

Highland Violence Against Women Partnership Group

21st March 2017

Minute

Present

Elaine Mead, Chief Executive, NHS Highland (Chair)
 Linda Dorwood, Governor, HMP Inverness
 Gordon Greenlees, MARAC Co-ordinator
 Jacquelyn Jennett, Area Care & Learning Manager North, Highland Council
 Kate Blowers, Manager, Caithness & Sutherland Women's Aid
 Lorraine Revitt, Manager, Lochaber Women's Aid
 Elaine Fetherstone, Manager, Inverness Women's Aid
 Gillian Gunn, Training & Policy Manager, Violence Against Women Partnership
 James Maybee, Principal Officer, Criminal Justice Social Work Services
 Vince McLaughlin, Detective Chief Inspector, Public Protection, Police Scotland
 Chrissie Campbell – Service, Delivery Officer, Victim Support Highlands & WI
 Debbie Stewart, Coordinator, Highland Alcohol & Drugs Partnership
 Moira Paton, Manager, Rape & Sexual Abuse Service Highland
 Kristeen Gall, Administrator, Violence Against Women Partnership

Apologies

Donald Buntain, VIA
 Geoff Main – COPFS
 Heather Williams, Ross-shire Women's Aid
 Gary Goddard – Scottish Prison Service
 Ailsa Villegas, The Highland Council

2 Previous Minute and Matters Arising

Action

The previous minute was agreed as a true and accurate record.

Funding in the 3rd sector – Elaine asked for feedback from the 3rd sector with regards to funding issues. Moira asked for it to be noted that we should be aware that this is not just about funding cuts but also about the overall availability of funding for the Violence Against Women agenda. Elaine asked members if they have any funding concerns for going forward this year. Women's Aid informed that this would be reported later in the meeting, as part of the update from the Safety Group, as this issue had been discussed earlier. Elaine asked for all to be cautious and make sure we are evidencing that we are getting the most out of the resources that we have and to ensure we are being cost effective. To be added to future agendas as a substantive item.

KG

3 Prevention of Sexual Violence

Action

Moira updated the group with regards to RASASH and the delivery of The Rape Crisis Scotland Prevention pack. RASASH has worked with over 2000 school children over the last year in delivering the pack. There has been a suggestion that other people deliver this training. Rape Crisis Scotland, who own the pack, have discussed this and would be content to use this model if there was a quality control process put in place about recruitment and how we ensure people are delivering a consistent message across the pack. There were two

<p>options to do this; Option, seek to recruit trainers from across partner agencies, train them and ensure CPD in place to ensure the quality issue was addressed. For this to be done there would be a call on Melody's (who co-ordinates the training in schools) investment of time to make this work. All partners were contacted and asked for trainer nominees previously, however there was not a single nominee put forward for this. Option 2, was additional funding for Melody's post, if there was additional money, her post could be put back to a full time post and then be able to deliver more training to schools. Moira stated that 'The Gordon Cook foundation' had approached Ailsa recently to say that there was potentially money on the table for school prevention initiatives and organizations were invited to put in outlined proposals which RASASH have done and waiting to hear nearer the summer time what the outcome of this is.</p> <p>Moira confirmed that Melody is still doing 3 days and if able to do 5 days this would scale up the numbers of the pack being delivered. Debbie asked if there was any potential for linking up with the Drugs and Alcohol Partnership to deliver both issues i.e. sexual prevention and drugs and alcohol awareness. This was discussed by the group and how we can deliver as a Highland Partnership 'Public Protection' banner. Discussion had taken place earlier that day at the Safer Highland meeting as the issue of the various agencies/organizations seeking an input within schools had been raised. Linda suggested that we could put a paper to Safer Highland to outline a proposal for a shared resource that would meet the needs of everyone and provide a sustainable option.</p> <p>Gillian informed that she is aware of Ailsa Villegas is supporting the development of a health and wellbeing tool kit for schools with Christine Gordon who is a Quality Improvement Officer for education, so maybe we could look at what they are doing with that and try and build this in with what we need. Elaine asked the group how they felt about Linda's proposal to put a paper to 'Safer Highland', all agreed. Jacqueline agreed to speak to Bill Alexander who initiated the discussions at Safer Highland and Christine and feedback to the group on whether there is benefit in writing a formal paper to 'Safer Highland'.</p> <p>Elaine M asked members to go away and think about what we would like to say in the paper if agreed. Gillian continued discussion with regards to other work under prevention and noted that it was hoped that the issue with RASASH and capacity could be better addressed through this forum. A meeting was recently held on how to approach prevention more widely and in a more strategic way. Gillian suggested that we establish a short term Prevention Sub Group that could look at how we have a better approach to prevention with regards to the partnership, all in agreement to this.</p>	<p></p> <p>JJ</p> <p>All</p> <p>GGu</p>
<p>4 Partnership Self Assessment Feedback & Action Plan</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>Gillian asked the group if they have any comments on the feedback from the recent self-assessment feedback in which Jo McLachlan had written up a list of priority areas for improvement which have been encompassed within our forthcoming Action Plan.</p> <p>Gillian informed that our terms of reference are slightly out of date. Fiona Palin is noted as being the deputy chair of the group, Elaine M asked for nominations for this. It was agreed that the feedback from Improvement Service was very positive.</p>	<p>All</p>

