

#### At The Venue, Balmoral Rd, Morecambe / Via Zoom / 6 PM

Special single agenda item meeting to review Mental Health commission submissions.

## **1. PRESENT, APOLOGIES & WELCOMES**

**Present**: Chris Price (Chair), Viv Brunsden, Yvon Appleby, Kat Jaxon, Glen Duckett, Jayne Safari, Yak Patel (LTO Rep), Johnny Bean (Secretary), Joe Robinson (Development Worker), Sian Jay (Big Local)

**Apologies**: Janette Edwards (not present)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. BACKGROUND

Launched on 20th March (with five weeks, closing 25th April) the commission was advertised in multiple ways.

- Directly to over 36 significant local groups and contacts.
- Passed on by various network contacts including Bay Medical and LDCVS.
- Advertised in our newsletter going to 4000 local households.
- Covered in various local press.
- Some direct word of mouth contacts / follow ups.
- Social media links.

In terms of accessing the commission form we had.

- Over 354 hits for accessing the digital commission advert.
- 264 viewers of the mental health page.
- 109 downloads of the main commission form.
- 63 downloads of the small ideas form.
- 24 views of our Action Plan online during the same period.
- We received only two very minor technical inquiries about the form.

We received 9 main submissions which members scored individually. The collective results were then tallied for the decision meeting. It was noted that, in general, there had been parity across everyone's individual scoring. There were also 6 small ideas submissions which were left for members to generally consider.

No	Commission applications	Amount	Score	
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5	J. Edwards	£21,600	119
3	Enable	£24,840	111
8	West End Impact	£35,000	105
4	Growing Well	£12,000	90
1	Cancer Care	£5,100	87
6	More Music	£4,800 - £19,200	79
9	Wise Up Workshops	£15,656	65
7	NISCU	£4,938	60
2	Counselling in the Community	£50,000	44
		£188,334	
	Smaller ideas forms		
10	Kirsten Freiesleben		
11	Morecambe Engagement Hub		
12	Big White Shed		
13	Faith Kenrick		
14	Val and Al		
15	Your Inner Sense		

## **3. CONFLICTING INTERESTS**

Discussed and conflicts were noted. VB is a user of Enable but not involved in its organisation. It was noted that member JE (not present) had put in a submission and was linked with a second. It was reconfirmed that she had declared her interest and had been excluded from all elements of the Mental Health process from the very start.

## 4. CRITERIA

We had intentionally left the commission brief as open as possible to try and encourage the widest range of potential mental health activity to choose from. We had also previously agreed some criteria by which we might judge submissions.

- 1. Significant activity that impacted on more serious end of mental health activity rather than generic work closer to mental well being.
- 2. From groups or organisations that may be less likely to secure other funding
- 3. Potentially innovative, and new rather than continuity of existing work.
- 4. Are based in or focused on the West End.

## **5. DECISIONS**

The session began with broad conversation around the various different submissions, and some of the responses to the small ideas. There was also discussion and clarification about the spectrum of mental health work which ranges from clinically diagnosed to general mental well being. Acknowledging there is some middle ground the notable difference we are considering is impactful Mental Health being a medical condition supported by physicians / medical support / diagnosis, whilst Mental Well being is something that can inform or aid general mental health but less tackle illness. It's important to understand the

difference as there are potential risks involved if the two are confused. Well being is valuable and important, but it is not what we are looking to primarily support with this commission.

In brief summary.

- J. Edwards. Was felt perhaps the only fully original submission, tackling an identified need, and offering a new solution. There were questions that needed resolving but it was felt to be worth supporting.
- Enable. Not entirely new, the activity was nevertheless linked to a specific identified group with mental health needs. There were questions again, but it was felt to be worth supporting.
- West End Impact. The activity appeared to offer a solid foundation but was, in large, a repeat of activity that had been ongoing for thirteen years.
- Growing Well. Much discussion over the pros and cons of such activity, but overall, the costs and its investment directed outside of the area, weighed against it.
- Cancer Care. The submission was for expanded funding of an existing project and whilst we'd encourage that activity to come to West End we felt the target need was one which already receives relatively high support in terms of funding profile.
- More Music. Was for a choice of continuation funding of an existing project and was felt they had the capacity to secure funding outside of our limited budget.
- Wise Up Workshops, NISCU, and Counselling in the Community, failed to meet our priorities on too many points to be considered.

In terms of smaller ideas.

• The Big White Shed, Kirsten Freieslben, and Engagement Hub presented ideas worth further conversation. Faith Kenrick, Val and Al, and Your Inner Sense were well-intentioned suggestions but largely well being and not work we could directly support. Glenn noted an interest as he had assisted Kirsten with her smaller idea's application.

# 6. ACTION

- J. Edwards submission: agreed members will submit points to clarify and / or discuss with the project prior to any agreement.
- Enable submission: agreed members will submit points to clarify and / or discuss with them prior to any agreement.
- We will follow up on any potential with Kirsten Freiesleben and Big White Shed.

- Follow up with Morecambe Engagement Hub to see if any links might be supported.
- Next newsletter to cover differences between Mental Health and Mental Well-being.

## 7. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

12/6/23 6pm.