

THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

NOTES OF THE COGITS MEETING

23 SEPTEMBER 2020

In Attendance

Kalpana Ratnam Roarty – User and Carer Involvement
Roland Chaplain – Glenkens
Pamela Deans – D&G Advocacy Service
Emma Scott – Support in Mind Scotland
Ian Seymour – Care Training Consortium
Alex Dickson – D&G Befriending Project
John Dougan – Relationships Scotland D&G
David Barr – Aberlour
Julie Chisholm – Dumfriesshire and Stewartry Womens Aid
Nick Mitchell – D&G Health Board Endowment Fund

Apologies

Sally Russell – Church of Scotland
Carolyn Kennedy – Better Lives Partnership
Claudine Brindle – D&G Carers Centre
Karen Lewis – The Hub
Phil Stewart – DAGCAS
Heather Hall – The Usual Place

In attendance

Norma Austin Hart -TSDG Chair)
Rachel Cringean – TSDG
Ashleigh McCulloch - SCDI

Norma welcomed all to the third meeting of COGITs and apologies were noted.

Matters Arising

Aims of COGITS Groups

Purposes of COGITS -The three aims of the group were read out as a reminder to the group.

1. To lead the third sector's influence on the public and private sectors to achieve collective goals
2. To provide a safe, democratic and supportive network for third sector decision makers in Dumfries and Galloway

3. To create an environment for strategic collaborations which strengthen the third sector's ability to participate in partnerships

SOSE Board Appointments

Norma confirmed that the COGITS sub-group had supported at least one successful appointment to the SOSE board from the D&G third sector.

SLACK

Brief reminder of the purpose of Slack and encouraged the group to use.

Action: Alan Hall (TSDG Communications Manager) will send a reminder to COGITS members.

Setting the Agenda

Norma confirmed with the group whether there was to be any changes to the agenda. None raised.

EU Funding Consultation

TSDG had been commissioned by SOSEP to co-ordinate the D&G and Scottish Borders third sector response to the Scottish Government consultation earlier this year about the future without EU structural funds. This document was circulated with the papers for this meeting. The group agreed to postpone a discussion about this until the Scottish and Westminster governments make an announcement about the replacement fund.

Action: Consultation to be discussed at next meeting.

Report on TSDG's representation role on behalf of the D&G third sector

Norma confirmed that TSDG had commissioned research into this complex area. The report has now been completed. The next steps will be for the TSDG staff and board to agree what changes- if any- will be required to implement the recommendations. Once agreed the changes will be shared widely with the third sector.

Action: TSDG to update at next COGITS meeting.

Productivity Club Scotland – Scottish Council Development and Industry

Ashleigh from SCDI gave a brief description of the Productivity Club and the work of SCDI.

SCDI is a membership organisation representing public, private and third sector. The

Productivity Club is a project to encourage cross sector working and sharing of expertise.

The Scottish Government have extended the pilot project to allow for a Club in SW Scotland and other areas.

Ashleigh asked for suggestions of where members of COGITS are doing something different that other organisations or businesses could learn from.

The group supported the project and were positive about the Productivity Club.

Action: Ashleigh to send number of third sector members in D&G

The Third Sector in South of Scotland- Covid-Recovery Planning: a report from the TSIs

Norma shared a presentation and gave an overview of the recovery report including key messages, methodology and challenges identified. Norma confirmed the report had been shared with both local authorities in the South of Scotland, SoSE, Scottish Government, SCVO CEO and head of policy. It has also been shared with all interviewees and placed on the TSDG website.

The following is a summary of the main discussion points.

- The group identified the positive impact of the report
- Suggested that these are not new problems, but emphasis has been brought through Covid-19
- It was suggested to build on potential partnerships and relationships, to push for systematic change and keep the pressure up
- Identified that different indicators for success are an issue
- Emphasis on prioritising the model social impact approach
- Long term focus on exploring new funding models

Action: TSDG to share recovery report with local councillors and MSP's

Action: TSDG to provide progress report to COGITS group at the next meeting

South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership

First meeting of the group was Friday 18th September. Norma confirmed that she has been appointed to the REP as the third sector representative for D&G. Scottish Government intends to set up a group in each region of Scotland to create a Regional Economic Strategy for the next 10 years.

Norma opened to discussion and invited thoughts from group

- Concern that there is no systematic change
- Suggested to use COGITS to influence and present thoughts for Norma to take to REP
- Suggested to create Slack channel for REP – COGITS members can input between meetings

Action: TSDG to set up REP Slack channel and invite all members to share and participate

AOCB

None

Date of next meeting

To be decided - before the end of the year.

The meeting closed with thanks from Norma.

