

## AGENDA ITEM 9

<b>Highland Violence Against Women Partnership Group</b> <b>21<sup>st</sup> June 2016</b> <b>Minute</b>	
<b>Present</b>	
Fiona Palin, Highland Council (Chair) Heather Williams, Ross-shire Women's Aid Lorraine Revitt, Lochaber Women's Aid Gordon Greenlees, MARAC Co-ordinator Chrissie Campbell – Victim Support Geoff Main – COPF's Melody McIndoe - RASASH Gillian Gunn, Violence Against Women Partnership Kristeen Gall, Violence Against Women Partnership Visitors – Nicola Hamlet & Tracie MacDermott(Army Welfare Service)	
<b>Apologies</b>	
Elaine Mead, Chief Executive, NHS Highland Moira Paton, Rape & Sexual Abuse Service Highland Donald Buntain, VIA Kate Blowers, Caithness & Sutherland Women's Aid Peter Rawlinson – Scottish Prison Service	
<b>2</b>	<b>Previous Minute and Matters arising</b>
The previous minute was agreed.	
	<p><b>Forensics</b> - Gillian said she met with Jennifer Vaughan who Vince asked to be involved on behalf of Police Scotland in relation to the letter to the North of Scotland Planning Group. This is still in progress, and a number of issues have changed since the previous Partnership meeting. Gillian, Moira and Jennifer have agreed the content of the letter, it just requires to be drafted.</p> <p><b>Women's Aid &amp; RASASH Referrals</b> – The groups still to have off line discussions in relation to referrals between their services.</p> <p><b>Access to private spaces and information</b> on other languages has been picked up now with contacts from THC and NHSH and can be removed from the action plan.</p> <p><b>Housing for women with substance misuse issues</b> - Gillian spoke to Carolyn Thain re the temporary accommodation solution that was being sought through the council – there is better access in most areas, however it remains an issue in Inverness. Gillian agreed to pick this up with Lyndsey Green, Housing Policy officer from HC.</p>
	<p>Gillian/ Moira/ Vince</p> <p>MP/KB/ HW/LR/ CR</p> <p>Gillian</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Army Welfare Service</b>
Nicola and Tracie presented on the services offered under AWS. Information was given as to what is provided in the way of a confidential non-discriminatory support service that responds to the needs of the service community. AWS Strive to provide a Welfare Support Service to assist with the challenges that arise in personal Service lives. Personal Support, Community Support and	
	<b>Action</b>

Support to Casualties are offered. Kris to circulate the PowerPoint presentation to members for information. Fiona thanked both Nicola and Tracie for their informative presentation.	Kris
<b>4 VAW Priorities</b>	<b>Action</b>
Gillian stated that Priority 1 and 2 were very similar, therefore it was agreed that we would merge those 2 priorities, albeit insuring that the issue of contact remained prominent. Gillian will meet with Donna Munro to progress issues relating to training. All other priorities were discussed by the group. Fiona stated that it should be about determining what is for Action in 2016 and how realistic it is and to determine the 'Priorities'. High Priorities as 1 – 7 which should be focused on and others as low priority. Gillian to update actions 1-7 on progress as to who is doing it and what has happened. It was pointed out that a number of priorities are for health and in terms of NHS representation; we require to seek a health rep., Gillian to speak to Elaine regarding this. Gillian to make Work Plan more detailed and to circulate to members when updated. To be signed off at September meeting.	Gillian  Gillian Gillian
<b>5 Sexual Violence Prevention Pack - RASASH</b>	<b>Action</b>
Melody reported on where they are with the SV Prevention Pack. The packs were distributed sometime ago to those folk who were previously trained to deliver on Sexual Violence Prevention. It was evident that those folk who were to deliver did not feel confident in doing so and hence nothing was delivered. It was agreed to ask for the packs back and look at alternatives on how to deliver the training. Melody stated this proved to be challenging and it was agreed to indentify folk who would be suitable for delivering and not teachers as recognised in the evaluation of the programme. On looking for someone to deliver the training, it was discussed to look at Children's Service Workers and Development Officers rather than focussing on teachers. Suggestions were made that Melody could hold taster sessions for staff in different areas and to contact folk who they think would be good to deliver.	Melody
<b>6 National Guidance for VAWP's</b>	<b>Action</b>
Gillian stated that there is nothing within the Draft Guidance that is surprising to us. This is only guidance and nothing to say that this is a must, but rather a guidance to say 'it would be good if...' This guidance is not out yet and will be ratified by the Scottish Government and then made available. No comments were given from the group and no actions raised.	
<b>7 VAWP Self Assessment</b>	<b>Action</b>
Jo has now agreed to come to Highland and conduct the self assessment with us at the December VAWP meeting. This meeting would require to be extended to a 3 hour meeting, which Gillian has informed members about and most have come back to say this is ok for them. There will be some work to be done prior to the self assessment and Jo will send the assessment 6 weeks prior to meeting and which should then be completed individually by all members. Fiona asked if any members think of anything that needs to be raised within the assessment to email Gillian and she will then forward to Jo.	All/ Gillian
<b>8 Developing 2017-20 VAWP Action Plan/Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>
Fiona stated that what we have talked about previously is one of the actions being around working with women being involved with the services who may be able to contribute to the development of the new strategy. Discussion points were:	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RWA have conducted focus groups with women in relation to services they have used – this can provide some feedback</li> <li>• Survey monkey could be used to get a wider range of views</li> <li>• We should also engage with staff on their views of policies, training and current responses to help shape the next action plan</li> <li>• IWA are conducting a small scale survey with women in relation to reducing escalation of domestic abuse (for those below MARAC risk thresholds) – this could be replicated elsewhere</li> <li>• NHS Highland PIN Policy review – seeking views of the NESH work force on how the policy is used and what staff would value in terms of staff</li> <li>• It was queried if Alison Clark, Highland Council, might be able to put specific Violence Against Women questions to the Citizen’s Panel</li> <li>• Melody noted that the Stand Up volunteers at RASASH may be interested in shaping the future action plan in relation to children and young people</li> <li>• Youth Parliament has recently focused on sexual violence – it would be worth exploring what the outcomes of that have been</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that Gillian would pull a framework for consultation and engagement together for the group. Gillian asked that if there were further ideas to get in touch with her.</p>	<p>Gillian All</p>
<p><b>9 Feedback from Safety Group</b></p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
<p>There was nothing to feedback.</p>	
<p><b>10 Feedback from Short Term Groups</b></p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
<p>a. Sexual Improvement Group –Gillian has sent Moira an email regarding the formation of new members to the group – Kristeen to send an email to individuals from suggested services inviting them to represent at a new short term SV Improvement Group. Future meeting to be arranged.</p> <p>b. Cedar Group – Group hasn’t met. Gillian updated to say that she is involved with the Quality Improvement Network within the council and in this she is to choose a project to work on. Gillian has chosen Cedar and working with others presently in gathering views from children and young people, mums and from Cedar staff in other parts of the country to see what model they think would be best to work in a rural area. Gillian to feedback to group.</p> <p>c. Training Steering Group – nearly complete, only item to sign off now is the evaluation framework and as a group this will then be implemented. Gillian also stated that NHS is looking at developing an e-module for MARAC.</p>	<p>Kris</p> <p>Gillian</p>
<p><b>11 AOB</b></p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
<p>Nothing discussed.</p>	
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
<p>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September – Centre for Health Science</p>	