



Economic Resilience & Employment Third Sector Forum
Thursday 24th May 2018
10am – 12pm
CVS Falkirk and District Offices

Present:

David Gardener (DG) (Chair)	CVS Falkirk and District
Stacey Munro (SM) (Minute Taker)	CVS Falkirk and District
Hannah Gordon (HG) (Trainee Minute Taker)	CVS Falkirk and District
Annette Toner (AT)	Forth Valley Community Focus CIC
Diane Stewart (DS)	FDAMH Training Academy
Julia Duncan (JD)	The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)
Lesley Young (LY)	Re-union Canal Boats
Lindsay Geddes (LG)	Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)
Lynda Ross-Hale (LR)	Cyrenians
Mhairi Macdonald (MM)	Forth Valley Community Focus CIC
Nicola Lockwood (NL)	FDAMH Training Academy
Robert Calder (RC)	Link Living
Vicki Ferguson (VF)	Forth Environment Link

Apologies:

Sandra Garner (SG)	The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)
--------------------	--------------------------------------

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed forum members to the meeting and introductions were made. Apologies were noted as above.

2. Review of Previous Minutes – 22.02.18

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record assuming the following change is made.

Agenda item 4 - Third Sector Partner Updates FDAMH should be changed to FDAMH Training Academy.

3. Dynamic Purchasing System – Lindsay Geddes – DWP

LG attended the forum to provide information on the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS). This system completely changes the way the DWP purchase training provision. Whereas previously they would purchase a course with a specific number of places and send people on it, whether the training was relevant or not. By using DPS, Job Centre's are now more able to purchase training provision from locally-based supplier that meets the needs of their clients, up to the value of £4,999.00.

To allow DWP to purchase locally provided provision, they require organisations to register on DPS, detailing the different types of training they are able offer, and the cost per person.

LG conceded that whilst the process of registration is not simple, they are only able to purchase courses from companies registered on DPS. It is vital that organisations provide as much detail as possible on their different training options, listing each programme separately, rather than having one entry for all their provision. This details helps DWP staff to not only identify the most relevant programme for their clients, but also to find the gaps in provision which is available and find out where barriers are shown for people looking to get a job. Provision should be available in 8-9 weeks.

This will allow DWP to create a business case as to the training needs of their clients, then find provision locally and work within the customer journey module to see what they need and if they are job ready or find barriers that are stopping them from being job ready.

Suppliers need to be realistic on how long customers will need and think of what can be done in time scales they include when filling in the DPS form.

For further information, please see the [Dynamic Purchasing System: a new way of buying provision](#) presentation on the CVS Falkirk website.

4. Discussion of Issues

Agenda item 4 was discussed under agenda item 5 due to lack of time.

5. Third Sector Partnership Updates

5.1 Robert Calder – Link Living

RC informed the forum that he had no issues at this time. RC is involved in Employer engagement regarding training groups that are on at the moment the Link training academy are looking to arrange work placements and opportunities for their groups.

5.2 Nicola Lockwood and Diane Stewart – FDAMH Training academy

NL informed the forum that they have started with Fair Start Scotland and are at the start of the journey but they are being told what to do and there are current negotiations and feels like they are not being listened to as there are issues regarding training and starting times.

5.3 Lynda Ross-Hale – Cyrenians

LR informed forum members they are at the begging of their journey regarding Fair Start Scotland, at the moment the organisation feel like they are being given enough time regarding starting times but as time continues and clients increase this



may change. LR feels like it will be an interesting journey and it would be a good topic to include in the forum.

5.4 Vicki Ferguson – Forth Environment Link

VF informed the forum that they have the old Central FM building in the Falkirk High Street and they are in the early stages of their volunteering programme and looking at employment pathways. They are early stages of Fair Start Scotland and trying to work out how they are involved. They have the active travel hub and the upcycling project and are planning more projects.

5.5 Julia Duncan – The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)

JD informed the forum that their project is based at the Jupiter centre in Grangemouth and their projects are food growing, recycling, environmental and employability. They are also at the start of their Fair Start Scotland journey.

5.6 Lesley Young – Re-union Canal Boats

LY informed forum members of the work Re-union are currently doing:

- delivering Scottish Governments “People in Communities” called Health Space running on a Monday in Falkirk and Edinburgh and focuses on getting isolated individuals out and about the project has a year’s worth of funding, and is a 12 week course
- Scottish Canal contract but it is quiet the now but as the canal is shut from Bonnybridge onwards and due to this over 50 boats have been cancelled
- finished the Climate Challenge project and there has been no more funding for this
- working with Falkirk Environment Trust to start a project to get individuals on a boat to help pull out rubbish in the water and help with behavioural changes
- putting their input in to Fair Start
- going to engage with Falkirk High School regarding disengaged young people to get them out on the boats

5.7 Annette Toner – Forth Valley Community Focus (CIC)

AT informed the Forum that Forth Valley Community Focus (CIC) is currently doing the following:

- MM came through the Community Jobs Scotland scheme when she started she was unable to answer the phone and now she manages I.T the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS) manager and books all the courses and orders test papers and admin
- another colleague who started from the Community Job Scotland scheme who has been there for three months
- going to get someone in to deliver bar licenses and refreshers
- two members of the staff team going on Mental Health First Aid training with NHS Forth Valley
- food larder has supported 5,500 families in the past year



- three students who were on work placement from Forth Valley College have just finished and have completed a full project to get the food larder out to rural areas
- there is funding from the Avonbridge, Stanburn, Blackridge, Slamannan, Limerigg community fund for the burn moss for employment and education and training budget for people in these areas ran by Foundation Scotland. Forth Valley Community Focus (CIC) will employ someone to go out in the communities to find people who need upskilled or need support. £26k for each area.
- call centre training for lone parents

6. Update from CVS Falkirk

6.1 CVS Falkirk Communications Preferences

As part of CVS Falkirk's preparations for the upcoming GDPR legislation, they have decided to take the opportunity to refine the e-bulletin and other email communications, making sure the information you want is delivered straight to your inbox.

