

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the new partners' Board for Glasgow's Volunteering Strategy - Held on Friday 29th September 2023 at Glasgow City Chambers		Action:
1. Present and Apologies: <i>Present</i> – Tom Berry (Volunteer Glasgow - TB), Councillor Kevin Lalley (KL), Councillor John Daly (JD), Dilraj Sokhi (Glasgow Voluntary Sector Race Equality Network - SD), Karen Wylie (Glasgow Disability Alliance - KW), Ian Bruce (GCVS – IB). <i>Apologies from Members</i> – Councillor Anne McTaggart, Councillor Declan Blench, Bailie Anthony Carroll, Fiona Moss (GCHSCP). <i>In Attendance</i> – Niki Spence (Clyde Gateway - NS), Frankie Barrett (Glasgow City Council – Economic Development - FB) David Maxwell (Volunteer Glasgow - DM) (minutes). <i>Apologies from officers</i> – Lynda Campbell (Glasgow Life), Tom Jackson (Glasgow City Council – Communities), Judith Hunter (Glasgow City Council – Equalities).		
2. Proposed Terms of Reference: a. <i>Co-chair arrangements:</i> it was agreed for TB to chair the meeting in Cllr McTaggart's absence and to postpone a decision on the co-chair proposal until the next meeting. b. <i>Frequency of meetings:</i> the meeting agreed for the Board to next meet in April and again next June on the basis of the proposals under item 3. Dates and venues TBC nearer the time. c. It was agreed to remove the reference to the <i>Social Recovery Taskforce</i> given that it completed its work in January 2022. d. In all other respects, the terms of reference were agreed.		Next mtg. DM DM
3. Proposals for the development of updated Strategy and new action plan for 2024 onwards: a. The meeting agreed with the proposal to align Glasgow's Volunteering Strategy and new action plan with the Scottish Government's Volunteering for All framework (2019) overarching vision, five national outcomes and the national Volunteering Action Plan (2022) ; noting (i) that Stirling's Volunteering Action Plan (2023) offered a useful template for approaching the partnership process in Glasgow, (ii) that neither the national nor Stirling Plans provided a monitoring and evaluation framework: only four broad measures of success, (iii) that partners' limited resources can be concentrated on (a) assessing our local needs, priorities and opportunities and (b) developing systems for measuring, monitoring and evaluating the impact of our plans.		ALL!

b. The meeting agreed with the suggestions in the papers of the partner agencies (including the Council Family departments) that the Board needs to work with on action plan development, noting the four elements of the proposed process for plan development. Members made additional suggestions/points as follows:

DM/ALL

- i. *Employers/private sector reps* – NS suggested that this was unlikely to be forthcoming unless engagement was through existing meeting structures and commitments; DS suggested possibility of a short-life, project/end-goal specific advisory group and offered to help identify specific contacts via Equate Scotland STEM network organisations; KL noted a connection with Tesco Bank.
- ii. *Education* – JD noted the impact of the Pupil Equity Fund on school partnerships with community/third sector orgs and the relevance of volunteering to the four core competencies of the *curriculum for excellence* for which all primary and secondary schools capture data; FB noted the majority of secondary schools had a *DYW Co-ordinator* (Developing the Young Workforce) for which the *Chamber of Commerce* is a key partner; TB also noted that most secondary schools also have an *MCR Pathways Co-ordinator*; DS noted the outreach links with schools between *Equate STEM partners and universities*. NS asked about the intended *age range* of volunteers for the Strategy and DM noted that the intention behind the national framework was for all ages; the meeting noted the many initiatives involving volunteering by primary school pupils while acknowledging that NHS/GCC Education health and wellbeing survey data was limited to secondary school pupils.
- iii. *Sustaining the achievements of the 2010s for 11–18-year olds' volunteering*: the meeting also noted that considerable success had been achieved locally and nationally in terms of both volunteering participation and a reduction of inequalities in participation (SIMD quintiles) by this age group – likely to be largely due to all programmes and partners working towards the same goals. The meeting also noted the changes in volunteering rates at different key *life transitions* including school to adult life.

c. The meeting made the following suggestions of city priorities and other shared strategies with which the Volunteering Strategy should be linked:

- i. *Climate Emergency*: FB noted that it would be extremely helpful to understand what the Volunteering Strategy

should seek to achieve in support of this key policy priority; NS noted a need to explore a specific link with the Clyde Community Forest.

- ii. *Skills action plan*: DS suggested a clearer alignment for the Strategy with the skills development opportunities that can be gained through volunteering – Skills Development Scotland and partners.
- iii. *Communities traditionally under-represented in volunteering*: TB noted that this should continue to be a clear focus for the Strategy; DS offered insights and contacts for BAME issues and noted the valuable work and connections available through the South East Integration network; KW and FB noted the range of accessibility issues for increasing participation by disabled people and the Council-led work on a ‘Just Transition’ and LEP focus on ‘economic inactivity’; KW noted the work undertaken on inclusion for the national Make Your Mark (heritage volunteering) programme as a result of which there should soon be a published toolkit.
- iv. *Socially Connected Glasgow Strategy*: DM noted the 2022 recommendations commissioned by the HSCP included action on volunteering.
- v. *Communities of Place*: NS noted the need to involve Glasgow Life and other partners in the context of the review of Locality Planning and Thriving Places.
- vi. *Overall*: TB asked members to do everything possible to enable the involvement of all the identified partners in the process.

d. *Equalities Impact Assessment*:

- i. Board members agreed that EQiA tools and processes should be used throughout the action plan development process.
- ii. IB noted that engagement should be sought with *current volunteers, lapsed/stopped volunteers and non-volunteers*.
- iii. DM suggested that many of the issues were already clearly articulated, and that people should be asked to contribute only where necessary to check-in on the accuracy of partners’ understanding. Thereby avoiding asking people to commit time for any unnecessary engagement processes given the wealth of contributions already gathered through local and national processes.

ALL!

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. TB noted the importance of asking the right questions (What are the barriers? What is your experience? What works well? What doesn't work well?) v. TB also noted the impact of the cost of living crisis on participation and inequalities of participation, suggesting that we should seek to identify volunteer-involving organisations that are bucking the trend (many organisations struggling to recruit and retain people for more demanding roles and/or for roles requiring regular/long-term commitments and/or from populations suffering most from the crisis). vi. There was a discussion around how well partners and organisations/volunteer managers understand volunteers' motivations and if that informs engagement/recruitment strategies to clearly demonstrate that people's contributions are valued, and that people can take pride in their achievements. vii. KL noted the opportunity to engage people locally through local organisations and community councils; IB noted the contrasting experiences of two key volunteering roles that are mandated by legislation: community councillors and children's panel members. viii. It was agreed to share an update on the EQiA approach and data with the Board after 3 months. <p>e. <i>Timeline:</i> it was agreed to provide a draft action plan for the Board at its next meeting in April for amendments and a final plan to then be agreed in June; then for endorsement by the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board in September.</p>	DM
4.	<p>Date of next meetings: As per items 2b and 3e above – TBC for April and June.</p>	DM