

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY (SEDG)

TUESDAY 25 MAY 2021

Attendees:

Norma Austin Hart	Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway (TSDG)
Laura Douglas	SSEAL
Diane Laws	SSEAL
Selina McMorran	SSEAL & TSDG Engagement Officer
Rebecca McKinney	Midlothian Social Enterprise
Anne Barclay	Wigtown Book Festival
Kathy Cremin	South of Scotland Enterprise
Nathon Jones	Trad Music Trust
Sue Irving	Loreburn Housing
Becky Castle	Isle Futures
James McClung	Old Luce Development Trust
Matt Kitson	Driftwood Cinema
Kalpana Ratnam-Roarty	User and Carer Involvement
Tina Fiske	Cample Line Arts
Leah Halliday	The Guild
Lincoln Richford	Wanlockhead Trust
Sheen Boyd	The Stove
Meta Maltman	Glentool & Bargrennan Community Trust
David Smith	Old School Thornhill
Yvonne Anne Barber	Upper Nithsdale Arts & Crafts Community Initiative
Laura Moodie	Mid Steeple Quarter
Alan McLauchlan	Restore Community Projects
Julia Watt	Whithorn trust
Vivienne Brown	Palnackie Village Shop

Introduction,

The purpose of SEDG – Norma explained the purpose of SEDG and the relationship between SEDG and the Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway (TSDG). In response to questions raised, the following were discussed:-

- Being a member of SEDG is not obligatory; there is no link between membership of SEDG and funding from any source.
- TSDG is an interface with Scottish Government and works with all types of third sector organisations including charities and social enterprises (SE).
- SEDG is a way to bring all SE across D&G together in a single community.
- SEDG is not just the network meeting. There will be a TSDG website with a specific SE section. There will be a communication channel established (Slack) which will allow SE to 'talk' to each other and as a community.
- TSDG has a role to facilitate SEDG but ideally SEDG will be self-managing with a SE taking on the chair role (to be discussed as part of the terms of reference at the next meeting). SEDG will bring expertise and connections with regional and national organisations.
- SEDG is also open to people just setting up SE as this is a critical time to get support.

Brief overview of SSEAL – Norma explained the role of the SSEAL Team (Seeding Social Enterprise Across the Land). Attached is a presentation which provides a high-level description of SSEAL. The SSEAL project consultants can be contacted via the links below

Laura Douglas: laura.douglas@tsdg.org.uk

Diane Laws: diane.laws@tsdg.org.uk

David Vickers: David.vickers@tsdg.org.uk

Stuart.harrison@tsdg.org.uk

Selina.mcmorran@tsdg.org.uk

Vision, Mission and Objectives (VMO) for SEDG

We briefly discussed the draft VMO. Several amendments were suggested and have been included in the attached draft.

AP: to review the attached VMO ready for sign off.

National Social Enterprise Action Plan

This was presented by Rebecca McKinney from Midlothian Social Enterprise (slides attached). The following issues were raised and discussed:-

- The Action Plan is asking for SE to work together.
 - It was observed that there is funding attached to the plan but the link between SEDG/SE's and the funding is unclear.
 - It is unclear from the plan how TSDG and other regional Third Sector Interfaces (TSIs) across the country link into the plan. This was acknowledged and the TSI network is pushing for clarity on this. The lack of TSI involvement is shown in the 'vagueness' of the plan.
 - Are the Scottish Government putting pressure on Local Authorities to deliver/align with the plan, in particular funding? It was acknowledged that the plan is not prescriptive on this and it is possible that very little pressure is being put on Local Authorities. One of SEDG's roles could be to lobby for change within the Local Authority – a collective voice.
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- There needs to be more clarity of the 'mechanics of how this funding will be administered.

In conclusion it was agreed that a D&G Action Plan was required and a 'short life working group' (3 months) will be established to work with TSDG to produce this. Nathon Jones, Sheena Boyd, James McClung, Alan McLauchlin and Lincoln Richford volunteered to be involved. Laura will be in touch.

In breakout groups, attendees were asked to reflect on the action plan and consider "what are the key actions that would benefit your SE in your local area?" The feedback included:

- Practical information such as templates and guidance. For example, a Business case Template, HR guidance. *These will be available via the TSDG website.*
- An ability for SE to collaborate and connect with each other. *TSDG will set up a 'Slack' communication channel for all SE to access.*
- Sign posting – to be able to ask the SE community for help, guidance shared experiences – *Slack will facilitate this.*
- To share resources – have the opportunity to ask if people have equipment to borrow or to offer equipment such as gazebos, lighting. This is especially useful for small or new SE to minimize costs.
- To commercialise the sharing of resources – hire out equipment or provide expertise or skills for a fee.
- Working together to share costs. For example, booking larger training events and a reduced rate and several SE sending staff – economies of scale.
- Sharing of workspaces and/or having access to central workspaces.
- Action as a collective voice to have meaningful engagement with large organisations such as the Health & Social Care. To lobby for change and to educate them on the service SE can and do provide.
- Help with asset transfers
- Educating funding bodies to understand the return on their investment.
- Peer learning – could possibly have presentations from successful SE's to share knowledge

Resources for SE

Laura Douglas shared the resources which will be made available to SE (slides attached).

Next steps and date of next meeting

The next meeting will be in August 2021 and the agenda will include discussing terms of reference for SEDG. A date and invite will be issued closer to the time.
