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**Project Update Meeting**

**Tuesday 13 October 2020**

**James Miller House, 98 West George Street, Glasgow**

**Attendees**

Niven Rennie

S38(1)(b)

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**1. Welcome and Introduction**

Niven welcomed everyone to the meeting and highlighted that S38(1)(b) had been awarded an MBE in the Queen's birthday honours list. Whilst S38(1)(b) had submitted apologies, Niven said he would note the congratulations of all present in the minute.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies had been Will Linden, S38(1)(b) has submitted apologies.

**3. Minutes and Action Log**

The minutes of the meeting of 15 September 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) reported on continued service at the Dental Hospital until this week when one of the trainees, having been exposed to COVID had caused the premises to close. In any event, the hospital is currently struggling with students having been placed in a similar situation. COVID has also meant that the 'pop-up' venture at Docklands has also been delayed.

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SDS have started to work with the trainees to prepare their CV's for employment applications once their training is over. Mentoring support is now being shared by S38(1)(b) and counselling services have re-started by telephone with the Wise Group.

Niven expressed concern regarding the long term future of BHI post COVID, particularly given that trainee funding streams are drying up. He suggested that whilst this was a board matter, it was probably necessary to have a meeting to discuss options that the board may consider before the project ground to a halt.

**ACTION: Niven to convene a meeting to develop thoughts around a BHI development plan.**

### 4.2 Navigator

S38(1)(b) had submitted apologies and Niven updated the meeting on limited progress on Navigator funding. He also highlighted that Navigator S38(1)(b) was leaving to a new role with Turning Point/Simon Community and that there was an ecard available to wish him well. His post has been advertised.

### 4.3 One Community

S38(1)(b) was also S38(1)(b) but had submitted a written report. S38(1)(b) reported a general lack of knowledge amongst colleagues regarding the racial incidents in schools that S38(1)(b) had reported at the last meeting. It was possible that this was occurring in S39(1), Glasgow alone and that confidence in reporting to S38(1)(b) had brought it to attention. Monitoring will continue.

### 4.4 The Crib – Edinburgh

S38(1)(b) provided a full report on developments in respect of the CRIB. Currently the bus in Edinburgh is being used to provide positive outcomes for individuals who are outwith mainstream education. Partners are working on the development of an alternative curriculum. Involved in this are numerous partners including Education Lothian, Venture Scotland and Heavy sound.

45 individuals had been signposted to the CRIB and of these 26 are being engaged (24 male, 2 female). All of the trainees are either under local authority guardianship or are in foster care. The majority are 15 years of age although one, aged 18 is trying to gain entry to a further education college with no formal qualifications as yet. The majority of them have been involved in criminal activity or anti-social behaviour/violence. The hook to the CRIB is the personal qualities of the mentors and the outdoor activity available through venture Scotland.

The second CRIB bus has been secured. Currently in storage in Aberdeen, it will be moved to Saughton Prison to be adapted when Scotland enters phase 4 of the pandemic.

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S38(1)(b) also reported that he has a meeting arranged with the governor and staff at Saughton Prison regarding their recovery strategy. The prison aims for a wide ranging recovery strategy in the prison but their ambition in this regard has led to CISCO leaving the recovery café as their approach is a drugs based recovery strategy. S38(1)(b) has introduced Aid and Abet to the recovery café and is seeking to explore how the VRU can assist further, building on our established relationship at saughton.

#### 4.5 Dundee

S38(1)(b) attended the meeting and reported that she was awaiting the introduction of a new Partnerships Superintendent at Tayside Police Division in order to move on a number of matters.

She thereafter provided an update on numerous initiatives that had been initiated including discussions with the Community Policing Team in Dowanfield relating to proposals to introduce a multi-use community facility in Lochee in collaboration with the third sector.

A meeting with a local elected representative with regard to Heartstone had been particularly successful and S38(1)(b) is hopeful of getting the project into Dundee schools.

Finally, S38(1)(b) updated on progress at Perth Prison and potential for the charity 'Positive Steps' to employ an outreach worker. Niven observed that this development had similarities to Community Navigator in Ayrshire and suggested that S38(1)(b) discuss it with Will.

