



Minutes of South East Integration Network Meeting

Tuesday 14th July 2020 - Online

Present:	Huda Alarishi	Scottish Arab Women's Association
	Jacqueline Allan	Home Start Glasgow South
	Marzanna Antoniak	Govanhill Thriving Places
	Donna Borokinni	Food for Life Get Togethers
	Tracey Burns	Families Outside
	Ruth Cape	SEIN
	Jola Dolewska	South Seeds
	Sovay Fitzpatrick	We Are With You
	Paul Forrest	The National Lottery Community Fund
	Ruth Forsythe	Finn's Place / SEIN
	Paul Gallacher	South Seeds
	Dee Gildea	The National Lottery Community Fund
	Godsal	Glendale Women's Café
	Grace Gracie	Families Outside
	Ruth Hunter	Glasgow Life
	Kim Jasven	Urban Roots
	Hannah Justad	Glasgow Connected Arts Network
	Chinyanta Kabaso	Youth Community Support Agency
	Karen Krawczyk	SEIN
	Penny Macleod	The Well / SEIN
	Grace Mark	The Hidden Gardens
	Allison McKenna Breen	Health Improvement Team
	Angie Mwafulirwa	Scottish African Women's Network / SEIN
	Mary Rocks	Glasgow Life
	Nadine Sloan	Families Outside
	Jackie Stockdale	Glasgow Community Food Network
	Mary Sneddon	Scottish Ethnic Minority Deaf Club
	Anne Strachan	Voluntary Sector Voice
	Emma Straughan	Scottish Association for Mental Health
	Fariha Thomas	Youth Community Support Agency
	Karolis Toleikis	Bike for Good
	Chris Yeoh	Glasgow Zine Library
	Ruta Zalpaite	Empower Women for Change

Apologies: Elio Ajmone (We Are With You), Fiona Boyd (The Space), Meg Camley (Home Start Glasgow South), Susan Clark (Dixon Community Carers Centre), Natasha Gordon (GCVS), Naeema Hafeez (Amina MWRC), Anne Kinghorn (Mears Group), Yasmine Masood (Diversity Arts), Safina Mazhar (PDA), Stephanie McCulloch (Health Improvement Team), Kirsty McDonald (The Alliance), Reginald Oko-Flex Inya (Migrant Help), Magdalena Ross (Police Scotland), Felix Slavin (Music Broth), Lorna Smith (Mears Group)

1. Welcome

Meeting chaired by Ruth Forsythe – all welcomed.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Proposed by Tracey Burns, Seconded by Anne Strachan

3. Board Update

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

Hotels

Since asylum seekers in Mears accommodation were moved to hotels at the beginning of lockdown, we have been making sure we have kept SEIN members informed about what's happening & communicating concerns to Mears Group. Contact Ruth C if there is anything you would like to follow up on. We would like to acknowledge the hard work that many organisations have been doing to support people through this whole situation, and particularly following the events of 26th June.

Funding

We have put in an application to the National Lottery Community Fund to cover our Development Worker salary & other running costs. We've been told that we should hear about this by the end of October.

We have recently distributed our second round of small grants – Ruth C will send round a summary of funded projects to members shortly.

SEIN Board

We're very fortunate with the SEIN board – who communicate & work well together. However, it will be time for some of the current board members to move on quite soon. We also want to bring more talent on to the board & broaden the demographic to represent as much of the network as possible. We will be sending out information about this soon. Please have a think about whether you, or someone you know, would be interested in joining (this does require a bit of time & commitment, but not too much & can work around your other commitments). We are keen to welcome people from different backgrounds, with different skill sets. No previous board experience is necessary, and all new board members will receive training.

Review & Evaluation

We hope to carry out some evaluation work with SEIN members over the next month or so. We will be in touch to have a short conversation about what you value about the network, what you would like the network's priorities to be going forward, etc.

Resources Library / Black Lives Matter

Ruth C has highlighted the SEIN library in her emails, which include several anti-racism resources. The BLM movement has been helpful in highlighting the need for

more engagement & conversations around these issues, and we are committed to addressing these seriously as a board. We intend to have ongoing discussions about what it means to be anti-racist as a board – so we can support & enable this further within the network.

4. Development Worker Update

Training Session with Natasha (GCVS)

Natasha Gordon unfortunately had to cancel her slot to present at this meeting & sends her sincere apologies to everyone attending. She has offered instead to give a free training session. A poll was taken to gauge preferences for a range of topics. Digital Communications was the most popular. Ruth C will be in touch to arrange this for a date in August – those attending this network meeting will be given priority. If anyone has any specific employment law/health & safety related questions, you can contact Natasha at natasha.gordon@gcvs.org.uk.

