

**Highland Violence Against Women Partnership Group
12th February 2019
Minute**

Present

Kate Blowers, Manager, Caithness & Sutherland Women's Aid
Pamela McBride, Principle Officer - Equalities, NHS Highland
Gail Waters, Administrator, VAWP
Maureen Peeden, Team Leader, Ross Shire Women's Aid
Frances Matthewson, Research and Intelligence Specialist, Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership
Vince McLaughlin, Detective Chief Inspector, Public Protection, Police Scotland
James Maybee, Principal Officer, Criminal Justice Social Work Services
Jacquelyn Jennett, Area Care & Learning Manager North, Highland Council – **Deputy Chair**
Lorraine Revitt, Manager, Lochaber Women's Aid
Donald Buntain, VIA
Cathy Steer, Head of Health Improvement, NHS Highland
Sally Amor, Public Health Specialist, NHS Highland
Colin Robb, Station Manager, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
Allan Coyne, Head of Offender Outcomes, Scottish Prison Service

Apologies

Elaine Featherstone, Manager, Inverness Women's Aid
Meg Wright, Interim Manager, Ross-shire Women's Aid
Helen Eunson, Professional Lead Nurse Mental Health, NHS Highland
Moira Paton, Manager, Rape & Sexual Abuse Service Highland
Hame Lata, Consultant, Sexual & Reproductive Health, NHS Highland
Suzy Calder, Head of Service – Drug & Alcohol Recovery Services & Prison Healthcare, NHS Highland
Jennifer Baughan, Detective Sergeant, Police Scotland
Derek Wilson, Group Manager (Prevention & Protection), Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
Maggie Hume, Training Officer, VAWP
Gillian Gunn, Development & Training Manager, VAWP

2. Previous Minutes & Matters Arising

The draft minutes from 21st November 2018 were approved. Matters arising covered in Agenda. Hailey Maxwell unable to attend today.

3. Equally Safe Performance Framework & Quality Standards Report

Quality Standards Report circulated with papers for meeting which shows Highland compared to National standards and we have scored well, although there is room to sell ourselves better. For priority one, (page 4) we are doing well compared to nationally, for priority four, (page 10) we have not done quite as well in certain aspects but there is a plan in place to deal with this. This could effectively be an appendice to our current plan.

Action:

- **Read report and once new Chair in place address areas needing improved and how we can strategically do better - All**

4. Updated VAWP Budget

Budget update circulated with the meeting papers. Two queries arising:

1. Roadshow & Trauma Network – budgeted and agreed at last meeting that underspend be used for these purposes. General discussion around what would be involved with these events, i.e.

locations, number of events, participatory budget to 3rd sector partners. Agreed that any Trauma events need to be done across whole partnership and tied in with the work being done by Sally Amor currently. More information needed from Moira Paton in relation to these projects. Options Appraisal requested for Roadshow. Monies cannot be carried forward public sector funds within NHS budget so will need to look at moving funds to give more time to work out how they are to be used. NES coming up on 26th March 2019 for Trauma Informed Practice.

Actions:

- **Discussion to allow for parking of £20,000 – Kate Blowers/Pamela McBride**
- **Circulate NES event information for 26th March 2019 – Sally Amor**
- **Extraordinary Meeting to be arranged for June to discuss use of funds – Jacquelyn Jennett/Gail Waters**

2. MARAC Leaflets – discussion on the printing of MARAC leaflets which has already been provided for in the budget. Advised that these had been ordered. Discussion as to whether these were the same ones.

Action:

- **Liase with Kate Blowers re leaflet – Gail Waters – note: completed, it is the same leaflet and a 1000 copies have already been ordered.**

5. VAWP Risk Register

Nothing has fundamentally changed on this; strategic risks remain the same, four updates discussed:

1. Chief Officers have confirmed to Vince that both the Scottish Government and COSLA want funding secured for all active agencies within the Partnership but as yet nothing has been done on this so still high risk.
2. New Chief Officer structure in place whereby Public Protection Chief Officers and Community Planning Chief Officers sit together which includes one for VAWP so we now have a direct route to the Chief Officers quarterly. It is expected that governance and scrutiny of strategic planning of VAWP will work both ways.
3. Extraordinary Meeting of Chief Officers being held 21st February 2019 where Gillian Gunn and Gillian Pincock will present on Safe & Together model within Highland and ask the Chief Officers to invest in it and implement it.
4. Appointment of new Chair to VAWP – agreed this is the responsibility of the Chief Officers, discussion on merits of a paid Chair, which would then impact on the £20,000 budget. Agreed Options Appraisal on this to go to Chief Officers at meeting on 14th March 2019, once decided can look at budget in June 2019.

