

**Equally Safe in Further and Higher Education: Note of Sub Group meeting regarding Fresher's Week and parallel college arrangements held on Wednesday, 15 August 2018 at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh**

**Present:** Gareth Allen, Harry Wood and Steven Paxton, Scottish Government, Sean Bookless, Young Scot, Anni Donaldson, University of Strathclyde, Mrs Fiona Drouet, Emily Test, Suzanne Marshall, College Development Network and Kathryn Dawson, Rape Crisis Scotland.

**Apologies:** Jill Stevenson, AMOSSHE, Vic Valentine, Equality Network and Lydia Okroj, Scottish Women's Aid.

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting of 8 June 2018 were approved.

**2. Matters Arising**

Gareth Allen advised that matters arising will be addressed through the topics on the agenda.

**3. Additional Work around Equally Safe in Further and Higher Education: Regional Events and Learning**

Gareth Allen advised that Deputy First Minister had approved the additional funding for the regional events and learning and that University of Strathclyde had agreed to undertake the work. He welcomed additional comments on the paper which had been issued.

Event Brite will be used to promote the events. Mrs Drouet advised, following her meeting with Mr Sam Gyimah MP, that a similar approach had been adopted in England and that she would also be meeting with Universities UK to outline the approach taken in Scotland. The importance of the timings of the events was emphasised as was the importance of bringing together the different sectors - colleges, universities and the third sector in dialogue.

The importance of creating a usable resource for colleges and universities from this work (together with the learning from the Rapid Review and linkages to the work of the Violence Reduction Unit and Bystander Programmes) was emphasised which would contribute a consistency of approaches across the sector to Fresher's weeks and the start of the college year.

Mrs Drouet indicated that she was happy to share her own story and experience at the events and advised that she would be meeting the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) in the near future.

It was suggested that the Sub-Group meet again in early to mid-October. Steven Paxton will be touch to organise this.

**Action:** Steven Paxton will contact group members for another meeting of the Group in October 2018.

#### **4. Presentation: Young Scot**

Sean Bookless, Information Services Manager Young Scot (<https://www.youngscot.org/>) gave a presentation on his work and Young Scot's engagement with young people through a range of digital and on-line media. Young Scot had recently worked with the Scottish Government on Period Poverty and in his presentation Sean emphasised the importance of young people's participation in creating content, their authenticity and the importance of longer lead in times for projects.

He provided a number examples of Young's Scot's work including work around young parenthood and work with refugees in Glasgow. Sean agreed to send links to these to members of the Sub-Group.

It was agreed to invite Sean to the next meeting of the Sub-Group for a further presentation and discussion around a possible competition for Fresher's Weeks and the start of the college year in 2019.

**Action:** Steven Paxton to organise the next meeting of the Sub-Group and invite Sean to attend.

The meeting ended at 3pm.