Annual Leave

Note that Ruth C will be on annual leave for the last two weeks of July.

Emerging Futures Fund

We have put in an application to the National Lottery's 'Emerging Futures Fund' (funding for projects which explore how communities have responded to Covid, sharing their stories & learning). If successful, our project would offer the opportunity for some SEIN member groups to work with Media Co-op & The Village Storytelling Centre – for training on basic filmmaking & telling your story. The project would culminate in creating a short film together. We'll hear about this by the end of the month – for now, a heads up that this opportunity may be available to your group. Thanks to Godsall for flagging up this opportunity.

SEIN Library

As Penny mentioned, we have a small library of books which are available for anyone to borrow. There has been more interest in the last month or so, since the rise in awareness around Black Lives Matter. [Have a look at the library](#) & let Ruth C know if you would like to borrow any books. We would like to get more books for the library & would welcome suggestions on books that you would like to see included.

Scottish Refugee Council Survey

The SRC are currently running a survey on the impact of Covid on refugee-assisting organisations. [Follow this link for the survey](#). This is also available in several community languages.

Network Meetings

Thank you to everyone for joining these meetings – it has been great to see such a high attendance, especially since the lockdown. We are anticipating that these will have to be online for the foreseeable future. We were initially viewing the online version as a 'stop gap' until we could return to in-person meetings, however it's clear that we have to embrace these as the norm for the time being (until it's possible for large groups to meet indoors). We're conscious that many of you will

miss meeting in person, and there are elements of the real life meetings that online meeting can't replicate, such as 1-1 connections & relationship building. However, online meetings also offer other opportunities & we would like make sure these meetings provide the best experience possible. We're still learning how to do this, and would really appreciate thoughts & feedback from yourselves.

Two polls were taken to get a sense of what's important about these meetings:

Q: What do you value most about SEIN meetings? (Single Choice)

- Hearing updates from others** (6)
- The opportunity to share your updates** (1)
- Hearing updates from SEIN board/staff** (0)
- Making connections** (8)
- Getting to know others in the network** (5)
- Feeling part of the network** (5)

Q: Would you like to break into smaller groups, for informal chat, as part of the (online) network meetings? (Single Choice)

- Yes** (21)
- No** (8)

5. Updates

South Seeds – Have secured funding to support people who are struggling to top up their gas or electric metres. Will be able to take referrals from the beginning of August. Contact Jola or Paul (Jola: 07752727457 jola@southseeds.org / Paul: 07548334147 paul@southseeds.org)

Families Outside – Nadine is now covering peer support groups within the Glasgow and West area. These are for children & young people (aged 8-18) affected by imprisonment. Continuing to run these every 2 weeks online (usually on a Thursday 4-5pm). One of our young people was selected as a winner of the Children of Prisoners Europe (art) competition. Running family friendly activities in July once a week – online 30min session, for all the family. If you know of any young people or families that could be linked in with Families Outside, send referrals to either Nadine or Tracey (Nadine.sloan@familiesoutside.org.uk / tracey.burns@familiesoutside.org.uk)

Empower Women for Change – Running digital inclusion workshops – online sessions to support development of digital skills; mostly aimed at women from ethnic minority backgrounds in Glasgow but open to all. Flexible in terms of content & timing of sessions. Contact Ruta: ruta@ewfc.org.uk Also running counselling and mental health workshops online (1:1 sessions). New heritage project ('Thistles & Dandelions') has started – we are recruiting for volunteers at the moment (encouraging ethnic minority women to join, but open to all). This project will be focussing on Glasgow women's history in the past 50-100 years. ([Thistles & Dandelions volunteering flyer](#))

Youth Community Support Agency (YCSA) – We have restarted street work in Pollokshields. Summer programme for BME 11-17 year olds has now started outdoors (using former bowling green at Kenmure Street). Contact for the summer programme is Javed (07584281428 javedsattar@ycsa.org.uk). Homework club will be starting once the schools go back – we are trying to recruit new sessional tutors. If anyone knows any qualified English or Maths tutors who would be interested, please get in touch (enquiries@ycsa.org.uk). Exciting new project funded by Comic Relief – called 'YCSA Healthy Young Minds'. For Govanhill & Pollokshields Areas, working with P7s up to S3-4 with local schools providing counselling & art therapy. If anyone is aware of young people who could benefit from this, with anxieties around going back to school, or who may not be referred through the schools, please let us know. Still carrying on providing counselling (by Zoom & on phone). Still doing 1:1 employability work. About to start new employability class, for young people with a reasonable amount of English (but will be an ESOL component) on developing employability skills & confidence – we can take referrals for this.

