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CPG Commercial Sexual Exploitation Meeting

Scottish Parliament

AGM

28th November 2017

1.00-2.15

Minutes

Apologies

Billie Wealleans	Women's Equality Party
Rachel Adamson	Zero Tolerance
Lesley Orr	Edinburgh University
Anna Zobnina	ENOMW
Monica Martins	WomenBeing Project
Janice Wilson	Soroptimist
Jules Sheridan	Cre8te
Siobhan Jess	Nordic Model Pressure Group
Steve Rawbone	Individual
Maureen MacMillan	Individual
Kathy Betteridge	Salvation Army
Linda Thompson	WSP
Johann Lamont	MSP
Sasha Rakoff	Notbuyingit
Tony Martin	Individual

Attendance

Marlyn Glen	Individual member
Ann Hall	Not For Sale in Scotland
Chris Hall	Not For Sale in Scotland
Susan Moffat	Individual
Janet Warren	Graduate Women Scotland

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Shari Bowes	Scottish Women's Convention
Pam Cairns	Soroptimist International
Abi Lawson	Staff to Ash Denham MSP
Alison Scott	NHS Lothian Consultant Gynaecologist
Erika Grant	Project Turnkey
Gordon MacDonald	CARE
D. Bucher	CARE
Rhoda Grant	MSP (Co-Chair)
Ash Denham	MSP (Co-Chair)
Jacci Stoye	ACTS (Secretariat)
Bronagh Andrew	Community Safety Glasgow (CSG)TARA
Frankie O'Rourke	CSG Routes Out
Kate Fry	Rhoda's Office
Dawn Fife	Say Women
Joan McAlpine	MSP

Minutes

Agreeing the Minutes of the previous meeting

Rhoda opened the meeting and asked if the group could agree the Minutes of the previous meeting. Bronagh Andrew agreed the Minutes.

Re-election of Office Bearers

Ash Denham asked if anyone had any objections to the Co-Conveners, Rhoda Grant and herself continuing in the role for the following year. The group had no objections and this was carried.

Ash Denham announced that the Secretary, Jacci Stoye, wished to stand down. She asked the group if anyone would like to be nominated for the post. No-one came forward. Rhoda Grant said that it might be better coming from someone in situ in an organisation and that they had emailed several organisations. The Co-Conveners decide to wait to see what response they received from group members.

Feedback from Parliament

There was no update from Annabelle Ewing's Office and no further developments on the response to the research. The Co-Conveners were going to participate in a debate in

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parliament after the meeting on violence against women, in which Ash Denham would be speaking.

Feedback from the first Steering Committee meeting

Frankie O'Rourke offered to feedback regarding the first meeting of the Steering Committee (SC).

The SC had had a constructive and positive discussion and concluded that the campaign for the Swedish approach needed to be more positive than the Irish TORL campaign (as Catriona had also suggested) and suggested the *Realstars* approach was better. *Realstars* are a European organisation concerned with fair sex and equality and have a strong appeal to young people. The SC thought that we might come up with a Scottish approach, for example, Scottish women telling their own stories bringing reality, emotion and their lived experience to the fore.

The SC had also suggested that we might use some money from CARE to engage a marketing consultant to help us to choose a name for the campaign and a way forward in our approach to publicity. The SC favoured offering a self-employed type commission for the Campaign Co-ordinator, rather than employing them through an organisation as this would make it easier with regard to the complexities of employment (tax, holidays, pension etc) without a specific employer. They could then be issued with a contract specifying particular tasks to be undertaken. The SC were in favour of the End Demand web-site being revamped and possibly used for the Civic Coalition.

Response to the Feedback

Members of the group felt this was a good start but wanted to know more about *Realstars* and Jacci Stoye offered to put the link onto the googlepage. Members also suggested that we might be able to Sykpe them at the next meeting.

Presentation by Pam Cairns

Pam represents both the Soroptimists and the Free to Live Trust on the CPG. She gave her presentation on the work of the Free to Live Trust, a project that she is personally involved with, which is a Scottish charity that works with trafficked women and their children in Pune, India. Pam's presentation was a fascinating, but shocking insight into the sex trafficking of young girls in India and the treatment of their vulnerable children, who are usually abandoned at an early age. What started as a visit to India of a group of Scottish Soroptimist and Girl Guiding women in 2014 resulted in the building of a residential home and school for these children giving them the opportunity of a decent life. They were inspired by, and wanted to support, Seema Waghmode, a lady who has worked tirelessly for prostituted women for 20 years.

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Presentation by Alison Scott from the Chalmers Centre, Lothian NHS

Alison Scott gave the group an insight into the troubled lives of prostituted women nearer to home with her important work at the Chalmers Centre. She was able to give the group an understanding of the sorts of problems the staff team encounter and how they resolve them by telling us the stories of some of the women that attend the clinic. Through these personal (but anonymous) encounters with their reality, we were able to perceive the very difficult and hazardous lives of the women and the tough challenges of the caring and sensitive staff team who seek to provide every aspect of mental and physical care to them.

Meetings for the following year

Ash Denham asked the group if they would prefer having meetings at 5 o'clock rather than at lunch time in future as this was an inconvenient time for MSPs. The group agreed this. The Co-Conveners decided to discuss the dates and times for the next meetings and email the group at a later date.