

Economic Resilience and Employment – Falkirk Third Sector Forum

Wednesday 9th December 2020 12pm – 2pm

Online

Attendance

Sandra Lyon
Gill Winters
Hazel Taylor
Lynsey Hansford
Victoria McRae
Scott Malcolm

The Conservation Volunteers
Social Security Scotland
Cyrenians
CVS Falkirk
CVS Falkirk
CVS Falkirk

Apologies

Martin Fotheringham
Catherine Sim
Andrew Dearie
Selena Heldic

CSREC
Link Living
Skills Development Scotland
Link Living

Minutes

Welcome, introductions and apologies

Using MentiMeter as an engagement tool we asked 3 questions with answers appearing live on screen as a fun way to prompt discussion



What are the main priorities for the forum going forwards?




Summary:

- Determine the forums role
 - Terms of Reference
 - List benefits to orgs and individuals
 - Expectations of attendees
 - How to engage with the forum (different methods of engagement)
- Feeding into service design and other local priorities through attendance at CPP meetings
 - Identify and map these meetings
- Invite Speakers to introduce themselves as a local contact and their organisation. What can their organisation offer the third sector or what help can the third sector be to their organisation?
 - Facilitating partnership and linking organisations
- Collaborative working
 - How do we facilitate this?
 - Communication
- Raising forum attendance
 - Different methods of engagement allowing organisations to “reach in” or take part between physical forums
 - Poll forum members to check days and times
 - Make forum every 6-8 weeks
- Sharing information



- Dealing with challenges
 - Capacity building

Which organisations, statutory or 3rd sector, do we want to attract to the forum? 

Dwp	Social Security Scotland	Funders from all sectors!
DWP	ETU, DWP, SDS,	

Summary:

- Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Social Security Scotland (SSS), Skills Development Scotland (SDS), Employment and Training Unit (ETU)
- Funders
- Partnership for Procurement (P4P)
- Chamber of Commerce

Investigate linking in with or sharing information from

- Supported Employment Partnership
- Scottish 3rd Sector Employability Forum



What can we do to mitigate the effects of Covid-19?

collaborate

digital inclusion
financial support
link with stakeholders
keep abreast of change
contribute out with forum
keep asking what we don't

clear routes of referral
sharing of information
map funding
link to other forums
share information
create opportunities

Summary:

- Employment Hubs
 - Bringing various organisations together under one roof giving unemployed a way to meet with all the organisations they need to at one time
 - Supporting social barriers to employment

Linking to the local landscape

Which Policies and Strategies are relevant to the Economy and the Employability sector?

- Noone Left Behind
- Young Person's Guarantee
- Kickstart
- Are there more?

Which groups should we link in with?

- Community Planning Improvement Group
- Local Employability Partnership
- Are there other groups?

Partnership Meeting Updates

No updates

Forum Member Updates

Cyrenians

- Cook-a longs online with service users using food from foodbanks and preparing meals
- Have been able to move most services online
- Active Citizenship Program
- Lighthouse project is now called Quest
- Courts working normally now so referrals have gone up
- ITA funding for service users to get CSCS card
- Lots of people directing their own learning by accessing free open university courses
- Horticultural SQA in walled garden
- Enterprise café has new employees
- Telephone and online support – wellbeing, confidence, self-esteem , anxiety

The Conservation Volunteers

- Some online training
- Volunteer support through wellbeing cafes
- Still delivering practical projects in person under Covid guidance
 - Recycling project
- Moving people into employability journey (young people)
- Working with Gypsy traveller community in terms of employability
- Walk and Talk group
- Increasing partnership working and keeping an eye on the funding horizon

Social Security Scotland

You can access our [Stakeholder Resources Page](#) which for a while was down. It has now been updated with all our benefits. They are in the process of also putting our benefit guidance on the page as well.

We have recently launched 3 new benefits:

- Job Start Payment
- Child Winter Heating Assistance

- Scottish Child Payment

[Job Start Payment](#) is a payment payable to 16-24-year olds who start work and have been in receipt of a qualifying benefit for 6 months. £250 for single clients or £400 if they have children. The link will take you to an article suitable for a news story on a website or social media.

[Child Winter Heating Assistance](#) is a one-off payment and the first of our Disability Benefits. This is payable to anyone in receipt of Disability Living Allowance for Children at the Highest rate of Care Component. The payment will be issued automatically and paid into the same account as the DLA is paid. The link will also take you to an article suitable for a news story on a website or social media.

[Scottish Child Payment](#) is our biggie. This is our first recurring benefit. The claim has been opened up early to invite claims from this month. Payments will start from 15.02.21 and anyone that claims before that date will have their claim paid from then. If someone claims after that date, the claim will start from the date the claim was received. We are encouraging anyone to make the claim now. This is a payment of £10 per week for any child under the age of 6 years old. There is no limit on the number of children under 6 that can be paid for. The link will also take you to an article suitable for a news story on a website or social media.

Actions:

1. Poll to determine most suitable days and times
2. Find some speakers for the next forum – might draw more people to attend (DWP and ETU)

AOCB

Suggested Next Forum date Wednesday 17th February 10am-12pm