

SURVIVORSCOTLAND: NATIONAL REFERENCE GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING – 25 NOVEMBER 2009 – ADELPHI CENTRE, GLASGOW

Present:

Jean MacLellan (Chair)

[REDACTED]

Chris Daly

[REDACTED]

Sue Hampson

[REDACTED]

Helen Holland

[REDACTED]

Sue Moody

[REDACTED]

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

1.1 Jean MacLellan welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that there was now a new team devoted to the SurvivorScotland work. [REDACTED] had been appointed as the Head of this team. She also advised that [REDACTED] had moved to a new post. **The Group recorded their thanks for the significant work [REDACTED] had done over the last four years.**

Apologies were received from [REDACTED]

1.2 Jean invited Sue Hampson to give an update on the SAMH Male Survivor film. Sue advised that the film had won the award for the Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival Documentary and Factual Programme. It is also due to be screened at the Irish and Welsh Film Festivals in 2010.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

2.1 [REDACTED] advised that she had given apologies for the last meeting. [REDACTED] said that he had advised the group he was about to have a meeting with the MOD not that he had already met them. [REDACTED] suggested that section 7 on the presentation from SCRA include a statement ‘Survivors could use SCRA to achieve justice/protection for children’.

3. Update Report

3.1 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] outlined the main points of paper 3.

3.2 Routine enquiry – [REDACTED] was unable to respond to the question of a pilot in Glasgow due to tensions between Greater Glasgow HB and Glasgow City Council and suggested that [REDACTED] be contacted. The Group agreed that an update should be requested from [REDACTED].

Action: [REDACTED] to request an update from [REDACTED].

3.3 Communication Strategy – as well as taking forward the work on leaflets and stickers the team planned to meet with Royal College of General Practitioners who were doing a similar exercise. The team also held a lunchtime seminar for Health Department colleagues and planned to do something similar for the Justice and Education Departments.

3.4 Prisons – the team is still waiting to meet with Scottish Prison Service. Sue Hampson, [REDACTED] and Open Secret are all linking with prisons and it was agreed they should send details of the work they are doing and contacts to ensure there was no duplication.

Action: details of work with prisons to be sent to [REDACTED].

3.5 SurvivorScotland Website – now updated. There are not very many contributors but the Survivors Trust in England has sent their newsletter for inclusion.

3.6 In care – [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are doing the annual evaluation. All targets have been achieved in the end year report. 177 people have been supported and training is in place for next year. Helen Holland raised the need for partnership working with the Care Leavers Association which was planning a conference for next year. She had raised concerns about ICSSS. Jean advised that these concerns were being discussed by the appropriate Scottish Government department.

3.7 Future Funding – [REDACTED] advised that SASDF had been available for 2 years only. Organisations had been advised of this at the outset and had been advised to develop appropriate exit strategies. However, an evaluation of the previous work had shown that three areas still required action: male survivors; rural issues; and prevention and prison services. Further limited funding for one year had been identified to focus on these areas. Letters had been sent to all organisations who had received SASDF to advise them of this. Organisations in the priority areas had been contacted and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] would be meeting them over the next month to discuss proposals. Key requirements for the funding would be development; achievable outcomes and the requirement to network and share knowledge and learning with other organisations.

3.8 [REDACTED] questioned why there was no continuation of SASDF, which she felt would cause difficulty for a number of voluntary organisations. She intimated that SAY Women would be in contact with the Minister concerned. There was considerable discussion around the issue. The Group agreed that the new funding should be allocated to the priority areas identified but there should be transparency in the allocations and organisations that should be made aware of the requirement to achieve goals in one year.

Action: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] **to progress proposals and advise group of the outcome.**

4. Acknowledgement and Accountability

4.1 Sue Moody advised that Ministerial approval had been given for a pilot forum. She gave an informative presentation (slides attached) on the arrangements for the forum and the Advisory Group. There was considerable discussion on survivor involvement in the establishment of the forum as survivors were currently being interviewed about their expectations by Scottish Institute for Residential Child Care.

