



Minutes of South East Integration Network Meeting

Tuesday 11th August 2020 - Online

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|-----------------|-------------------------|---|
| Present: | Huda Alarishi | Scottish Arab Women's Association |
| | Ruth Cape | SEIN |
| | Susan Clark | The Dixon Community |
| | Rhiannon Davies | Greater Govanhill |
| | Jola Dolewska | South Seeds |
| | Farah Khan | Amina MWRC |
| | Penny Macleod | The Well / SEIN |
| | Grace Mark | The Hidden Gardens |
| | Safina Mazhar | Pollokshields Development Agency |
| | Daniel McMahan | Youth Community Support Agency |
| | Angie Mwafulirwa | Scottish African Women's Network / SEIN |
| | Amra Nazim | Govanhill Housing Association |
| | Reginald Oko-Flex Inyah | Migrant Help UK |
| | Mary Rocks | Glasgow Life |
| | Kate Sanderson | Mears Housing |
| | Alex Sarkisian | Glasgow Zine Library |
| | Jackie Stockdale | Glasgow Community Food Network |
| | Annette Smith | Mears Housing |
| | Mary Sneddon | Scottish Ethnic Minority Deaf Club |
| | Anne Strachan | Voluntary Sector Voice |
| | Karolis Toleikis | Bike for Good |

Apologies: Anna Bambridge (Glasgow Southside Woodcraft Folk), Ellie Bather (The Dixon Community), Meg Camley (Home Start Glasgow South / SEIN), Ruth Forsythe (Finn's Place / SEIN), Ama Frempong (YCSA), Godsai (Glendale Women's Café), Grace Gracie (Families Outside), Karen Krawczyk (SEIN), Anne Kinghorn (Mears Housing), Valerie Murray (Co-op Gorbals), Lorna Smith (Mears Housing), Margo Uprichard (The Space), Tracey Young (PATH Scotland)

1. Welcome

Meeting chaired by Angie Mwafulirwa.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Proposed by Alex, Seconded by Jackie

3. Board Update

Penny (SEIN Chair) gave an update from the SEIN Board.

Opportunity to join SEIN Board

We are currently looking for new board members, and hope that this may offer a rewarding opportunity for some new people to help shape the direction of the network. We appreciate that people are often tentative to join a board due to the time involved, however we will do our best to make sure we can work around different time commitments. We would like the board to reflect the diversity of the network, & are not looking for a particular type of person to join. Everyone brings their own skills & experiences, & these are all valuable. It will be a priority for us to offer orientation for new board members, & provide development opportunities with the whole board. Please get in touch if you would like for information / to ask any questions - or pass this opportunity on to others who might be interested. Contact: ruthc@seinglasgow.org.uk, or penny@thewell.org.uk

SEIN AGM

Our AGM will be on Tuesday 8th September, 10am-12noon, on Zoom. We're sorry that the cakes will be on you this time, but we would love to see as many of our members at this as possible – please make a note of the date.

4. Development Worker Update

Digital Communications Training

Natasha Gordon (GCVS) will be delivering a Digital Communications training session for the network, on Thursday 20th August, online, 10am-12noon (the last 30mins will be left open for general HR q&a). There are still spaces available on this, please let Ruth know if you would like to attend (ruthc@seinglasgow.org.uk).

Training with Evaluation Support Scotland

Ruth is discussing training sessions for SEIN members with Evaluation Support Scotland. These will be held online, probably late autumn. More info to come – if you would like to express interest in the meantime, please contact Ruth.

Emerging Futures Fund

Unfortunately, our application to the National Lottery's Emerging Futures Fund wasn't successful. There was high competition for this fund, & we look forward to seeing what comes out of the projects which did secure funding. The process of applying was valuable, however, and Ruth and the SEIN board will keep eyes out for future opportunities. A note to members – if you see opportunities which you think might be worth SEIN applying to, please let Ruth know.

SEIN Zoom Account

A reminder that this is available for SEIN members to use.

Network Meetings

As mentioned last meeting, we are expecting to hold the network meetings online for the time being. It's great to continue to see the high attendance at these, though we know that Zoom isn't ideal in many ways. Your thoughts on what works, or doesn't work, or anything that would make these meetings easier for you, would be very helpful in shaping future meetings. Please send any feedback to Ruth.

