



THIRD SECTOR
Dumfries and Galloway

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REPORT OF MEETINGS

SOUTH OF SCOTLAND REGIONAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

11 October 2022

THIRD SECTOR DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY SUMMARY

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

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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. The changes to the membership of the REP were agreed – this will mean that the TSIs are automatically included in the membership, and each will be asked to nominate a representative.
2. The REP will be enlarged to include Historic Environment Scotland, Regional NHS boards, SSDA.
3. The measurement framework is still being developed. A draft will be shared at the December meeting.
4. SoSE asked for volunteers to sense check the framework.
5. The SoSE rep summarised the results of their survey on the impact of the cost of living crisis on businesses in SoS. Report link [here](#). There will be lobbying as a result of the survey. I mentioned our own survey and agreed to share the results with Karen Jackson.
6. DGC and SBC presented on progress with the Shared Prosperity Fund. The slide presentation is [here](#).
7. SBC's Sam Smith indicated that it is possible to have in-year flexibility, I asked if DGC would be willing to ask for carry forward underspend from Y1 to Y2.
8. The REP is charged with giving direction, monitoring progress and providing promotion. LAs are responsible for administration of SPF.
9. I made several points:
 - a. The move to administer the funds via local authorities was welcomed initially as being closer to communities than in EU funding. This confidence is now hanging by a thread.
 - b. Almost 40% of TSIs were involved in writing of the investment plan or asked to comment on the draft of the plan.
 - c. I asked three questions: how will strategic decisions be made about the SPF such as ring fencing for TS? How do we progress a decision about the carry forward of underspend from Y1 to Y2? What process will be put in place for TS to access the SPF?
 - d. How will LEADER replacement fund work alongside SPF?
10. It was agreed that I would receive separate answers to these from DGC I emailed Steve Rogers at DGC immediately after the meeting with these questions.
11. The REP held a workshop on Land Use policy. Feedback will be made at the next REP.