

Drug & Alcohol Forum Skye, Lochalsh and Wester Ross Forum Notes 28th March 2023

Organisations attending: SLCVO, Police Scotland (Preventions and Interventions Officer), Highland Cares, Ward 5 and 10 Councillors and Assistant Ward Manager, Scottish Alcohol Counselling Consortium, Skye and Lochalsh Young Carers, Plockton High School, Befrienders Skye & Lochalsh, Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association, Support in Mind, Highland Council Care & learning, NHS Highland (Public health Practitioner and Smoke Free Highland)

Apologies: Living Hope, Counselling Care Skye and Lochalsh, Skye and Lochalsh Mental Health Association, Broadford Youth Club, Ward 5 and 10 Councillors and Ward Manager, Highlife Highland Ullapool Youth Development Officer, Kyle and Kyleakin Primary Schools, Portree High School, UHI West Highland (Broadford), Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership

- The purposes in the Terms of Reference were updated to include ‘Facilitate training’ and the document was signed-off by participants
- The group identified a number of areas where they feel the Forum could work together:
 - Engagement with young people (prevention, early intervention, child protection, education, youth groups)
 - Support for parents/families (family leaning)
 - Support for adults, particularly around alcohol - there has been an increase in harm from alcohol since Covid-19 pandemic, issues are more complex and alcohol deaths is increasing
 - Engagement with employers especially in hospitality where there seems to be a culture of alcohol (finish shift and go for a drink). For lots of young people hospitality is the first job and they get exposed to this culture. Forum to work with employers so they understand this issues around drugs and alcohol and how to support their employees
 - Identify where people with alcohol & drug issues can get support particularly when in crisis and post-crisis support when people return home
 - Developing incident support networks – being able to tap into collective knowledge
 - Raising the profile of issues around under age vaping
 - Collaborative working to get the best support for the area
- The group identified other organisations /services that should be invited to the forum including representation from:
 - GP Clusters
 - NHS Highland Rural Support Team
 - Hospitals
 - Pharmacists
 - School nurse
 - School counselling services
 - Adult counselling services

- Community Justice Social Worker
- Primary Care Mental Health Team (New Craigs)
- NHS Highland Drug and Alcohol Recovery
- Housing Options Officers (HOO) in Skye, Lochalsh and Wester Ross
- Service users

ACTION J Ford , Forum Chair, to invite organisations to the next meeting

- It was suggested that as the Forum develops members may want to sit on other Forums from Highland or Scotland to build connections and share experience/learning. The Scottish Alcohol Counselling Consortium can help facilitate this
- It was agreed that a Bulletin is a good way to share information from a central point. Forum members will email SLCVO with information they want to share in the Bulletin. information/updates should be sent to jo.ford@slcvo.org.uk by the following dates for inclusion in the bulletin.
 - Friday 5th May for Bulletin issued on Friday 19th May
 - Friday 7th July for Bulletin issued on Friday 21st July
 - Friday 8th September for Bulletin issued on Friday 22nd September
 - Friday 3th November for Bulletin issued on Friday 17th November
 - Friday 12th January for Bulletin issued on Friday 26th January
 - Friday 8th March for Bulletin issued on Friday 22nd March
- It was agreed to close the legacy bank account and have a short-term working group for this **ACTION** if anyone wants to be part of the sub-group that will close the legacy bank account and look at ways the funds can be used please contact tjo.ford@slcvo.org.uk
- Meeting will be held every 8 weeks online however, there will be opportunities for sub-groups and Forum members to meet in person
 - Tuesday 23rd May 1.00pm - 2.30pm
 - Tuesday 25th July 1.00pm - 2.30pm
 - Tuesday 26th September 1.00pm - 2.30pm
 - Tuesday 21th November 1.00pm - 2.30pm
 - Tuesday 30th January 1.00pm - 2.30pm
 - Tuesday 26th March 1.00pm - 2.30pm

SLCVO Skye and Lochalsh Council
for Voluntary Organisations

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