

The Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group
on Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse

Wednesday 26th August 2020 1.30 pm

Virtual Business Meeting

In attendance

Johann Lamont MSP, Convener, Fulton MacGregor MSP Depute Convener
Anne Macdonald, Co Convener, Janine Rennie, Co Convener, Wellbeing Scotland
Sandra Brown, Treasurer, Moira Anderson Foundation

Stuart Allardyce, Stop it Now Scotland, Emma Bryson, SOS, Lynn Burns, Break the Silence, Andrew Campbell, Dr Sandra Ferguson, NES NHS, Dr Angela Jesudasan, NHS Lothian, Tammy Kirk, Health in Mind, Traci Kirkland, Govan Community Project, Ewan Law, Fife College, Dr Adam Mahoney, Glasgow Caledonian University, Margaret Mitchell MSP, Dr Sarah Nelson, University of Edinburgh, Malcolm Roger, QHSE Advisor & Survivor, Dr Eric Swanepoel, Writer & Researcher, Carol Willson

Apologies

Lorna Ann Deans, Sue Hampson, Safe to Say, Pam Hunter, Say Women, Joy Patrick, KASP, Brian Whittle MSP

Welcome and introductions

Fulton welcomed everyone to our first virtual meeting

Minutes of the last meeting: 22nd January 2020.
Proposed Emma Bryson, Seconded, Lynn Burns.

Matters arising

Responses from Police Scotland and Cabinet Secretary on Animated Film

It was agreed that their correspondence did not answer our concerns and the film appeared to have been designed with a fixed set of outcomes. The animated film did not cover the reality on when survivors report their abuse; there should have been both positive and negative examples to reflect this reality. The use of animation is still questioned, they could have used actors. Discussion on who they consulted with as none of the agencies on the CGP were, nor was the CPG nor the survivors from the SFA Investigation and Inquiry. It was agreed we go back to Police Scotland and the Cabinet Secretary with our response and request they use the expertise of the group in any future initiatives. **Action: Anne to draft letters for Johann and Fulton**

Response from Police Scotland on Removal of Mobile Phones

Again there was discussion on the above. Police Scotland informed us that there has been a review of existing processes and new guidance has been issued to officers in the way they capture and record the informed consent of victims and witnesses. In respect of our call for trauma informed practice, the trained SOLO (Sexual Offence Liaison Officers) have had input on psychological trauma.

There was a positive example of professional and caring treatment by police in the FSA Investigation. **No further action**

NES Trauma Training

This had been brought up in a previous meeting for an agenda item. However we could not recollect under what premise.

Events update

Sadly due to COVID 19 there are no events being held in the parliament for the foreseeable future, therefore our 20th anniversary event celebration is postponed till further notice.

Stop It Now Scotland were to give a presentation on preventing sexual offending involving children and young people. This did not happen due to the cancellation of our last meeting. It was agreed that Stuart can reschedule for one of our future meetings. **Action Anne, Janine and Stuart**

We had invited Lady Dorrian to attend one of our meetings to inform her of our work on behalf of survivors and for her expertise on the Vulnerable Witnesses Act. We agreed Johann should go back to her office and ask if she is still available. Anne will send Johann background information on the CGP. **Action Anne and Johann**

COVID 19 Discussions:

We had a wide ranging discussion on COVID's effects on survivor's physical and mental health, PIP ESA Tribunals, children at risk during lockdown, referral rate increases and impact on staff and volunteers health. Fulton suggested we pull together a paper and collate information gathered from survivors and agencies to be sent to the Scottish government. Andrew and Carol are going to pull together a survey on PIP. We also discussed possible press involvement. The paper will be sent to membership in advance of the next meeting. **Action Fulton, Johann and Anne**

AOCB

Anne reported that the Scottish Government Survivor Fund had been allocated to survivor agencies.

SFA Final Report, Malcolm will inform us once he hears of a date for publication.

KASP 25th anniversary event is postponed due to COVID.

Sandra informed the group that the Moira Anderson Foundation was awarded the Platinum award from Investors in People and is a finalist in SCVO Charity of the Year; Sandra will pass a link if anyone would like to vote on their behalf

Date of next meeting

Late October/November TBC