The following points were made:

- Survivor views had been sought through the written consultation and through the various outreach workshops.
- There would be survivors on the Advisory Group.
- Sue Moody and [REDACTED] were meeting SIRCC to avoid unnecessary duplication.
- There is a need to have a pack of options for people considering attending the pilot forum.
- All of this work is to be survivor centred.
- The importance of working in harmony with the Scottish Human Rights Commission whilst also recognising their independent status
- How best data could be collected to provide statistics on abuse.
- Procedures would have to be in place to refer persons identified as abusers to the police if they worked with children.
- Requirement to have support for survivors in the event of re-traumatisation.
- Whether the forum should focus on one organisation or several organisations.
- The need to formally evaluate the pilot as it will raise expectations for the future.

Chris Daly expressed his dissatisfaction that the current proposals were about acknowledgement but not about accountability. Jean explained that the team were looking at how to strengthen this aspect and other team members explained that many of these important points were under active consideration. **Jean MacLellan thanked Sue Moody for her considerable work in taking this forward.**

5. Training Strategy

5.1 [REDACTED] outlined the discussions of the first meeting of the sub-group included in paper 5. Sue Hampson highlighted the work she had been doing. [REDACTED] indicated a need to link with Scottish Child Protection. The group agreed that there was a need to have a basic standard accessible from the website. **It was agreed that this should be taken forward by the Training sub-group.**

6. Data Collection

6.1 [REDACTED] outlined the work on data collection in Aberdeen and Fife included in paper 6. She asked for views on the dissemination of the work.

Action: Comments to be sent to [REDACTED] in the next two weeks.

7. Scottish Personality Disorder Network Conference

7.1 [REDACTED] gave a report on the Scottish Personality Network Conference, for which he had already circulated a paper. [REDACTED] added that these conferences were held 3 times a year and were always well attended. Links could be made through the service user section on their website and a joint conference could be considered. **The Group agreed that there should be a link with the Network.**

Action: [REDACTED] to contact [REDACTED].

8. Male Survivors

8.1 [REDACTED] outlined the draft action plan (paper 6). He highlighted the implementation steps for consideration by the Group:

- The partners charged with responsibility to take each action forward.
- The resources required by SurvivorScotland and its partners.
- The timescales required to discharge each action.
- Other actions not included.
- Relating the Action Plan to the SurvivorScotland Strategy.
- Retaining relevance to wider Government policy streams.

8.2 [REDACTED] stressed the timescale aspect and the need to get things moving. [REDACTED] said there was a need for services to help survivors in crisis before breakdown. Chris pointed out the need to link into Mental Health particularly around training for mental health professionals. [REDACTED] pointed out that that [REDACTED] had announced that trauma would be priority for the Psychological Therapies Steering Group. [REDACTED] also highlighted the need to raise issues with DWP and expressed her concern over scarce resources being allocated to adult male perpetrators who were also survivors. [REDACTED] pointed out that they were doing pilot work on prevention with 24 secondary schools

Action: Group members to send comments to [REDACTED] in the next two weeks.

9. AOB

9.1 [REDACTED] raised concerns about prevention being included in the National Curriculum for Excellence. She had concerns around who would teach personal safety and how this would be assessed. **The Group agreed that [REDACTED] should follow this up on its behalf.**

9.2 Sue Hampson advised that they were doing work with perpetrators in Polmont and Peterhead and that the Survivors film could be used as part of this. [REDACTED] also suggested that it could be used for 4th, 5th and 6th year at secondary schools.

9.3 [REDACTED] suggested that the Group should have a review meeting/awayday.

Action: SurvivorScotland Team to consider suggestion further.

10. Next Meeting

Dates have been arranged for the next year. The next meeting is on 24 February 2010. **(Please note this date is now the Reference Group AwayDay).**