To help them do so, individuals can select the CVS Falkirk emails they would like to receive by clicking the link included in the Communications Preferences article from Friday 25th May's e-bulletin.

New subscribers to the e-bulletin will receive an email asking them to confirm which emails they would like to receive, after they have completed the sign up process. This process is likely to become more streamlined in future.

CVS Falkirk welcomes your feedback on this process, and on any of your interactions. Individuals can always contact Laura Jamieson by phone: 01324 692003, or email: laura@cvsfalkirk.org.uk

6.2 Celebrating the impact of Falkirk's Third Sector

CVS Falkirk is committed to celebrating the impact the third sector has in Falkirk, showing the economic and social impact of the sector.

The 2018 impact survey will be open to all third sector organisations operating in the Falkirk Council area, and continuing the work carried out since 2015. The survey will be available through SurveyMonkey, or in hard copy, in June, with the final report available in September.

The results of the 2017 research can be accessed on the [CVS Falkirk](#) website.

For further information, please contact David Gardener by phone: 01324 692010, or email: david@cvsfalkirk.org.uk

6.3 Scotland's Mental Health First Aid Training Course

Falkirk and District Association for Mental Health (FDAMH) are holding a 2 day Scotland's Mental Health First Aid training course on Tuesday 5th June and Tuesday 12th June, 9am – 4pm in their office at the Victoria Centre, 173 Victoria

Road, Falkirk, FK2 7AU.

The training provides an opportunity to learn mental health first aider skills and will improve attendees' knowledge and understanding of mental health. Places cost £92 each.

For further information, including how to book your place, please visit the [CVS Falkirk](#) website.

6.4 PVG and the Disclosure of Criminal Information Consultation

Scottish Government has opened a consultation on Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) and the Disclosure of Criminal Information.

The consultation seeks views on proposals for the reform to the disclosure regime in Scotland. The aim is to focus on what changes are required to make disclosure of criminal convictions fit for the 21st century.

The deadline for responses is Wednesday 18th July.

For further information, including how to submit your response, please visit the [Scottish Government](#) webpage.

6.5 New CEO for CVS Falkirk Announced

The Board of Directors of CVS Falkirk & District are delighted to announce that Jen Kerr will take up the post of CEO with effect from Monday 16th July 2018.

Jen has most recently been the Service Manager for the third sector interface in Perth & Kinross, and has a wealth of experience in the third sector.

CVS Falkirk look forward to welcoming Jen into post, and working together for the benefit of our local communities.

6.6 Holiday Club Fund Summer 2018

Falkirk Community Planning Partnership (CPP) has announced that grants of up to £1000 are available to help community groups providing Holiday Clubs in the Falkirk area this summer, running from Monday 2nd July – Friday 17th August.

Preference will be given to holiday clubs that:

- focus on low income families
- provide good, nourishing food every day
- coach food prep and cooking skills
- provide learning programmes
- promote half an hour of moderate to vigorous exercise every day

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Friday 15th June; however, funding decisions may be made before this date.

For further information, including how to apply, please visit the [CVS Falkirk](http://www.cvsfalkirk.org.uk) website.

6.7 Third Sector Forum Meetings

- **Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum (VSCSF)** – Thursday 31st May, 2pm – 4pm. The theme for this meeting will be the capacity of organisations and the future direction of the forum. Alongside this, nominations for the roles of Chair and Vice-Chair of the forum will be discussed.
The [agenda](#) and the [minute of the previous meeting](#) are available on the [CVS Falkirk](http://www.cvsfalkirk.org.uk) website.
- **Community Transport Forum** – Thursday 7th June, 10am – 12pm. This meeting will look at the potential need for community transport in the Falkirk Council area, and how communities can help to provide solutions.
The [agenda](#) for this meeting is available on the [CVS Falkirk](http://www.cvsfalkirk.org.uk) website.
- **Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Forum** Thursday 28th June, 10am – 12pm
- **Safer Communities Forum** Wednesday 18th July, 10am – 12pm
- **Connecting Volunteering Forum** Wednesday 1st August, 10am – 12pm
- **Community Care & Health Forum (CCHF)** Tuesday 7th August, Falkirk Fire Station, 10am – 12pm

7. Three Key Messages

Forum members decided that the three key messages from this meeting would be:

- Raise awareness to public sector partners about what the third sector do.
- There were different sources of funding discussed raising awareness of local availability.
- Having ambition to go and share each other's services with other organisations and people.

8. AOCB

There was no AOCB.

The next meeting is on Thursday 23rd August 2018, 10am – 12pm