



---

**THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY**

**REPORT OF MEETINGS**

**SOUTH OF SCOTLAND REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP**

**1<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

**THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY SUMMARY**

## KEY POINTS

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A PERSONAL RECORD BY HEAD OF OPERATIONS, CLAIRE BROWN, ATTENDING AS AN OBSERVER/SUBSTITUTE FOR NORMA AUSTIN HART. IT IS BASED ON MY OWN OBSERVATIONS. IT IS NOT A FORMAL MINUTE OF THE MEETING.**

1. Under matters arising there was an update on the 'Task and Finish Group' tasked with developing a measurement framework for the RES delivery plan; the group will reconvene, and a paper will follow at a future meeting.
2. Under matters arising, members of the REP have been invited to contribute to the development of local authority SPF investment plans. TSDG has indicated that they would be keen to be involved on those conversations.
3. Under matters arising from the last meeting there was a discussion about plans to hold a Housing Summit; Scottish Government has agreed in principle; proposed dates 15, 16, 17 August with the event planned to take place in Galashiels. Dates will be circulated to RSL leads. Currently waiting to hear if the appropriate Ministers can be secured; key ask of Scottish Government will be to invest more in housing in South of Scotland, raising awareness that housing sector is part of the economy, not just a housing provider. Working group to be convened to plan the Summit. It was emphasised that it will be important to ensure the right people are around the table.
4. A series of updates were given on the REP Delivery Plan. Theme 3 overview – click [HERE](#) for presentation. Key issues raised were around standardised templates for reporting, RAG assessment, establishing the right relationships, finding out what is already happening and then identifying gaps and ensuring lead in time for projects, including scoping, feasibility studies etc.
5. An update was provided on Fair Work; recognising the importance of developing an understanding of the uptake and understanding of Fair Work. A series of business surveys have been completed with over 600 business to establish a baseline position r.e. Fair Work.
6. A presentation was given on the development of a South of Scotland Cycling Strategy, which is scheduled for launch 5<sup>th</sup> September at the Convention of the South of Scotland. A strategy of this kind presents wide-ranging opportunities, from health, economy, tourism. It was acknowledged that there must be a legacy, which benefits people in the South of Scotland.
7. A presentation was given on the Inward Investment Proposition; click [HERE](#); which presented key priorities alongside further opportunities and enquiries. Key issues raised included, securing capital monies, supply of skilled labour, importance of housing and wider infrastructure challenges across the South of Scotland that must be addressed to attract inward investment.
8. A presentation was given on the Regional Land Use Partnership; click [HERE](#); which emphasised plan to align the RLUP with the work of the REP. The RLUP is one of 5 pilots across Scotland, and is a partnership between SOSE, DG Council and SB Council. The aim is to facilitate

collaborative decision making around land use. A participatory workshop will take place at the next meeting of the REP to develop a framework.

9. A presentation was given on planned renewal of REP membership; click [HERE](#). A conversation ensued recognising the importance of sense checking national agency representation and identifying any strategic gaps in membership. An update will be brought to the next meeting in September, with recruitment anticipated to take place September/October.
10. Under AOCB; the challenges around transport were raised, in light of recent announcements to cut key bus routes across the South of Scotland; the importance of collegiate thinking within the REP was emphasised with regards key issues impacting our communities.
11. Next meeting is on 22 September 2022.