Chinyanta introduced herself as YCSA's new Development Worker for 'Mending Our Planet' project. So far have focussed on our marketing plan & are getting ready to start doing activities soon. More news will be coming out about this.

Glasgow Life – Update from Ruth Hunter (from the Business & IT centre based at the Mitchell Library) – providing support to anyone wanting to start a business (typically small businesses). This year have been working on a 'Power Up' project – aim is to engage with sole traders & micro businesses who are struggling to adopt digital technology in their business. If you work with anyone who is self-employed, or looking to improve their business digital skills – or if you are a deliverer of digital skills, we would love to hear from you (contact: ruth.hunter@glasgowlife.org.uk / 07483320435). We have compiled a directory of support – if you'd like to be added let us know. Online enquiries service: business@glasgowlife.org.uk

Update from Mary Rocks: Have got 150 ESOL packs to distribute across Glasgow (25 in the South East) – these will be going out later this week. We have an adult literacy tutor who has developed an online 6 week course on health & wellbeing (40min sessions) – not available just now as we don't have the platform, but if any of your organisations would like to have a chat about this, contact Mary (07747000083 / Mary.Rocks@glasgowlife.org.uk)

Scottish Ethnic Minority Deaf Club – Doing really well with online classes. Also doing a weekly ESOL & BSL class for our refugee & asylum seeker members. Doing a fortnightly Saturday online meet-up for all SEMDC members as well, which has its challenges, but people are enjoying it. Doing videos on home energy & food waste. Working in partnership with Home Energy Scotland for referrals. If anyone knows any deaf people from ethnic minority backgrounds who could do with support/connections, please contact: info@semcdc.org.uk

Govanhill Thriving Places – Govanhill Helpline up & running (available in English, Romanian, Czech, Slovak, Urdu, Punjabi). We have compiled a [directory of support services in Govanhill](#) – printed copies have gone to 8,000 households – this was developed in response to the crisis, but we want to keep this directory & release updated versions going forwards. It is possible to refer people for any kind of support that they might need, through our [referral form](#). Working on a digital

inclusion project getting digital devices for adults, with training. Trying to bring free wifi to Govanhill (& Gorbals) – very early stages at the moment. If you work with people in Govanhill, we have a grant scheme open – you can apply as an individual organisation for up to £2,000, or you can apply in partnership (discuss with Marzanna: mantoniak@govanhillha.org). Recently we conducted a survey counting languages in Govanhill which has shown that at least 88 languages are spoken in Govanhill. As a result of this survey, we are starting language meet ups (on Zoom) – the first of these will be Arabic & is happening this Saturday (18th June) at 11am.

Voluntary Sector Voice – For anyone supporting people with food, please send information about current work or future plans regarding the needs of people in food crisis, to manager@glasgowse.foodbank.org.uk or annejb14@gmail.com. Difficulties with halls opening up – if anyone is looking at opening a space & would like to link up with others to share information etc., contact Anne. Voluntary Sector Voice has been the voluntary sector network for the south west of Glasgow for over 10 years. As the South East Voluntary Sector Network hasn't been operating for some time, we have applied for funding to cover the whole of the South – call out for other organisations that might be interested in linking up.

Health Improvement Team – Update on Govanhill Mental Health Support Group: we have been successful in securing a multi-partnership bid, which will have a focus on translation of key mental health resources & the production of podcasts in different languages (in partnership with the Women's Health Network). Through the Support Group, it has become apparent that staff are in need of an online space to share their own experiences, how they're working, the impact of responding to distress etc. Looking to organise the first online peer support session soon. We're beginning to look at formalising supported access to community gardens – to respond to mental health & wellbeing needs within the community. We have been delivering Healthy Minds training to staff & volunteers which have proved to be quite successful. Looking at new forms of delivery for our 'What's the Harm?' training (on self-harm), as well as training on vicarious trauma – will update on these.

Glasgow Zine Library – We were a recipient of the most recent round of SEIN funding, thanks for this. This will be going towards funding access costs for some of our online events in July & August (including live captioning). Also covering activity packs for young people, which we'll be distributing for free – we'll share news about this when it's available. We are operating as a food bank collection point on Monday & Tuesday afternoons, 2-5pm.

Food for Life Get Togethers – The Food for Life Get Togethers programme is a programme about connecting people through food. We're currently looking at ways we can support people to do this safely (online & outdoors). At the moment our Small Grants Scheme is open – you can apply for up to £150. Next deadline is 10th Sept (payment around 24th Sept). Contact: dborokinni@soilassociation.org. A number of cooking resources, recipes etc are [available on our website](#), & you can also [sign up to our newsletter](#).

