



Covid 19 Response Forum
Thursday 20th August 2020
1pm – 3pm
Zoom Meeting

Present:

Claire Bernard (CB) Chairperson	CVS Falkirk and District
Alan Robertson	Social Security Scotland
Barry Jordan (BJ)	LGBT Youth Scotland
Chris Grant (CG)	Ability Net
Claire Houston (CH)	NHS Forth Valley
Claire Strong (CS)	Neighbourhood Networks
Carol Wylie (CW)	Cycling Without Age Scotland
Dan Rous (DR)	Our Place Camelon/Tamfourhill
Duncan Hearsom (DH)	Dial-a-Journey
Elaine Hill (EH)	CSREC
Elaine Morrison (EM)	People's Church Falkirk
Fiona Ellis (FE)	Arrivo Consulting
Fiona Welsh (FW)	Christians Against Poverty
Gilly McWhirter (GMc)	Bo'ness & Blackness Community Response
Hannah Gray (HG)	Strathcarron Hospice
John Hosie (JH)	Our Place Camelon/Tamfourhill
Lesley MacArthur (LMac)	Health and Social Care Partnership
Madelene Hunt (MH)	Bo'ness Community Council
Maggie McAlpine (MMc)	Central Advocacy Partners
Maranda Wilson (MW)	Falkirk Council
Martin Allen (MA)	Forth Valley Sensory Centre
Petra Wright (PW)	Hepatitis C Trust
Sandra Lyon (SLy)	The Conservation Volunteers
Sarah Murray (SMu)	Royal Voluntary Service
Sarah McHardie (SMc)	Families Outside
Steve McQueen (SMc)	Sustainable Thinking Scotland
Susan Docherty (SD)	Falkirk & Clackmannanshire Carers Centre
Vikki Wilson (VW)	Samaritans
Wendy McDougall	Healthcare Improvement Scotland
Winnie Delaney (WD)	Aberlour



1. Welcome and Introductions

CB introduced herself, welcomed forum members present and advised the meeting is being recorded via zoom. Introductions were made by forum attendees.

CB advised FE from Arrivo Consulting has joined the forum today to observe the meeting as she will be leading on the monitoring and evaluation pilot work which was previously going to be the link worker role. Monitoring and evaluation of the third sector activity, outcomes and achievements will be carried out to try and raise the profile of the work of third sector throughout Covid – 19; part of this work will look at our Health and Social Care funded activities to help with reporting etc.

2. Forum Updates

CB advised the meeting would focus on what organisation need in relation to renewal and recovery and to allow participants to discuss any challenges faced.

2.1 CVS Falkirk

CVS Falkirk's CEO Jen Kerr is leaving the organisation to take up a role within Community Planning with Falkirk Council; she will have a Managers role which involves the third sector and working with the TSI.

2.2 Scottish Government Ministerial Visit

The Scottish Government Ministerial Visit to CVS Falkirk offices was due to take place at the start of the week, this visit has been postponed due to SG having other priorities. An update will be provided when a new date is agreed.

2.3 CVS Falkirk Board Recruitment

CVS Falkirk are looking to recruit new Directors. An advert will be promoted via our e-bulletin, website and Linked In profile. We currently have a real diverse Board, with a mix of genders and ages as well as working people which is great but can also bring challenges for those people being able to attend meeting.

3. Forum Discussion around Covid-19

Forum members discussed returning to office working environments and shared their experiences, with some of the following points noted:

- Scottish Government has yet to lift the restrictions on shared office working.
- Safety measures such as hand sanitisers have been put in place and bookings are being made before anyone is able to visit offices.
- Other safety measures such as moving furniture around to suit social distancing has been carried out.
- Some organisations are not planning on returning to the offices any time soon and staff will continue to work from home.



- CVS Falkirk will not have a full return to office working until at least January, although we are working towards introducing safety measures to ensure the environment is for some staff to return.
- Strathcarron Hospice has a Befriending service available for people who are not confident in going out into the Community so they have volunteers who can be matched up to people who may wish to be accompanied to the supermarket etc.

MH joined the meeting at 1.45pm.

WD received an email from the Independent Food Aid Network asking to complete a survey around providing food parcels during covid-19. No other forum members present received this email.

Action: WD to forward the email to CB.

WMc provided an update on Community Engagement. Workstreams, including virtual visiting and engaging differently are being promoted via social media:

- the [Community Engagement website](#)
- the related [Engaging Differently](#) web content
- [NHSGG&C video](#) highlighting the virtual visiting initiative

Also informed members that the [Connecting Scotland phase 2 has been officially launched](#).

AR advised of a new Job Start Payment which is a one-off payment of £250 available to young people in Scotland who are on certain benefits and need help with the costs of starting a new job. A person must meet all of the criteria detailed in the following link <https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/what-we-do/stakeholder-resources/job-start-payment>

4. Support from TSI

CB asked forum members in terms of what is needed for returning to work, is there anything from the TSI that could help with making connections with partners or other organisations? No support requests were raised.

A query was raised around sterilising premises. This would be down to the individual premise, although most premises have a deep clean once a week with staff ensuring cleaning procedures and safety measures are taking place daily with use of hand sanitiser etc.

Action: CVS Falkirk will upload the Scottish Government guidance onto our website.

5. Future of Forum

An email will be circulated to forum members to get input into the future of forum meeting days and time and whether every 2 weeks is still suitable for people to attend.

Action: CVS Falkirk will circulate forum meeting email to members.



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