Actions:

- **Options Appraisal for Chair to be prepared to include views of VAWP in relation to these options to go to Chief Officers – Maggie Hume/Pamela McBride**
- **Paper to help with gathering VAWP member's opinions to be sent to Pamela McBride – Donald Buntain**

6. Quality Standards Improvement Plan

This has been assumed into the Master VAW Plan which was circulated to the Operational Group by Maggie Hume.

Action:

- **Circulate updated plan to VAWP members – Pamela McBride**

7. Progress Reports from Sub Groups

Dates for Sub groups should have been scheduled before the VAWP meeting. Not done as the VAWP meeting date was scheduled to fall before the Chief Officers meeting date in March 2019. Future Sub group meetings will fall prior to VAWP meeting.

7a. Sexual Violence Group

Email update to be provided following next meeting on 20th March 2019.

Action:

- **Email Update – Maggie Hume/Pamela McBride**

7b. Operational Group

5 matters arising:

1. HIMOG – OG want to bring this back as soon as possible to share best standards but need a small budget for it. Costs should be minimal, (VC and room hire on occasion). Agreed in principal but Craig Thomson to prepare plan and budget proposal for this which can be discussed at the Extraordinary Meeting in June 2019. It will need to be a year on year decision as no regular funding available for this.

Actions:

- **Advise Craig Thomson of preparation of proposal for June meeting date - Kate Blowers**
- 2. CAMHS – agreed with Wendy Van Reit that Maggie Hume would deliver training within CAMHS, Wendy also gave OG useful information on the process and referral procedures within CAMHS.
- 3. Equally Safe – this pilot is going ahead. Murdo MacDonald will be asked to attend August meetings to speak about the project to both the VAWP and the OG.

Action:

- **Discuss with Murdo MacDonald possibility of speaking at August meetings and if available arrange room times – Jacquelyn Jennett/Gail Waters**
- 4. Training – take up is low so the partners have been requested to promote the training programmes, flyer available for the MARAC Practice Day in Inverness on 13th March 2019.

Actions:

- **Re-send out 2019/2020 training calendar – Gail Waters**
- **Promote MARAC Practice Day on 13th March 2019 by sending round team and displaying posters – All**
- 5. MARAC – highlighting the lack of Deputy Chairs, currently no deputy in Inverness. Eilidh Moir circulated information on Chair training and 13 people have shown interest in this.

7c. Perpetrators Subgroup

Email update to be provided following meeting on 26th February 2019

Action:

- **Email Update – Pamela McBride**

7d. Prevention & Early Intervention Sub Group

Email update will be provided by Maggie Hume following meeting on 15th February 2019

Action:

- **Email Update – Maggie Hume**

8. Future Chair Options

Discussed at 5 above.

9. Feedback From/To Chief Officers Group

Discussed at 5 above.

10. AOB

(a) Ask Me – CASWA/LWA Project – presentation given by Cathy Russell and Cathie Way.

Action:

- **Presentation and Flyer to be circulated with Draft Minutes – Gail Waters**

(b) Department of Health's Annual Report on ACEs – presentation given by Sally Amor.

Action:

- **Presentation to be circulated with Draft Minutes – Gail Waters**

(c) VAWP Guidance Self-Assessment – Discussion as to whether this should be redone this year as it has been a few years and advice is complete every three years.

Action:

- **Canvas some dates for a Development Day – Pamela McBride**

(d) Launch of Online Survey for Views of Women in the Highlands and Islands – Hailey Maxwell has requested assistance with distributing printed materials and the link for this to reach survivors who did not attend the focus groups, so that their views can be utilised to build future services. It was suggested that this go through HTSI who can send it on to the third sector and on the Police Twitter feed. The link was with the papers for the meeting.

Action:

Distribute link – All

Feedback to Hailey Maxwell – Pamela McBride

11. Date of Future Meetings

28th August 2019

20th November 2019 agreed as a substitute to 21st November 2019.