**ACTION: S38(1)(b) to discuss Positive Steps outreach worker with Will to identify if links to Community navigator could be established.**

#### 4.6 Custody Navigator

S38(1)(b) required to leave the meeting early to attend a meeting in respect of this project. He reported that progress is on schedule. The navigators have been employed by SACRO and are currently on their induction/networking phase. Vetting from Police Scotland is awaited and then the project will start on a virtual basis.

#### 4.7 ECHO Project

S38(1)(b) reported on progress at G20 where 60 young people are engaged. All have a criminal history and are being supported away from their current lifestyle. All are troubled and, although based in Maryhill, the project takes young people from across the G20 postcode. From this cohort S38(1)(b) will start a 'You Decide' programme. All of the participants except 1 will be about 16 years of age and the aim of the programme which will run from 29 October until 17 December is to link these young people to employment opportunities. The final place will go to a S38(1)(b) who is potentially the most

prolific offender in the area and greatly in need of positive engagement. His problems stem from his home circumstances.

S38(1)(b) is developing a 'You Decide Manual' and staff from G20 will observe sessions of 'You Decide' with the ultimate aim of developing a programme that they can deliver with occasional VRU support.

S38(1)(b) also reported developments with Frank Law, the young person's futures development officer at S39(1) aimed at further interventions.

S38(1)(b) expanded on local connections including with the recovery community through phoenix Futures and that CISCO has opened an office in North Glasgow.

No Knives Better Lives also want to utilise the established connection at G20 to involve some of the young people not involved in 'You Decide' to redevelop their programme.

In this respect the work of VRU in this area is already breaking down perceived barriers between the local police team and G20.

Finally, S38(1)(b) reported on SMART stage 2 and the development of a SMART manual. She is also training 6 staff at SVRU in order that they can deliver SMART training elsewhere in the country. She also outlined plans to develop an ACIM model in the North of Glasgow building on previous experience in the East End a few years ago. This will be based in Possilpark where there are two primary schools and a nursery. One of the headteachers took part in SMART training and reported staff looking for positions elsewhere. Thus, supporting teachers will be a starting point.

#### 4.8 Community Navigator

As Will was S38(1)(b) no report was given.

### 5 Future Projects.

#### 5.1 Caithness/Sutherland

Nothing further to report at present.

#### 5.2 Prison Project

It is still planned to utilise contacts to move this project tot Perth of Edinburgh prisons.

#### 5.3 Football Related Violence

S38(1)(b) has submitted a written report. S38(1)(b) expanded on current dialogue with Hamilton Academical FC aimed at providing training on how to deal with children whom they considered to be more problematic and also with their parents. A number of young people attached to the club had experienced trauma and had barriers erected. The training aims to remove these barriers as opposed to dealing with the issues through punishment and isolation.

#### 5.4 'You Decide' Project

At present being reported as part of the ECHO project.

#### 5.5 Legal Aid Board

S38(1)(b) had spoken to S38(1)(b) about progressing this project and he remains keen. Discussion has also taken place with colleagues at PSOS regarding a similar pilot in respect of drugs possession charges. A fuller report will be provided as this develops.

#### 5.6 Ayrshire Hub

Niven reported that S38(1)(b) had now left the unit and that her position was being advertised as a vacancy. When filled the new role will be based in Ayrshire where Safer Communities and U Division of PSOS have agreed that it would be sensible to build on Navigator and previous trauma informed work in the area to build another hub. At the request of the Division this will be in the North Ayr area, an area of multiple deprivation, and S38(1)(b) is currently scoping the significant issues that require to be tackled.

#### 5.7 Police Negotiator Training

S38(1)(b) provided a brief overview of proposals to train 6 negotiators from PSOS with regard to encountering trauma in crisis situations. The invitation had come from S38(1)(b) who is a national negotiator. Similarly S38(1)(b) has been approached to train some campus cops on building better relationships with teachers.

### 6 Media

S38(1)(b) had submitted apologies and Niven summarised current media contact.

### 7 Training

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

### 8 Evaluation/Research

S38(1)(b) had submitted a written report in advance which was noted.

### 9 Website

S38(1)(b) provided an update on website design.

### 10 Strategy Development

No report was provided as Will S38(1)(b).

### 11 AOCB

No matters arising.

**12 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place at 1030hrs on Tuesday 10 November 2020.