The Well – We are hoping that we will be able to open up the office again to the public from 23rd July. All volunteers are receiving training in advance of this. Advice lines will continue at the moment as well. If you know anyone needing help,

particularly related to immigration / EEA advice – it would be a good idea to phone in advance for a dedicated appointment (0141 424 4523). We have received funding for family support packs, which will be out by the end of July.

Glasgow Community Food Network – Jackie introduced herself having just started in post as community response officer for the south. Working mainly in Govanhill at the moment (Govanhill Community Development Trust are hosting the post). Role is to try to strengthen and expand partnerships in the area, build community involvement, & form resilient & long-term sustainable food networks & supply systems. Looking forward to linking in with everything everyone is doing.

The Hidden Gardens – Thanks to SEIN for the funding for our Men's Group which will support some of the men to get online & join the Zoom meet ups. The Hidden Gardens will be opening from 16th July, with a [pre-booking system](#). Can book for a 2hour time slot – max 30 people at a time – opportunity to visit a quiet green space, as aware that parks are very busy. Online Cultural Cookery cook-along, every Thursday at 12noon on Facebook Live.

Bike for Good – We are able to loan bikes to key workers for free (up to one month loan with a helmet and a lock). We have the possibility to run a few Dr.Bikes for SEIN members (incl. basic repairs such as punctures, brake and gear adjustments, safety checks). These are limited – first come, first served. Contact:

alisdair@bikeforgood.org.uk

Updates in absence

Music Broth – We received funding from the Scottish Refugee Council which has enabled us to engage with local organisations supporting people seeking asylum and/or with a refugee background. We have had several translated versions of our delivery service flyer for July 2020 created including in languages Farsi, Arabic, Spanish, Polish, Slovakian, Italian, Romanian and Urdu. Our Musical Instrument Delivery Service remains popular and we have now received 69 requests! If you know anyone who is interested in learning an instrument or who would benefit [please complete our order form](#).

We have recently announced our Breaking News: Creative Songwriting Workshops for Young People aged 13 - 18 years. This is a 5-day group based intensive online workshops focused on learning and developing skills in songwriting and self-expression. The workshops will be delivered via Zoom with two of our fantastic music tutors. Our workshops will be taking place between Monday 20th - Friday 24th July every day from 11:00am - 12:30pm. This is funded by the Wellbeing Fund and Supporting Communities Fund. [Sign up by completing this form](#).

Dixon Community (Glasgow South East Carers Centre) - We are in currently preparing for staff to have a slow, safe & phased return to working in the office. Since lockdown our social media channels have never been more important. They are updated daily and we would like to encourage SEIN members to follow us and like, share and retweet. Twitter profile @dixon_east & on Facebook @TheDixonCommunity. #Glasgowcarers

Carers can now self-refer themselves for support from us. They can do this by calling The Carers Information Line on 0141 353 6504 [or online](#). Information for Glasgow Carers can be found at the [Your Support Your Way Glasgow website](#).

Mears Group – Update from Anne Kinghorn: The majority of people have been moved out of the Hallmark Hotel (from the original Park Inn) into self-contained accommodation in the city. The majority of these moves took place last week. All have been met with by a member of the Welfare Team, SRC and Social Work prior to their move. A counselling service was provided by Mears along with the use of interpreters and the feedback from this by the residents has been useful. Many charities and local agencies have donated large amounts of clothing, IT and phones which has significantly assisted people as they move on.

The next phase, now that we have received sign off from UKVI, Public Health Scotland and GCC is to move the most vulnerable cases along with those who have been in hotel accommodation for the longest period although this may be dependent on the availability of suitable local accommodation and being able to source this in Glasgow.

We continue to work with local agencies to identify those people who are deemed to be struggling with living in a hotel so please raise your concern if your organisation feels this to be the case with any individuals known to them.

Let me know if there is any further information required or if anyone has any specific questions that we can assist with. Contact: anne.kinghorn@mearshousing.co.uk

7. Dates of Next Meetings

Tuesday 11th August, 10-11.30am
Tuesday 8th September (AGM)

8. Information, Questions & Resources Shared via the Chat

- [Church of Scotland have issued guidance on opening up buildings](#) which may be helpful for others.
- Emma, SAMH: For anyone looking for exploring options for additional support around mental health, feel free to email me at Emma.Straughan@samh.org.uk
- Huda, SAWA: We are offering several group teaching for secondary students if you know any Arabic speaker student (who are struggling in their subjects) would benefit please get in touch (h.alarishi@scottisharabwomen.org.uk)
- Hannah, Glasgow CAN: We are looking for someone to deliver anti-racism training next month with our members. This is a paid opportunity. Anyone who is interested please email me hannah@glasgowcan.org as soon as possible