

**BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME BOARD
MEETING 3, 27 FEBRUARY 2014, 13:30 – 15:30
Gorbals Parish Church, Glasgow**

Membership

Moi Ali	Scottish Police Authority
Jackie Brock	Children in Scotland
DCC Rose Fitzpatrick	Police Scotland
Paul Johnston	Scottish Government (Chair)
Rev. Martin Johnstone	Poverty Truth Commission
Karyn McCluskey	Violence reduction Unit
Prof. Susan McVie	Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research
ACO Lewis Ramsay	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Wendy Wilkinson	Scottish Government

In Attendance

Lorna Ascroft	Scottish Government
Duncan Beamish	Scottish Government
Kirsty Bosley	Scottish Government
David Cowan	Scottish Government
Douglas Krestoff	Scottish Government
Tom McMahon	Scottish Government
Shalani Raghavan	Scottish Government
Richard Whetton	National Advisor

Apologies

Lesley Fraser	Scottish Government
Donald Henderson	Scottish Government
David Hume	Scottish Police Authority
Bob Jack	SOLACE

Item 1 – Welcome

1. Paul Johnston welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Martin Johnstone for hosting.
2. Members reflected on the positive experience of attending Bridging the Gap's Big Thursday event prior to the meeting. Bridging the Gap epitomises the assets based approach the programme wishes to promote; it recognises the capacity of local people to transform their community.

Item 2 - Update

3. Tom McMahon highlighted progress since the last meeting, noting:
 - a. The Advisory Group supported the programme's approach of proceeding to action quickly, harnessing the potential in communities and local workforces and concentrating on the 15% most deprived communities. The Programme's 2020 vision for neighbourhoods had been adopted by City of Edinburgh Council.

- b. Analysis had been completed to underpin the programme's stretch aim.
 - c. A review of Total Place approaches in Scotland had been published.
 - d. The 2012-13 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) findings will be published on 7 March.
 - e. Detailed Phase 2 scoping was underway, covering road safety, home safety, water safety and fire safety.
 - f. The programme's online presence had been successfully re-launched with increased web traffic and the launch of a popular blog.
4. The following points were noted in the discussion that followed:
- The stretch aim was agreed, subject to any developments arising from the SCJS. It should have sub-aims and there should be a focus on repeat victimisation.
 - The next stage in scoping phase 2 of the programme is to analyse the data available and establish a multi-agency working group to progress this work in parallel with phase 1. This group should consider how widely unintentional harm should be defined in the context of the programme. It should be wide enough to engage health (e.g., drugs, alcohol) but not so wide as to make the scope unmanageable (e.g., obesity).
 - Martin Johnstone raised the idea of community mentors, where Board members would be paired with users of their services in our poorest communities. Mentoring relationships could also be established with experts out-with Board members' immediate field of work (e.g., hospital consultants). The idea is to meet monthly over a six month period to learn from your mentor's perspective on local issues, local aspirations and how services are received locally. Board members were enthusiastic about the idea.

AGREEMENT: The Board agreed the stretch aim to reduce the cumulative number of victims of crime by 250,000 by 2017-18, subject to anything in the 2012-13 SCJS indicating the need to revisit this.

ACTION POINT 1: The SCJS findings should be discussed by the Board at a future meeting, with a focus on the implications of the findings for the work of the programme.

ACTION POINT 2: The 2020 Vision document should be shared with Board members. Members to consider what use might be made of this within their own organisations. [Document circulated with these minutes]

ACTION POINT 3: Programme Office to circulate the Total Place review to members and a presentation on Total Place to be scheduled for a future meeting. [Report circulated with these minutes]

ACTION POINT 4: Lewis Ramsay to lead on the establishment of a multi-agency working group to progress Phase 2 scoping work and analyse data on unintentional injury.

ACTION POINT 5: Board members to register their interest in community mentoring with Duncan Beamish (duncan.beamish@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) in advance of the next meeting so that arrangements can be made.

