

STEERING GROUP

Minutes



Date	Fri 18 th January, 2018	Time	1.00 – 3.00
Chair	Catriona Matheson	Location	Scottish Drugs Forum

Membership

Name	Organisation	Attendance
Catriona Matheson (Chair)	DRNS Convenor	Y
Tessa Parkes	University of Stirling and Deputy Convenor	Apols
Aileen O’Gorman	University of the West of Scotland	Y
Alexander Baldacchino	University of St Andrews and NHS Fife	Apols
Alison Munro	University of Dundee	Y
Anne Whittaker	University of Stirling	Y
Dave Liddell	Scottish Drugs Forum	Y
Duncan Hill	NHS Lanarkshire	Y
Lauren Johnston	Renfrewshire Council	Apols
Joe Schofield (minutes)	DRNS Coordinator	Y

1 Previous minutes

Action notes from the 17th November meeting were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. Agreed that meeting outputs will be made publicly available on the website, when this goes live.

2 Matters arising

Addressed by the agenda.

3 Steering Group

3.1 Declarations of interest

JS updated the DoI form following the previous meeting. Reviewing DoI declarations is in hand.

3.2 DRNS structure and governance

CM has drafted text that can be used in case of queries regarding the name of the Health, Care and Wellbeing theme. Agreed to review the Prevention Theme name and lead arrangements following the planning event on 7th Feb.

Noted that the DRNS’ current key selling points are brokering cross-disciplinary, cross-institution partnerships, supporting researchers to identify and secure funding, provision of support in early stages of research development, and supporting public involvement in drugs research.

Agreed we need to agree a way to identify and badge projects that are supported by the DRNS. **JS** to include on agenda for next meeting.

Agreed we need a way to record all DRNS activities, reach and impacts. **JS** to create a system to do this until the Stirling University system is live.

3.3 Updated mapping of drugs-related research in Scotland

JS to create and circulate an online form to capture info on activity from TP’s previous mapping exercise (June 2016), the launch of the DRNS and ongoing current work.

3.4 Key Performance Indicator log

The current version of the KPI log was reviewed. **JS** to update and circulate with papers for the next meeting.

3.5 Lived Experience and Family member (LEAF) involvement

JS to circulate draft policy on the Involvement of people with Lived/Living Experience and Family Members; develop a contact list of people generally interested in providing LEAF involvement, and recruit a group of 5-10 people to help take this work forwards.

3.6 Communications

JS to recruit members to a short-life working group that will develop a Communications policy and strategy; write pieces for the NHS R&D Research Node newsletters and ADP newsletters; and create a DRNS Linked In profile.

DL to provide **JS** with current ADP contact details.

ALL to consider including mention of the DRNS in their work email signatures (see **CM**'s and **JS**' signatures for example). Let **JS** know if you would like any help doing this.

3.7 DRNS annual conference

Agreed **CM**'s proposal to hold the first DRNS annual meeting in Nov/Dec 2018. The aim will be to engage early career researchers working in drugs-related research and peer researchers, providing knowledge and skills to develop their research capabilities. **CM** to develop a programme, approach speakers and apply for funding from the Society for the Study of Addiction.

3.8 Membership

Agreed that the DRNS monthly eNewsletter distribution list will continue to be open to all who are interested.

JS to develop an online form so researchers can apply for academic membership and include an agenda item for the next meeting so we can agree a process and criteria for approving this.

4 Research strategy development: Feb 7th event

The group reviewed arrangements for the day and supported the programme of activities and planned outputs. Noted that around 50 people have booked to attend, including academics, technical experts, policy makers, peer researchers, those with lived/living experience and family members. **JS** outlined the draft budget which was approved. Agreed that **Theme Leads** will arrange ~quarterly meetings in 2018 to take forward projects identified on the day.

5 Research activity updates

5.1 Trauma-informed care for people with co-occurring complex trauma and substance use disorder

AW has convened a group of academics, addiction psychologists and NHS Education Scotland representatives to advise on the project. **AW** and **JS** have met individually with these people to scope the project, conducted a scoping literature review and engaged with the Lead Psychologists for Addiction Services in Scotland group. Meeting and teleconference dates have been arranged. Next steps include identifying people with relevant expertise to help develop a grant application and scoping availability of existing service data across Scotland.

5.2 Prescribed Opiate Overdose Risk & Take Home Naloxone (POOR-THN)

DH reported that **AB** has convened a research group comprising an Addiction pharmacist (**DH**), academics, and clinicians with practice, policy and research experience in the field. **AB** has drafted a CSO funding bid **JS** commenced a systematic literature review. Meeting and teleconference dates have been arranged. Next steps include finalising the bid and registering the systematic review.

5.3 Symptom clusters predictive of death among PWUD

CM & **TP** have convened a group of academics and technical experts with experience of large health datasets, data linkage and network analysis of symptom clusters. Meetings have been held to refine the project aim and objectives. Next steps are to identify principal/co-investigators, describe the range of data sources available and confirm the statistical approach.

5.4 Public attitudes to problem drug use and recovery

JS has requested a copy of the Scottish Government's dataset on public attitudes, which may help inform approaches and opportunities to the cross-cutting issue of stigma. Initial thoughts about a research question include a comparison of the relationship between negative public attitudes and prevalence of problem drug use by geographical area.

5.5 Other

None were reported.

6 Emerging funding opportunities

6.1 Funding spreadsheet

JS circulated the latest version of the spreadsheet.

6.2 SGSSS cross-disciplinary, supervisor-led studentships

TP shared info on funding opportunities for PhD studentships with colleagues in the Drugs & Psychoactive Substances Forensic Centre for Excellence Working Group.

7 AOCB

7.1 Eligibility for Co-Investigator funding

Noted that MRC eligibility requirements insist that all co-investigators to be employed by academic or equivalent organisations for the duration of the proposed project, and that this excludes peer researchers and others from being included on study teams. The view from the meeting was that the MRC are unusual in taking this approach and agreed that CM should write to the MRC on behalf of the DRNS.

8 Action log review

CM summarised the actions noted above.

9 Dates of next meetings

Wed 28th Feb, 1.00-3.00, ~~Stirling University~~ subsequently changed to the Scottish Drugs Forum.

Fri 27th Apr, 1.00-3.00, Stirling University