



**VOX 59<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting  
Renfield St Stephens Centre  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

<b>Present</b>	Gordon Johnston	Chairperson
	Amanda O'Connell	Vice Chairperson
	Chris White	Member Director
	Pauline Bradley	Member Director
	Dianna Manson	Member Director
	John Sawkins	Member Director
	Chris Evans	Members Director

**In Attendance**

**For Board taster session**

Paul Anderson  
Andrew Muir  
Paul White  
Frank Milne  
Alistair Simmons

**Staff**

Wendy McAuslan      Development Coordinator

**Apologies**              Dr. Alison Thom      Non Member Director

**1. Welcome**

Gordon Johnston welcomed those present, and explained how he would facilitate the board taster session.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were noted.

**3. Minutes/notes of previous meeting**

The notes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate note of the discussion.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

The matters arising will be covered in the agenda.

#### **5. Staff update**

##### **Outcome - share good practice**

###### VOX collective

The next VOX collective meeting is now arranged and will take place in Perth.

**Action: Mahmud shall pull together a brief update from the collective.**

###### Involvement/safe space guidelines

We are developing involvement guidelines (together with Patricia Rogers from ADVOCARD). The aim will be to ensure we are supporting wellbeing at events and conferences whilst being as inclusive as possible.

##### **Outcome - members direct the work of VOX**

###### AGM/conference

The annual general meeting is now arranged, the annual reports will be printed on time (assimilated info from the staff updates),

The accounts shall be completed in time for the AGM, and Kelly Adams shall be there to present the accounts.

All of the facilitators have confirmed and been briefed.

The MSP Maureen Watt has confirmed also.

A risk assessment has been carried out and the VOX “helpers” shall be briefed on the day.

##### **Outcome - we gather evidence/understand members' experiences**

###### UNCPRD bid

The board agreed VOX should have a role in this disabled peoples report, and be involve in gathering members' views and influencing strategic direction. We have a provisional date of the **5<sup>th</sup> October in Glasgow.**

The Mental Welfare Commissions (MWC) engagement event is being progressed and an information flier shall be sent to members in the coming weeks.

## **Outcome – build capacity and develop leadership**

VOX has put in a bid together with the Mental Health Foundation, the service user research collective, and Strathclyde University to look at civic involvement for those who have lived experience of mental health problems (DRILL bid).

We should know by the middle of October if we are successful. If successful it will enable us to carry out service user research to try and understand barriers and supports to engaging in political/civic society.

6. Correspondence. No correspondence was mentioned which wasn't included in other agenda items.

### **7. AOCB**

Those in attendance asked some questions about being involved with VOX. One of the areas discussed related to conflict of interest which we discussed fully.

Questions about training also arose, and Wendy stated that she would suggest we arrange governance training to be provided by GCVS early on in the meeting schedule.

There was also a general discussion around how we support each other should someone feel unwell, and issues such as peer support, taking time out, creating a safe environment and sending in apologies were all discussed.

Amanda noted that she would be likely to reduce her involvement with VOX after the AGM (in relation to the board), however that she would like to stay connected with VOX.

### **8. Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October in the Renfield Centre.