Item 3 – Proposals

5. Tom McMahon introduced Paper 3.5 setting out proposals for (a) a national team and (b) place-based activity. The national team would help coordinate national activity, increasing collaboration and reducing duplication. The place-based activity will overlay a range of data to help us identify a number of areas where we could offer additional support and test innovative approaches.
6. The following points were noted in the discussion that followed:
 - It will be important to link in with Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) and consider places already identified in Single Outcome Agreements when identifying place-based activity. A range of data sources should be drawn upon.
 - It is important to ask local communities and local partners what constitutes a natural neighbourhood or community rather than imposing our own boundaries, whilst recognising the practical implications of data areas.
 - We should look to offer areas something unique that will enhance their existing work, such as improvement science. We should look to partner with What Works Scotland and might brand our activity as part of this.
 - Our approach should be bottom up, not just top down. We need to engage local communities, community and third sector organisations, local commanders, local senior officers, and local authorities. It is something people have to be keen to be part of, not something imposed on them.
 - We may draw up a longer list of places than we intend to support at this stage as there will be places where the timing or local conditions are not right at this point in time.
 - It is important that this work is not seen as centralist or usurping local arrangements. We need to be sensitive to local circumstances.
 - We should look for local organisations to lead the place-based activity rather than it always being led by the public sector. It is likely there will be a range of different models.
 - We may not wish to choose the ‘best’ places but chose a range of places that will help us to test different approaches. We will want to choose places where there is a strong local motivation to transform the area.
 - We should keep in mind how the place-based activity will help us deliver the programme’s 2020 Vision and the programme’s stretch aim.

- We should build on what is already being developed locally. We should also explore whether successful approaches can grow organically outwards to neighbouring areas.
 - Consideration should be given to identifying a pot of money that could be used to train local volunteers and build in evaluation. There are a number of regeneration funding streams which should be investigated.
 - We should engage with the Scottish Funders Forum and big funders, not just for the potential funding but to access the wealth of knowledge they have accumulated through years of working with deprived communities.
 - We should be creative in what constitutes a 'place' for this work. A prison may be one of the areas selected to work with given the contribution this could make to delivering the programme's aim.
 - The Board should follow up with SOLACE to consider how best to engage local authorities on this work.
7. The Board agreed that the following should be part of any **selection criteria** for the place-based activity:
- Activity should build on what is already happening in local communities;
 - Some activity should be within the 5% most deprived communities in Scotland given there is little residential turnover in these areas;
 - Some rural areas should be included not just urban ones. There is often less public sector presence in these areas but many willing volunteers;
 - The demographic profile of victims (e.g. most victims are young men) should influence the areas chosen; and
 - Areas that will have a legacy from the Commonwealth Games might be considered;

AGREEMENT: The Board agreed the proposals for a national team and for place-based activity.

ACTION POINT 6: Martin Johnstone to make initial contact with the Scottish Funders Forum to identify relevant funding sources and how to access their knowledge of local communities, and to invite them to present at a future meeting of the Board.

ACTION POINT 7: The new National Community Safety Team (NCST) should meet swiftly to identify potential areas for place-based activity and a list of these potential areas should be submitted to the Board for consideration at their next meeting on 2 April. [Update – team meetings scheduled for 5 March and 18 March 2014]

ACTION POINT 8: Paul Johnston to speak to Bob Jack about how best to engage with SOLACE and local authorities on this work to ensure good links with CPPs and consistency with SOA priorities.

Item 4 – Planning

8. Members noted the new Risk Register. The following new risk should be added:
- A risk that the Board fails to take sufficient risks, leading to the programme failing to achieve its ambitious vision.

Item 5 – Next steps

9. The Board will next meet on **2 April** (15:00-16:00 at Verity House in Edinburgh) to consider the proposed areas for place-based activity. It will then meet on **17 June** (13:30-15:30, venue tbc). Dates for August, October and December will be circulated shortly.

Building Safer Communities Programme Office

March 2014

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

- 1: The SCJS findings should be discussed by the Board at a future meeting, with a focus on the implications of the findings for the work of the programme.**
- 2: The 2020 Vision document should be shared with Board members. Members to consider what use might be made of this within their own organisations. [completed]**
- 3: Programme Office to circulate the Total Place review to members [completed] and a presentation on Total Place to be scheduled for a future meeting.**
- 4: Lewis Ramsay to lead on the establishment of a multi-agency working group to progress Phase 2 scoping work and analyse data on unintentional injury.**
- 5: Board members to register their interest in community mentoring with Duncan Beamish so that arrangements can be made.**
- 6: Martin Johnstone to make initial contact with the Scottish Funders Forum to identify relevant funding sources and how to access their knowledge of local communities, and to invite them to present at a future meeting of the Board.**
- 7: The new National Community Safety Team (NCST) should meet swiftly to start to identify potential areas for place-based activity [completed] and a list of these potential areas should be submitted to the Board for consideration at their next meeting on 2 April.**
- 8: Paul Johnston to speak to Bob Jack about how best to engage with SOLACE and local authorities on this work to ensure good links with CPPs and consistency with SOA priorities.**