

Highland Violence Against Women Partnership Group

4th February 2015

Minutes

Present

Elaine Mead, Chief Executive NHS Highland (Chair)
 Moira Paton, Rape & Sexual Abuse Service Highland
 Heather Williams, Ross-shire Women's Aid
 Lorraine Revitt, Lochaber Women's Aid
 Cathy Russell, Inverness Women's Aid
 Debbie Stewart, Highland Drug & Alcohol Partnership
 Cath King, The Highland Council
 Gordon Greenlees, MARAC Co-ordinator
 Pene Rowe, Child & Adult Protection Committees
 Peter Rawlinson – Scottish Prison Service
 Gordon MacLeod – A/Supt, Highlands & Islands Division, Police Scotland
 Graeme Walker – Forensic Physician – NHS Highland
 Johann Roden, Violence Against Women Partnership
 Kristeen Gall, Violence Against Women Partnership

Apologies

Donald Buntain, Procurator Fiscal Office
 Malcolm McBean, Victim Support
 Fiona Palin, Highland Council
 Kate Blowers, Caithness & Sutherland Women's Aid

1 Welcome & Introductions

Action

Elaine welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made.
 Gordon MacLeod attended for Police Scotland and guest Graeme Walker, Forensic Physician, Forensic and Custodial Services.

2 Previous Minute and Matters arising

Action

Minutes agreed subject to one change – Item 6 to read 'how best for other Agencies'.

- Elaine Mead confirmed she has still to contact a GP regarding GP representation at VAWP group meetings.
- White Ribbon – update from Peter and Johann – First successful training day completed on 28/01/15 with 3 trainees signing up as Speaker Network members. One of those who signed up has since indicated he wished to postpone his involvement due to issues raised regarding The Robertson Trust, who are funders for the White Ribbon campaign and also respected funders in the voluntary sector. A short discussion continued regarding RT being part of The Edrington alcohol group. It was concluded, that VAW would continue to support the WR campaign, however in the mean time, Johann to contact WR for them to give confirmation that they would not support the Alcohol Industry in relation to RT's

Kristeen

Elaine

Johann

7 Scottish Government's Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Bill – call for evidence	Action
Agreed that evidence should be sent on behalf of the VAW partnership. Kristeen to resend link for members to give comments/evidence back to Johann by 20/02/15.	Kristeen/ All
8 Feedback from/to Safety Group	Action
Heather gave an update from earlier Safety Group meeting. The SG agreed that the MARAC Coordinator cover contract should now be transferred from NHS to Highland Council, given that the Coordinator is contracted by Highland Council. Elaine agreed to contact Fiona Palin to confirm as such and ask Fiona to arrange a zero hours contract for cover to start from the new financial year.	Elaine
9 Feedback from/to Short Term Groups	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Violence Improvement Group – group met on 25/09/14 – Trauma pathway event is planned for spring, this will raise awareness of psychological trauma, help establish a practitioner network and inform a Trauma Pathway in Highland. SARN – there is ongoing discussions between NHS, the Forensic Service and Police Scotland about establishing Sexual Assault Referral Network in Highland. • Cedar – group met on 21/01/15. WA contacting Moray Cedar Group to gain feedback on their initial start up – ongoing. 	
10 AOB	Action
<p>Moira stated that RASASH will be up and running by middle of March. Moira will inform of open date once she has this confirmed.</p> <p>Debbie stated to members that HADP in partnership with Scottish Ambulance Service has initiated an alert system for people that have experienced a non-fatal drug overdose. It has been fed back that an individual on the MARAC list also appeared on the NFOD list which resulted in a more holistic assessment of their situation and greater understanding of cross cutting issues.</p>	
11 Date of Next Meeting	Action
To be arranged.	Kristeen