



THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

REPORT OF MEETINGS

SOUTH OF SCOTLAND REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

13th November 2020

THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY SUMMARY

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

KEY POINTS

1. Young People's Participation on the REP

There was a proposal for the REP to recruit two modern Apprenticeships. These posts will work with the Council and Third Sector networks. I offered access to the TSDG Children and Young People's Forum to assist with engagement work.

2. Forward work programme for REP.

There was discussion about the suggestion that the REP should have themed groups to allow substantive discussions on key themes. The paper proposed the following themes:

- Tourism
- Food & Drink
- Creative Industries
- Land Management
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Care
- National Capital
- Green Growth
- Energy Opportunities
- Community Wealth Building

I asked for transport and digital inclusion to be considered.

Karen Jackson confirmed that the consultation on the development of the Regional Economic Strategy will feed into the number and the nature of thematic groups.

I also endorsed the setting up of a REP working group for the oversight of the Regional Economic Strategy.

There was much discussion about language and jargon. The officers of the REP were asked to produce definitions.

There will be a further rationalisation of the enhanced list of themes. Technology will be useful for facilitating discussions. There should be a clearly defined relationship between the work of the thematic groups and the working group overseeing the development of the strategy.

It was agreed the REP will not ask to send representatives to the Convention of South of Scotland. There is therefore no need to set up a sub-group on this.



3. Terms of reference of South of Scotland Education and Skills Programme Board.

This SDS proposal is to create a programme board to drive the labour market response to Covid and post-Covid support to the emerging Regional Economic Strategy and promote oversight of the SoS Regional Skills Investment Plan (RSIP).

The discussion revealed a high level of concern with the proposed terms of reference:

- Is there an evidenced need for another agency?
- Overlap and duplication with existing structures such as the LESP
- Lack of detail about how agencies will engage with each other
- Lack of rationalisation of aims
- Would a map of the existing landscape be beneficial?
- How does this link with the Scottish Government Education & Skills Partnership?

SDS agreed to reflect on which structures would be affected by the Programme board. They agreed to produce a revised version of the proposal after reflecting on the feedback from today.

4. South of Scotland Third Sector: A Partnership Approach to Covid-19 Response and Recovery Planning

I asked for the opportunity to present this third sector interface report at a future meeting. This was agreed with the proviso that questions regarding representation raised by Hazel Smith are resolved first to which I agreed.

Next meeting will be on 11 December 2020



