Soroptimist International
Great Britain & Ireland

Survivor Information Scotland

The project team and liaison partners:

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Police Scotland DV Unit: Emma Mc, Laura H, Laura S, Kelly Mac

Scottish Government Taskforce: Amanda H, Gertie W

Victim Support: Tirion S

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Overview

Inspiration and start of the project

- Presentation by Hannah McLaughlan about her experiences (poor) of the Criminal Justice System and her determination to improve that for others

What we did first and issues arising

- Formation of region project group now Scotland wide with reps from Police Scotland and Scottish Government.
- Initial proposed development of accessible website or app.
- Survey questionnaire of support organisations
- Discussions led to concerns re sustainability, safety, access (including equality issues) ownership and costs.
- Became aware of the ScotGov taskforce. Connected.

What we have done since

- Police Scotland and ScotGov engaged and regular attenders at our meetings
- Survey outcomes shared
- Reviewed and provided feedback on Police evaluation form - led to its withdrawal - now provided alternative questions which will be discussed further with them. Review of their "trauma informed" training
- Involved routinely in ScotGov consultations and review - provided reflections on questions to consider after their recent showcase of the web prototype
- Linked with Victim Support Engagement Officer - further consideration about how best to involve widest community of survivors



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Scottish Government update on their "justice digital front door" development from Amanda Hollis, June 2026

- Core components of the "hub" are being tested in phase 1
- Also looking at identity and data matching so records can be linked across the justice journey
- Working with Victim Support to explore user needs, test potential designs and how a web site might best support users
- Recent project showcase, over 90 attendees, including Scottish Soroptimists
- Further sessions to look at issues of accessibility, ethics and security

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Our aim now

To support victims and survivors of rape and/or domestic abuse, by functioning as an effective pressure group to ensure that the Scottish Government and Police Scotland provide trauma informed information and continue to meet their timescales in setting up the survivors' digital information hub.

Practically speaking:

- Partner engagement - Meet regularly and continue to include partners
- Information content - Review and feedback updates on the work of the taskforce and continue to support work of Police Scotland to improve practice
- Be solution focused as well as a critical friend offering a range of perspectives
- Support activities to help keep to timely delivery of the project
- Publicity and comms - ensure all stakeholders aware of the work and timescales for dissemination of information about how/where to access the hub

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Any questions?

Thank you for your attention and interest

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