<p>5 2013-16 Highland VAWP Action Plan Achievements</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>Gillian had circulated a paper prior to the meeting detailing the things we have done well and achieved during the lifetime of the previous VAW action plan.</p> <p>It was agreed that this paper would be used internally by agencies by promote the work of the VAWP. A few additions were agreed in relation to extending MARAC to cover the Islands, the effectiveness of our MARAC IDAA service and the approach to MATAC. Gillian will make the additions and re-circulate for any final comments.</p>	<p>GGu/All</p>
<p>6 2017-20 VAWP Action Plan</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>Gillian had prepared some suggested activities for the VAW Action Plan for 2017-20 and had aligned these with our suggested priorities. Previous papers in relation to staff views, training and sexual violence had been sent to the group for views. These papers, along with issues in relation to improving safety and prevention had been developed to highlight 5 areas for us to work on over 2017-20. The meeting broke into smaller groups to discuss the suggested activities to see if we agreed that this was the sorts of things we need to progress over the next three years.</p> <p>Some amendments were suggested and written feedback was given to Gillian to include in the draft plan. The group was asked to agree the framework of the plan. Debbie told the group about the framework the Alcohol & Drugs Partnership were using and it was suggested that a similar model be used for VAW. It was noted that in particular Partnership working was not a key area for improvement, but rather it was integral to our success and required to be a thread running through the entire plan.</p> <p>No conclusion was made in relation to the framework and it was agreed that Gillian would work with Kate and Moira to develop this and circulate to the group.</p>	<p>GGu</p> <p>GGu/ KB/MP All</p>
<p>7 VAWP Data Reporting for 2015/16</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>Gillian informed the group that it was difficult getting data for the report. Gillian stated that this report is required to be submitted to Safer Highland and asked the group to check that they are all agreement with it. Elaine M asked that 'source' is detailed underneath each data reported on and there were queries about some Women's Aid/MARAC data. Gillian will redraft and circulate for final comments before submission to Safer Highland.</p> <p>Elaine M noted the importance of data and noted that each partner should consider what data they can provide on a monthly basis and how this will help us demonstrate progress in achieving our vision and delivering our action plan. This will be related to the performance framework for VAWPs which is currently in phase 2 of testing.</p> <p>It was agreed that the 16/17 report should follow the current format but that the 17/18 report would include performance framework and local data.</p>	<p>GGu/ All</p> <p>All</p>

<p>8 Feedback from/to Safety Group</p>	<p>Action</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group looked at a 2017-20 proposed plan for the group and made some additions to this – this will be part of the overall VAW plan for Highland • Group agreed on the cover for MARAC Coordinator • Issues had been raised in relation to Council funding from Women’s Aid and Gillian and Jacquelyn were going to work on a paper to capture all the funding that is provided locally for VAW – this will be tabled at the next Partnership meeting • MARAC Action Plan - there are a number of outstanding red actions and the Partnership was asked for views on when these should be escalated to the Partnership to be addressed – Elaine M, as Chair noted that this would be the view of the Safety Group and when the group feels escalation is required • Housing are investigating a new housing options point category for domestic abuse – Moira asked that she be put in touch with Housing as there may be survivors of sexual violence who could benefit from a systems change 	<p>GGu/ MP</p>
<p>9 Feedback from/to Short Term Groups</p>	<p>Action</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Violence Group - a draft plan had been circulated to the group previously. The group is working on taking this forward, if the Partnership agrees with the identified priorities. Any comments on the plan should be forwarded to Gillian/Moira 	<p>GGu/ MP</p>
<p>10 AOB</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>Debbie informed group The Alcohol & Drugs Partnership has a new chairperson, James Dunbar from New Start.</p>	
<p>11 Date of next meeting</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>1pm – 3pm 6th June 2017</p>	