

**Meeting Date: Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 2022**

**Venue: Zoom**

Present:

Sharee Rennie – Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway  
 Terri Elson - Fedcap Employment  
 David Stewart - Fedcap Employment  
 Jayne - Inspired Community Enterprise Trust Ltd  
 Rose Murdoch - Kirkconnel and Kelloholm Development Trust  
 Kevin Stewart - The Stove Network Limited  
 Innes McMinn - Independent Living Support  
 David Bradbury - Let's Get Sporty (CIC)  
 Morvan Smith - Volunteering Matters  
 Avril Goodwin - Dumfries Theatre Royal Trust  
 Julia Watt - The Whithorn Trust

Apologies:

Alison Gordon - South of Scotland Community Housing  
 Craig McEwen - Inspired Community Enterprise Trust Ltd

	<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and apologies - Sharee</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Notes from previous meeting</b>	N/A
<b>3</b>	<b>About You - Your opportunity to share with others. What your organisation does. Who do you support? Where do you deliver? Etc.</b>	<p><u>Rose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development Officer for Kirkconnel &amp; Kelloholm Development Trust</li> <li>• Looking at skills and Innovation centre</li> <li>• Emerging opportunities post covid</li> <li>• SOSE will reassess the need and consultant from partners, might see an impact on design and footprint</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We're a priority area for borderlands which links skills and innovation working with local people/suppliers. Local people don't have the skills or resources, working with employers to work at skills</li> <li>• Council have not reopened Kirkconnel resource base, the job centre used to come up and support long term unemployed but local people are now required to go to Dumfries</li> </ul> <p>Sharee – Could TSO's come and help support? Rose – Borderlands need to access resources at a local level, lots have been centralised and needing local agenda to improve services at a local level.</p> <p><u>David B</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We focus on 'Let's get employed'</li> <li>• Critical with government funding to have more options for funding</li> <li>• People need support to register with Public Scotland and need more names on Public Contracts Scotland</li> <li>• How can we get third sector to push and get more funding?</li> </ul> <p><u>David S &amp; Terri Fedcap</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can offer health with employability support</li> <li>• We're a national charity and want to do partnership working</li> <li>• Small grant opportunities need localised feel but how does the sector grow?</li> <li>• The third sector are capable of so much more than small contracts of around £8K</li> <li>• How to get organisations to make the changes that is needed?</li> <li>• Currently looking at and supporting through health proposition as there is a cohort of those left behind as they're not ready for employment</li> <li>• Want to help people and reach more people with partnership</li> <li>• Terri – Engagement Consultant for D &amp; G</li> </ul> <p><u>Morven</u></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My role of Engagement Manager is to support young people aged 16-24 as part of the Young Persons Guarantee, into volunteering opportunities with charity partners we have made within D&amp;G</li> <li>• We look at barrier removal, confidence building, employability and supporting young people to gain experience in an area of interest while providing 1-1 individualized support</li> </ul> <p>Sharee – Small organisations are doing fantastic specialist work, we need to work out who is doing what.</p> <p>David B – There is enough work for everybody, need to piece together.</p> <p><u>Innes - ILS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We support clients training towards peer support training</li> <li>• Lots of talk from Scottish Government regarding lived experience linking together mental health and substance abuse</li> <li>• We put a training program for clients to move into something constructive</li> <li>• We have 6 peer mentors and continue to develop peer-to-peer training and also provide 1 to 1 support</li> <li>• There's a push from client group to move forward which is showed from both of our courses being fully booked, the Feedback is phenomenal</li> </ul> <p>Sharee- Are the courses only open for clients using your service?</p> <p>Innes – We have capacity issues at the moment but can open referrals to people who have lived experience, please see our website. <a href="http://www.independentliving.org.uk">Independent Living Support – simply surviving to actively thriving (ils-dumfries.co.uk)</a></p> <p>Innes – Willingness from client group to help others such as willingness to support people to attend appointments.</p>
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		<p><u>Avril</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Started last week as volunteer coordinator, here to find out more about employability</li><li>• Theatre relies heavily on volunteers; the guild of players are all volunteers</li><li>• We realise that it's the same people doing all the work</li><li>• Met with someone from volunteering matters who informed us that volunteers can have particular needs and support requirements</li><li>• Volunteers usually go on to get jobs after volunteering</li><li>• We're investigating numbers and patterns how to get people</li></ul> <p><u>Jayne</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Apologies for Craig</li><li>• The Usual Place provides training, education and employability skills for young people with additional support needs with employability</li></ul> <p><u>Julia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training people who have barriers to employment</li><li>• About 1 year into project and still have the same cohort with a few additions</li><li>• Embarking on traditional building in the town, boat building, stone masonry</li><li>• We have the goal to give apprenticeship qualifications and working towards being an accredited centre</li><li>• Young people have been working with products to be marketable</li><li>• We're literally building a centre by rebuilding derelict buildings</li><li>• Got new funds to connect with a high school, bringing people who are not engaged with school. A new social enterprise funds to offer taster sessions</li><li>• Recieved referrals from social work and a young person from Afghanistan</li></ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having a young team is not simple, need to draw on all life experience to encourage them into the right direction</li> <li>• Long way to go before we are an accredited centre, although have started the process</li> <li>• There is an interest to replicate among other organisations, although hard to replicate</li> </ul> <p><u>Kevin</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are working on expanding the employability program</li> <li>• Commitment to create opportunities within the sector of SW Scotland</li> <li>• Establishing emerging creatives and ensuring people who apply for opportunities do not have to have a qualification or have a degree</li> <li>• Breaking down barriers of where talent is judged and the opportunity to really follow passions in the creative industry</li> <li>• How do we work in a way that is appealing to people in SW Scotland?</li> <li>• How do people feel confident to apply for opportunities that are not always long term?</li> <li>• Funding for 3 artists to join and learn how to be freelancer, not all in the same industry</li> <li>• Working with D &amp; G College creative services for when people leave there is another string to their bow</li> <li>• Working with employability team at council</li> <li>• Third Sector helping with volunteer network and those opportunities do tend to lead to employment with knowledge and confidence to go for a paid opportunity</li> </ul>
4.	<p><b>TSDG employability web page: Employability - Third Sector Dumfries &amp; Galloway (<a href="https://tsdg.org.uk">tsdg.org.uk</a>). It would be appreciated if you could have a look at the website and provide feedback at the meeting of additional information you want to see on it. Could you add/update your organisations details on the DGLocator. Page: <a href="https://dglocator.org.uk/">https://dglocator.org.uk/</a></b></p>	<p>Sharee shared the TSDG Employability Page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking to use a platform to share what Organisations are doing</li> <li>• TSDG comms team can create short videos to share what you are doing within your Organisations for the employability webpage or organisations can provide their own 2 min video for us to edit and upload to our website.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Update: <a href="https://www.tfaforms.com/4942887">https://www.tfaforms.com/4942887</a></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thoughts on Employability Webpage?</li> </ul> <p>Innes – Interested in video</p> <p>David B – loads of information with so much going on across the region from government to local</p> <p>Kevin – Lots of information to go through, a bit over whelming</p> <p>David B – More real information, photos ect</p> <p>Sharee – Want to use the page to share the good, bad and the ugly. The journey to employability is a big journey. Want people to understand and realize what people need to go through and not just a tick box.</p> <p>Sharee – asked the group if they could <b>Please send the details of their Organisations and current programs for TSDG web page.</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>LEP restructure update - Sharee</b></p>	<p>Sharee shared the LEP restructure update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office is made up of 4 team members of ESS and third sector employability manager</li> <li>• 4 subgroups – YPG, LTU 25+, TPPF, EEP</li> <li>• Partnership office is the admin body for the LEP with the purpose of supporting the actions within the LEP delivery plan through its sub groups to build capacity in our region</li> <li>• It is in it's early stages of development</li> <li>• TSDG will be having conversations with yourselves re how/what/where the third sector are delivering on the actions and priorities. Links to be available on our web page.</li> <li>• Need information from yourselves on what your views are so I can voice these at the forum group meetings.</li> </ul>