Archaeology Scotland – local project opportunity

Archaeology Scotland have been in touch as they have funding to run a project in south Glasgow, offering the opportunity for refugees & asylum seekers (& others from migrant backgrounds who might benefit) to take part in outdoor sessions, which will cover some archaeological techniques and activities such as guided walks, photography and looking at historic maps. The primary focus will be creating a relaxed and safe environment for people to look at, discuss and think about their local heritage and explore their local area. These sessions could look at a wide variety of themes, from food, the history of migration in the Southside, sport and leisure, industry and religion. They are currently at the planning stage & are looking for local community organisations to link with. Contact Kieran for more info:

k.manchip@archaeologyscotland.org.uk

5. Breakout Groups

Meeting attendees broke in to small groups – with the following guiding questions for conversation:

- What positive outcomes have come out of lockdown for you/your work/organisation?
- What is still challenging?
- Have you been able to open up your services with lockdown easing? What has worked? What has been difficult?

6. Updates

Greater Govanhill – Have a new community noticeboard on their website. It has an events listing section, and a space for notices. Just fill out a simple form with your name, organisation, and what you want to share. Although we are Govanhill centric as an organisation, we do cover the surrounding areas as well – so happy to share things happening in nearby areas. We're keen to get lots of things on there, so it becomes a functional noticeboard that people can go to and can find everything happening in one place. Take a look & post your events/notices:

www.greatergovanhill.com/noticeboard

South Seeds – Have now received funding for fuel vouchers, so are able to give people vouchers to top up their gas and electricity meters. We welcome new referrals for this, get in touch if you know anyone struggling (eligibility criteria is quite broad). This is also suitable for people who don't have recourse to public funds (we do gather some personal information, but a national insurance number is not needed, and we don't pass on information). Contact: Jola (07752727457, jola@southseeds.org) or Paul (07752727457, paul@southseeds.org)

If you are aware that any of your clients are with the company Utilita; their application period for warm homes discount closes tomorrow (12th August).

Glasgow Zine Library – Thanks again to SEIN for the funding which has allowed us to have live captioning and various accessibility measures for our online events for this month and next month. We are working with Rumpus Room on zine making activity

packs for kids – these will be available to pick up from our Govanhill location (636 Cathcart Road) in the coming weeks. We're currently taking donations for any kind of craft material. If anyone has a surplus craft material or know of others who might be able to donate, please get in touch: glasgowzinelibrary@gmail.com

Amina MWRC – Thanks also to SEIN for the funding. Highlighting the Amina Helpline number (0808 801 0301); this provides a confidential listening ear, and befriending, in Urdu/Punjabi. We also offer a chat service on our website, and are running a digital inclusion programme. Please refer anyone that you know that may need support with isolation. Contact: farah@mwrc.org.uk (Please also follow @aminamwrc on Instagram).

Music Broth – We have set up online guitar lessons, [available on Eventbrite](#) – this is part of our Band Together workshop, which is particularly aimed at supporting adults who are isolated (we've been able to do this through SEIN funding - thanks). We're involved in the Govanhill Street Music Festival, & will be supporting musicians to access music equipment. This will take place on Sunday 30th August, and will be in line with social distancing measures.

We're still running our [instrument delivery service](#), which has been really successful. We're particularly interested in receiving and referrals from asylum seekers and refugees. Our fliers have been translated in to several different languages, & have been going out in food parcels (linking with the Kinning Park Complex, Mutual Aid & Refuweegee).

We're going to be doing more work with Families Outside (with funding from the Area Partnership), and we're going to be launching new branding and a new website later in the year.

Migrant Help UK – Our Move On service has continued to help service users prepare for the steps they need to take to successfully move on from asylum support throughout Covid. Our positivemoveon@migranthelpuk.org inbox is ready to help with issues relating to move on. Our Helpline service has improved a lot, and waiting times are currently under 3 minutes (0808 8010 503). We are encouraging people not to call on Mondays or around 1pm, as these are currently the busiest times.

We will be launching our commissioning framework again soon, where we give subcontracts to organisations to provide support. We're looking for organisations like yourselves who would like to apply to deliver services – it would be good to get organisations within Scotland, as we haven't got any at the moment. Contact: reginald.okoflex@migranthelpuk.org

Bike for Good – The Scottish Government has released [a bicycle repair scheme](#) that gives out vouchers for up to £50 to get an old bicycle repaired (can be used for parts or labour). Bike for Good will be taking part in the scheme from the 1st of September (some other bike shops are already running the service).

YCSA – We had a very successful Summer Programme, which allowed us to do developmental work for young people, as well as playing games and sports and arts and crafts together (all outdoors).

We also have few new programmes which are starting up: 'Healthy Young Minds', a new counselling and art therapy project working with 10-16 year olds in schools. The climate challenge funded 'Mending Our Planet' is recruiting new volunteers, including Climate Ambassadors. Our Youth Panel have been feeding into consultations, including on hate crime and advising YCSA on their social media. We also have our Homework Club starting up from the end of August/start of September, which will be providing dedicated support for Maths and English. Also, a new guitar tuition project will be starting up very soon, and we are recruiting volunteers and delivering guitars for this.

