

Covid19 Third Sector Response Forum

Wednesday 28th April 3-5pm

Zoom Meeting

Attendees

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Aileen | Forth Valley Recovery Community |
| Alan Gray | Forth Valley Migrant Support |
| Margaret Gardner | Hallglen Hub |
| Fiona Welsh | Christians Against Poverty |
| Dave Cameron | Avonbridge Community |
| Winnie Delaney | Aberlour |
| Margaret Coutts | Samaritans |
| Donna Laidlaw | Strathcarron Hospice |
| Steven Litts | Cyrenians |
| Dani Lisney | Outside the Box |
| Steve Mcqueen | Sustainable Thinking Scotland |
| Lynne Boslem | Tamfourhill Community Hub |
| Jennifer Anderson | Roots |
| Barry Jordan | LGBTYouth+ |
| Richard McLennan | Safebase |
| Maureen Hill | CVS Falkirk |
| Lynsey Hansford (Chair) | CVS Falkirk |
| Scott Malcolm (Minute Taker) | CVS Falkirk |

1) Meeting Overview

Lynsey explained that there would be a short presentation giving an overview of why Falkirk Council are engaging with communities.

2) Introductions

The group introduced themselves by stating their names and the organisations they were representing.

3) Presentation

CVS Falkirk delivered [a presentation giving context on the Falkirk Plan](#) with regards to policy, democracy and why communities are being asked to become involved.

4) Review of Previous Minutes (31.03.2021)

The previous minutes were agreed to be accurate. Members then reviewed the previous minutes in order to jog people's memory of the conversation or to provide context to those who were not at the first meeting.

5) Discussion

The CVS Falkirk team hosted a general discussion to get people talking and their

thoughts in order before capturing the Third Sector Voice in relation to The Falkirk Plan Engagement, which Falkirk Council are leading on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP). This follows on from the previous meeting where Falkirk Council representatives were in attendance to discuss the Falkirk Plan Engagement process and sessions.

Below is a summary of the conversation.

Things don't add up and not enough information

Agree with all the points on previous minutes

Has an equalities impact assessment or Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) been done? – nothing being fed back from the council

14 people on a call all the usual suspects, no outreach – there needs more time, more sessions – it cannot be done on a 2 hour session – as a result, Is not engaged in the process – engaging in the priorities people don't understand or don't have the time or inclination to learn more

Seems like a paper exercise to validate their own outcomes Strategic Property review (SPR) – Falkirk Council (FC) should be listening to the people they are engaging with (seconded) – doesn't trust the process based on previous inactions – Not happy with any of the 3 engagements – good work recognised by FC where upper management do respond - FC seem to put up barrier after barrier to community groups – e.g. person litter picking in the community and FC trying to accuse him of fly tipping (so now local people need to help him, the whole community are behind him) why are FC not listening to that community?

Frustrated by these engagements – we came together before to vote for a preferred food choice and nothing happened, nothing was fed back, people have a lack of trust for the council –

- a. FC quoted expected 25K unemployed at end of furlough, could they learn skills and do work within communities.
- b. joining things up more

“I was involved in helping the community for Falkirk council just to stop the relationship with them for no reason, no explanation”.

- wasted an estimated £20K.
- it has been so bad thinking of quitting.
- FC want to claim the praise for the 3rds sectors work or to tag on to that to claim outcomes.
- we need an Anchor Organisation.

Switched off when FC said they were talking about high level stuff.

- also, FC have had years to listen to communities and they have not.
- FC need to build will and capacity.
- FC not invested as they do not live-in communities.

If the council would have helped us when we needed it, we would still have our hall.

- also agrees with all the sentiments so far.
- Lack of action

CVS Falkirk Interim CEO said that using MentiMeter to capture those thoughts is an excellent idea.

Action (Scott): The sector confirmed they would like CVS Falkirk to continue to pursue representing their concerns via CPP.

6) MentiMeter

The views of the Third Sector were captured on [MentiMeter](#) for transparency. This means that anything recorded on MentiMeter is the direct voice of the community which cannot have been edited.

There were some MentiMeter problems so in addition to the comments on MentiMeter, SM invited people to respond to The Falkirk Plan Engagement questions, set by Falkirk Council, by email.

7) AOB

None.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 26th May 2021