		<p>David B – Will they listen, is it just a tick box?</p> <p>David B – Is the funding for the third sector manager role long term? Sharee – Funded until end of March</p> <p>David B –so in our interest to develop as it is more support than we (TS) have ever had.</p> <p>Sharee – Happy to come out and have 1 to 1 conversations with anyone. There are other pots of funding that is available without using local authority money. Strength in numbers.</p> <p>David S – Sharee’s role is crucial as relationships are needed with LEPs and local authority to find out the needs. It’s a confusing landscape, useful for someone who can decide what is needed.</p> <p>Rose – Worked for council for 35yers, I think council need Third Sector for targets. Partnership about council controlling, a big worry.</p> <p>Sharee – Opportunity for Third Sector to challenge what is being dictated. We have opportunity to deliver, it doesn’t need to be a local authority to lead on this, although we need to grow the capacity within TS and have hard evidence of our achievements</p>
6.	UK Shared prosperity fund webinar - Sharee	<p>New funding - UK shared prosperity fund</p> <p>Sharee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisations have to complete application to DPS to be able to bid for the funding</li> <li>• Short time scales</li> <li>• Not all Organisations are on the list</li> <li>• Couple of concerns about the funding that Organisations have to bid, however the employability skills service in the local authority will not need to do this in the first year.. This is just for the 1<sup>st</sup> year they will need to bid in the same as everyone</li> </ul>

		<p>else from year 2</p> <p>Sharee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No discussions about the delivery projects yet. That will come next</li> <li>• Organisations need to on the dynamic purchasing system</li> <li>• The fund is opening back up again and will be open for the lifetime of the funds</li> </ul> <p>Sharee to send out the confirmed date when known</p>
7.	<p><b>Training topics? Dynamic Purchasing System ect - Sharee</b></p>	<p>Sharee - We can put on training for the Exel dynamic purchasing System if there is a demand for it.</p> <p>Sharee – Explained about the DPS system that JC+ use ( which is a different system) but useful to be on. Craig at job centre has offered free training to organisation if you want to be on.</p> <p>Sharee to circulate the info and gather numbers that wish to do the training.</p> <p>David S – UK shared prosperity fund - The gap in money up to 60% less, the Scottish Government needs to fulfil. Makes more sense to lump money into year 2 for preparation and delivery time. How can the outcomes be squeezed into 3 months?</p> <p>Rose – Scored 1 on upper Nithsdale but UK government changed criteria. There is no guarantee that they will pay out the money by the deadline.</p> <p>Sharee - Small organisations can't work like that. In D &amp; G the funding cannot and will not be carried over into the other year.</p> <p>David S – Is there going to be payment by outcomes? There might be opportunity of different case scenarios. They're deliberately leaving it vague, horrendous situation we are in.</p>
8.	<p><b>Any Issues</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
9.	<p><b>AOB</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>





<b>1</b>	<b>Date and Time of next meeting</b>	Wednesday the 26 <sup>th</sup> of October 2022 Wednesday the 25 <sup>th</sup> of January 2023
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