

Equally Safe in Further and Higher Education: Note of Sub-Group meeting regarding Fresher's Week and parallel colleges arrangements held on Friday, 8 June 2018 at 13:00 hours in St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Present: Gareth Allen and Steven Paxton (Scottish Government), Duncan McKay, Universities Scotland, Ann Gow (Universities and Colleges Union), Mrs Fiona Drouet (Emily Test), Suzanne Marshall (College Development Network), Shuwana Aaron (NUS Scotland), Lydia Okroji (Scottish Women's Aid) and Jill Stevenson (AMOSSHE) (by telephone).

Apologies: Anni Donaldson (University of Strathclyde), Cara Spence (LGBT Youth Scotland) and Vic Valentine (Equality Network).

1 Minute of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting of 12 April 2018 were approved.

2. Regional Workshops

Steven Paxton explained that at the first meeting of the Fresher's Week Sub Group on 12 April 2018 it was concluded that there was a need to bring together learning, which will inform awareness campaigns and action for the future. In that regard a regional approach was proposed (East, East and Highland and Islands) with inputs around current practice around awareness campaigns, from within and external to the HE/FE sector; resources from the Toolkit; local partnership working; and key messages. Ideally, FE and HE institutions would host the Workshops.

The Sub Group discussed the timing of the events, bearing in mind the start of the college year in August, Fresher's weeks in September, re-Fresher's weeks in January and starting dates for some Masters and Post Graduate courses. Attendees should not only include FE and HE institutions but also local partner organisations (including Scottish Women's Aid), Student's Unions and those already running campaigns such as Zero Tolerance Scotland. VAWG Partnerships should also be invited as they will have an in depth knowledge of local services and connections in the third and public sector. The College Development Network (CDN) and the Phase 2 Review, would be able to provide information on what Colleges and Universities are currently doing in relation to activities around Equally Safe.

It would be helpful at the events to agree a key message or set of messages which would supplement or complement what was already going on. Messages should, however, include an emphasis on by-stander and early intervention. It is important that those present from institutions explain the key messages around any campaigns they are running to assist our learning.

The pre-entry stage to FE and HE was recognised as important. In that regard UCAS (<https://www.ucas.com/>) should be invited to the events. Steven explained that he and Gareth has discussed the current review of Personal and Social Education with Education Scotland and this would be the subject of a presentation to the next full meeting of the Working Group in August. The CDN's Guidance Development Network would be meeting in the near future and there is a lot of work going on in the College

Sector around keeping students safe (for example the work at Ayrshire College and Glasgow Kelvin Colleges' Resilience Tool). It was also important that the voices of LGBTI Groups are heard.

The Sub-Group discussed the practicalities organising these events. It was suggested that the University of Strathclyde, given that they are currently working on the adoption and roll out of the Tool Kit, would be best placed to undertake this work.

Action: Gareth Allen and Steven Paxton to (a) contact the University of Strathclyde to ascertain if they would be willing to take in this additional work with a view to Workshops potentially being held in October/November 2018; (b) develop further the brief for the execution of this work; and (c) make contact with the appropriate UCAS officer and for invitation to the Workshops

3. Any Other Business

It was noted that Ms Gillian Martin MSP had advised the Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science of a project she had supported with students from North East Scotland College who had created a short films about sexting and sharing intimate images on social media. The idea of a competition for college and university students, to produce a short film on equally safe, has been suggested.

The Sub-Group welcomed this idea, noting that a similar approach had been taken with regard to tackling sectarianism by Nil By Mouth. This would be good for student engagement and the film could also be screened at film clubs. It was noted that Film House Education, Edinburgh was already working with Edinburgh Napier University and Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh. There could be a role for Creative Scotland in this type of work.

Action: Gareth Allen and Steven Paxton to follow up.

4. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that Steven Paxton would contact members to seek suitable dates at the end of July and beginning of August for the next meeting of the Sub-Group.

The meeting ended at 13:55