



**THIRD SECTOR**  
Dumfries and Galloway

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**THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY**

**REPORT OF MEETINGS**

**INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**

**27<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY SUMMARY**

*Working together to put our sector first*  
Dumfries and Galloway's Third Sector Interface

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## KEY POINTS

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A PERSONAL RECORD BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF TSDG, NORMA AUSTIN HART. IT IS BASED ON MY OWN OBSERVATIONS. IT IS NOT A FORMAL MINUTE OF THE MEETING.**

### 1. Supporting Carers

There was a lengthy discussion about item 5 on the IJB agenda, 'Supporting Carers' following questions by the carers' representative and me as TSDG chief executive. The main areas of concern were:

- The use of the additional Scottish Government funds to support for carers post- Covid
- Ensuring that there is emergency support available for carers as soon as possible.
- The importance of assessing the existing Carers Strategy using outcomes

There were other questions of detail regarding for example, the availability of short breaks and the use of buildings-based support. The chief operating officer and the head of strategic planning agreed to a further meeting with the carers' representative and me to discuss these. This meeting also covered the use of the additional funding for emergency carers' support from the Scottish Government as well as the review of the Carers' Strategy. There was a commitment to include partners in the formal review of the strategy to ensure it is fit for purpose. It is recognised as important that the carers are seen as equal partners in this review.

It was noted that the short life working group looking at short breaks for carers will need to link with the independent and third sectors.

I offered to invite the TSDG Health and Social Care Forum to put forward ideas for the use of the non-recurring funding for emergency support to carers. It was recognised that the non-recurring funding is likely to go to the independent and third sectors, for activities to support carers in the short term. Therefore, a quick and robust commissioning process is needed rather than an IJB direction.

### 2. IJB Directions Policy

The proposed directions policy was agreed by the IJB. Questions were asked about how the directions policy can be used to bring about the transformational change that we would like to achieve. The chief operating officer asked: how can we make sure, using the directions, that at all levels in the health and social care partnership the structures, systems, processes, and culture consider the services of the independent and third sectors? A further conversation about this would be welcome.

I have since written to the chief operating officer and the chair of the IJB to ask who will initiate this conversation.

The Feeley report makes recommendations that might be useful in answering this question.

### **3. Proposed Directions for 2021/2022**

The IJB looked in detail at the eleven proposed directions. Ideally the directions are defined by and emerge from the strategic commissioning plan. The next strategic commissioning plan is in development and will result in new directions after it is adopted. The directions agreed at this IJB meeting are to continue until the next strategic commissioning plan is in place which is likely to be in 2022.

As TSDG chief executive I pointed out that the independent and third sectors are invisible in the directions policy and the proposed directions for 2021/2022, even though they are expected to be the providers of many of the services. I asked if this could be considered by the IJB while acknowledging that the IJB cannot give directions to the third sector. However, it is important that the third and independent sector role is recognised in documentation available to the public and to the sectors.

