

# Social Enterprise Dumfries and Galloway (SEDG)

31<sup>th</sup> January 2023

The Cat Strand, New Galloway

**Present:** Matt Baker; The Stove (Chair); Naomi Johnson (Social Enterprise Consultant working with TSDG); Kim Wallace (Membership Director, Social Enterprise Scotland); Michael Costello (Social Enterprise Academy); Katy Jackson (SOSE); Frances Coombey (Manager, Kirkcudbright Dark Space Planetarium); Anne Stoddart (Kirkcudbright Development Trust). Jane Grey (Moffat Youth Theatre) joined through online through MS Teams.

**Apologies:** Selina McMorran (Community Engagement Officer and SE Lead, TSDG); David Link (Consultant)

<b>Introduction</b>	Matt welcomed all those at the meeting including people staying on from the earlier SE Showcase and Learning Tour and online attendees.
<b>D&amp;G Social Enterprise Strategy update</b>	<p>Naomi provided an update on the work she was undertaking with TSDG to build on the SE Strategy and Action Plan for D and G.</p> <p>NJ noted there had been nine responses to the SE Survey and while disappointing there was useful information available. Work was continuing with SE events across the region and a development plan would be produced to look at how the network moves forward. This would be informed by survey and event input.</p>
<b>Single Intermediary Update</b>	<p>Kim Wallace gave an update on the new single intermediary for social enterprise in Scotland.</p> <p>They now have nine team members having merged some staff from Senscot.</p> <p>Kim would be keen to talk to groups in D and G about Buy Social and the Corporate Challenge and SE Places.</p>
<b>SEA Update</b>	<p>Michael Costello gave an overview of the work of the Social Enterprise Academy.</p> <p>Slides are attached</p>
<b>Questions</b>	<p>Jane - How do non-essential SEs thrive in the current economic climate when disposable income is reduced?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It's not the same for everyone in terms of the cost of living situation. Don't assume no one can afford what you offer but consider marketing and pricing.</li></ul>

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Based on experience what should a D and G network do?

- Given geography – a mix of online and face to face.
- The key is acting as the 'glue in the middle' to help make connections both within the network of SEs and to external contacts. Facilitate peer support and collaboration.
- Feed into national work - make links outside region too.
- Have visibility - Buy Social Scotland, Scotland Loves Local campaign links too.
- Consider a pocket guide to SE for the region.

How independent should a network be? At the moment its very clearly linked to the TSI.

- This can depend very much on how well the TSI understands SE and across Scotland different ways of delivering a network can be seen from those fully integrated in the TSI to those that are independent.
- There is also a challenge in raising funds and a need to look at how much you may need/want autonomy?

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**AOCB**

None raised.

**Date of Next  
meetings**

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sept 28<sup>th</sup> and Dec 14<sup>th</sup>.**  
Venues Tbc.

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