

**TSEF Executive Group Meeting
Online Meeting at 3.00pm on Thursday 29 October 2020
Notes & Actions**

Present:

Grant Alexander – Link Group (Chair)
Blyth Deans – The Lennox Partnership
Lorna Forrest – SCVO
Louise Goodlad – Princes Trust
Rachel Le Noan – SCVO
Leona McDermid – Aberdeen Foyer
Oxana McGregor-Gunn – SAMH
Clare McIntyre – Scottish Government
Amelia Morgan – Venture Trust (Notes)

Apologies:

Hazel Benza – Scottish Government
Tommy McDade Barnardo's
Jamie Rutherford – Enable Scotland
Robin Turner – Routes to Work

1 Welcome and agenda

GA welcomed all to the meeting.

2 Actions 1 October 2020

#	ACTION	OWNER	UPDATE
01/10/20 AP1	GA to provide feedback to member who had expressed an interest in becoming part of the TSEF Executive.	GA	GA thanked the member for expressing an interest and confirmed the development of a proper process for refreshing the Executive was underway. Member is keen to keep involvement in the SYEG
01/10/20 AP2	Establishment of 3 SubGroups for delivery of TSEF Workplan. Proposed membership as follows: Governance – GA, BD, LF, RLN. Youth Employability – LG, LMcD, TMcD, AM No One Left Behind – LF, OMG, JR, RT	All	On the agenda
01/10/20 AP3	Production of TORs by each Sub Group	All	On the agenda
01/10/20 AP4	Production of Visual Aide	CMcl	Map of activity and pulling together underway recognising the importance of connecting with wider communication activity
01/10/20 AP5	Distribution of Design Maturity Assessment	JR	Available on Basecamp. Discharged
01/10/20 AP6	New Schedule of TSEF Executive Meetings and Notetaking	GA	Discharged

3 SCVO webinar with Jamie Hepburn – feedback

An advanced copy of the joint SG and COSLA communique was welcomed. Good panel and willing to express opinions in response to pertinent questions from the online audience of c. 80 organisations. More events like this would be a positive step forward and thanks were passed to RLN and LF. The recording was available on the SCVO YouTube channel.

It was noted that raising greater awareness of TSEF and its engagement with partners would be helpful, particularly TSEF distinctive role in bringing provider insights and offering support and challenge.

4 SG/CoSLA Joint Communique of 28 October

The discussion focused on the importance of the third sector to the network of employability and employment support in Scotland beyond just service delivery. Concerns were raised that, at times, this is not fully recognised which impacts on the potential contribution of the third sector to the wider partnership in shaping strategy and in execution. The willingness and open door with Scottish Government to engage was welcomed.

The announcement regarding Employability Fund and Community Jobs Scotland (CJS) was positive, however it was noted that the practical implications for providers remained challenging with limited time to clarify financial arrangements following the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR). The other key concern related to the interplay between Kickstart and CJS and the Young Person's Guarantee (YPG) as to what support may be available to individuals and for providers and employers. Further information as to how the YPG may 'wrap round' Kickstart would be valuable.

AM and RLN had recently met with Amy Stuart and Julieann Airens in relation to the focus for the Employability Operational Group mindful of the rapid, focused work on the YPG and other NOLB workstreams. Alignment and pacing linked to the delivery plan would benefit from greater clarity and it was noted that clear mapping of third sector representation on the various groups would enhance ongoing engagement and collaboration.

Discussions also considered further engagement with SLAED and CoSLA regarding NOLB implementation and local delivery thinking. It was agreed that a follow-up meeting with Pamela Smith and Robert McGregor would be helpful.

29/10/20 AP1: CM to provide an update on the CSR timescale.

29/10/20 AP2: AM and RLN to meet with Amy Stuart and Julieann Airens following the publication of the NOLB delivery plan.

29/10/20 AP3: CM to arrange a TSEF exec meeting with Pamela Smith with a view to a follow-up discussion with SLAED executive group.

5 Workstreams

The Network of Networks workstreams were ending, recognising the significant collaborative working to share evidence, insights and in shaping proposals and recommendations. TSEF had created a valuable space for sharing and collaboration and the development of the Work Plan would seek to move this forward. All three workstream groupings will meet shortly to scope out terms of reference and implementation plans.

Discussions turned to the role of representing TSEF on various groups, for example the YPG Implementation Group recognising the importance of reps being able to act as a conduit and share information with the exec and wider membership. The benefit of engaging and when required, mobilising members remains of upmost priority to ensure we are engaging and involving members effectively.

6 AOB

Views on the Employability in Scotland website are being sought via a short survey. This will close on 6 November. CM asked for any gaps in the survey or approach to be fed back.

LF noted that SCVO colleagues were seeking to engage with TSEF members to explore the impact of Employability Fund as match for ESF. This was welcomed and will be progressed by LF and Barbara Love.

RLN raised the Stage 1 consideration of the Defamation Bill and the implications of exempting charities delivering public services. The SCVO policy was seeking input and views. RLN would circulate the paper via Basecamp.

BD proposed the development of a central portal regarding employability support available in Scotland for service users and practitioners. Discussions acknowledged the current state of flux and importance of simplifying access to information. DWP was considered important and it was agreed that a follow-up meeting with Elaine Livingston would be valuable.

29/10/20 AP4: GA to invite Elaine Livingston to a future exec meeting.

7 Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting **Thursday 26 November 2020 at 3.00pm** via Skype.

Actions

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29/10/20 AP1	CM to provide an update on the CSR timescale.	CM
29/10/20 AP2	28/10/20 AP2: AM and RLN to meet with Amy Stuart and Julieann Airens following the publication of the NOLB delivery plan.	AM & RLN
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