b).

### 12 Date of Next Meeting

In conclusion Niven thanked everyone for their work and for developing the product to meet the demands of COVID. He wished everyone the best over the Christkas and New Year period with the promise of a better year ahead.

There will be no January meeting, therefore the next meeting will take place at 1030hrs on Tuesday 9 February 2021.

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