The Dixon Community (Glasgow South East Carers Centre) – Susan (Young Carer Education Worker for Glasgow South East) can assist with information on how to identify young carers & how to make a referral for support: I am acutely aware that during lockdown a number of young people have suffered from mental health issues, and know there are many young carers out there struggling who have not come forward to receive the support they have a right to. Encouraging as many local community contacts as possible to take advantage of the support I can offer.

I can offer short training sessions, via Zoom, suitable for staff within your organisation & for young people who may access the services you currently provide. Alternatively, I can send you a range of information & digital resources, on how to raise awareness within your organisation.

Should you identify a Young Carer in your organisation the referral process has been streamlined to make it easy for you or the young person:

- Firstly, make sure parental consent has been granted.
- Call The Carers Information Line on 0141 353 6504 OR [complete the online referral form](#)

Contact Susan, or see [Your Support Your Way](#), for more information about what a young carer is, and what support is available: susan.clark@dixoncommunity.org.uk

We would like to encourage you to follow us and like, share and retweet information that may be relevant to the young people accessing your service. Twitter: @dixon_east / Facebook @TheDixonCommunity.

Govanhill Housing Association – Govanhill Housing Association's non-essential services are targeted to start after 14th September however this is subject to Scottish Government guidelines.

The Hidden Gardens – The Hidden Gardens are open and [free to visit through pre-booking](#). Opening hours for August are: Tue: 2-4pm / Thu: 10am-12pm and 2-4pm / Fri: 2-4pm and 5-7pm / Sat: 11am-1pm and 2-4pm

Updates in absence

PATH Scotland – We are working with BME Women through the Lifeskills and Employability project. This support is available via telephone or online. We have put distancing & hygiene measures in place to enable us to have one-to-one meetings in our office, once the Scottish Government indicates that this is possible. In addition we provide one-to-one employability support for BME clients looking for support

with job search, applications forms, interview skills etc. Contact:

tracey@pathscotland.org.uk

Glasgow Southside Woodcraft Folk - Woodcraft Folk is back on in Queen's Park from Wednesday 19th August, 5.30-6.45. We are a non-religious group open to all. It is free for children who are seeking asylum or who are refugees. We build confidence and international friendship through cooperative games and fun activities. For 5-12 year olds. We also have volunteering opportunities for anyone interested in working with young people. [See our website](#), or contact Anna (07866813330) for more info.

Gorbals Coop – Valerie Murray is new in post for the Gorbals foodstore and Funeralcare Bridgeton - supporting Coop colleagues, members and local causes to improve our communities. Coop are encouraging not-for-profit organisations, who provide people access to food within the community to partner with their local Coop and sign up to FoodShare. The local store would then give products that are going out of date to local community groups at the end of the day to minimise food waste, providing food to people who need it most. Applications are made online and are processed in approximately 4 weeks. [Please follow the link to sign up for FoodShare](#) and feel free to share this with your community partners who provide food within the local community. Contact: valerie.murray@coopmembers.co.uk

Mears Housing – Update from Anne Kinghorn regarding Mears' asylum seeker housing:

- We are currently using 4 hotels, all in the city centre.
- We are likely to be in contingency until at least the end of the year.
- All the Hallmark residents have relocated to self contained accommodation; received specific appropriate counselling and met with a group comprising a member of the MEARS Residential Welfare Team, a member of GCC Social Work and a member of the SRC prior to relocation to understand their needs and work with them to support the transfer. All of the SUs have contact with a RWM – if they wish.
- Another 70 people have been moved out of the other hotels on the basis of the length of time they have already been in hotel accommodation or their known vulnerability.
- Work continues to relocate residents to self contained accommodation as and when property becomes available
- It is hoped that people who have been granted status will now be able to transfer to LA accommodation as and when more offices and services start to return from lockdown.
- All new arrivals to Glasgow, other than, families or vulnerable cases will be accommodated in the hotels. At the moment we not have any routing but walk in cases are being accommodated. As you probably know, Glasgow has a high number of self presentations.
- SRC are working to provide community information about locally based organisations to the residents in the hotels which people may be interested as they can provide additional support. These meetings are arranged for this week in 2 city centre locations.

Contact Anne if you have any questions, or would like clarification:
anne.kinghorn@mearshousing.co.uk

7. AOCB

Hardship Funds

Farah requested details of any hardship funds which are available at the moment.
Contact: farah@mrwc.org.uk

Suggestions from the meeting:

Aberlour Urgent Assistance Fund for children & families (not always available)

Buttle Grant for families with children or children without support

8. Dates of Next Meetings

Tuesday 8th September (AGM)

Tuesday 13th October