



Third Sector Research Forum steering group Meeting: Tuesday 8th August 2pm-4pm

Online Meeting

Chair Gary Walsh (ESS)

Minutes Gemma Smith (ESS)

Apologies

Kimberley Somerside (Voluntary Health Scotland), Jennifer Challinor (The Crichton Trust), Cathy Bulley (Queen Margaret University), Elaine Wilson (Corra Foundation), Wendy Marsden (retired), Debbie Maltman (Volunteer Scotland), Kate Kilpatrick (Scottish Government), Steve Grozier (SCVO), Rebecca McGregor (Inclusion Scotland)

Attending

Sarah Weakley (University of Glasgow), Jane Cullingworth (University of Glasgow), Laura Robertson (Poverty Alliance), Amy Calder (YouthLink Scotland), Amy Woodhouse (Children in Scotland), Lucy MacDonald (National Lottery Community Fund), Lucy Mulvagh (The ALLIANCE), Alasdair Rutherford (University of Stirling), Cassy Rutherford (Robertson Trust), Ilse Mackinnon (SCVO), Tamara Satmaraan (OSCR), Andy Paterson (Social Enterprise Scotland), Duncan Thorp (Social Enterprise Scotland)

Minutes

1400 Welcome and introductions

1405 Minutes and actions from previous meeting (Gary)

- Minutes from May 2023 were approved by steering group

1410 Update: TSRF communications (Gemma)

- Gemma provided a summary of communications activity since the last meeting (newsletters, bulletins, social media)
- Members sent Twitter accounts and gave permission to be tagged in posts by TSRF
- **ACTION: Gemma to continue comms activity and report back**

1415 Update: TSRF Member Chats (Gary)

- Gary provided a summary of the TSRF Member Chats from June and July
- Discussion on Community of Practice
 - It was felt that listing steering group members (name and organisation) would clarify who and what their involvement is.
 - **ACTION: Gary and Gemma to list steering group members on the website**

- Discussion on Forum Topics
 - Question about doing something with a policy focus – do we have the resources and capacity for this?
 - **ACTION: Gary to investigate having a TSRF policy theme and report back**
 - Discussion about categorising topics: are specific topics are supposed to be linked to themes? We don't want to overengineer the process. TSRF can talk about anything research related.
 - It was suggested that we just having overarching themes, and a message saying the forum is "open to any and all topics" related to third sector research. Themes can enable activities and workplans for each theme. This would keep it broad so no one wonders "where's my topic?".
 - **ACTION: Gary to update forum topics description on website as appropriate and report back**
- Discussion about member chats
 - Member's chat went well, but there wasn't enough time to discuss. Question about having interest in multiple topics.
 - Feedback from participants was 1 hour was perfect but also not long enough. Shortening admin tasks (e.g. picking topics) would allow more time for discussion.
 - It was clarified that chats will be held monthly and we can plan three dates in advance.
 - We don't know exact reasons for no-shows, but those with research remit were most likely to attend
 - **ACTION: Gary to organise next three member chat dates and work on getting timings more effective during chats**
- Discussion on resources
 - **ACTION: Gary to audit, quality control, and identifying gaps in resources**
- Discussion on reaching wider audience, while keeping it relevant to researchers
 - It was suggested that having evaluation in the title may register more interest for those using the same skills but not doing research per se
 - **ACTION: Gary to investigate 'research and evaluation' idea and report back**

1445 Ideas for upcoming events

- Public Involvement in Research
 - Jane would like to pick this back up. Asked about resources available
 - TSRF has small budget for in-person events, although the idea from the review is to move away from large one-off

conference to smaller regular events. Ticketing could help cover costs if needed.

- Laura and Amy also interested in taking part
- **ACTION: Jane to re-establish contact with those interested in Public Involvement in Research event**
- Knowledge Exchange
 - **ACTION: Sarah, Gary, Cathy and Kait to report back when progress is made on KE event**
- Event/webinar on Quantitative Research
 - Alasdair suggested an event on quantitative research methods, data analysis and visualisation tools.
 - Ilse would also be interested in this idea.
 - **ACTION: Alasdair and Ilse to investigate and report back**

1515 Revisiting the role of the steering group (all)

- Gary explained context that questions were asked during the members chat in June about the role of the steering group and how members were selected
- Discussion about whether “steering group” is correct as TSRF isn’t a decision making body but a supportive peer group. It was felt that this was not a big issue, as long as everyone understands the setup.
- Question about understanding the comments/questions – it was anonymous feedback with sense that that people just wanted to know.
- It was pointed out that many steering group members are themselves from membership organisations.
- It was agreed that we should continue as we are, with some added clarification if necessary
- **ACTION: Gary to clarify role and setup of steering group when/if necessary**

1540 Member updates

Lucy, the ALLIANCE

- Accessing audiology services
- Qualitative project on the right to health – underway
- Programme with Public Health Scotland and Strathclyde – peer research on barriers to accessing healthcare, marginalised communities, digital inclusion
- Disabled people, unpaid carers and the cost-of-living crisis: impacts, responses and long-term solutions
- Snap-2- action plan published
- In partnership with Engender – explore impact of COVID-19 on the experience of those accessing pregnancy and maternity services across Scotland. Out September 2023.



Jane, UoG - Voluntary Sector and volunteering research conference 2023

- research project about the experiences of young disabled people as they grow up - the transition from being a young person to becoming an adult. We're currently recruiting young disabled people aged 16-19

Amy, YouthLink Scotland - Positive masculinity for young people

- National Youth Work Conference – impacting influence, stories and stats
- Informal research ethics group
- Open justice policy clinic, UO – law students work pro-bono with third sector, on law, regulation etc.
- Amy, Children in Scotland – Youth engagement project on alcohol restrictions
- collaborative campaigning in children’s sector. Coming soon.
- Third sector engagement in children services planning. Survey on TSI network out this month.
- national approaches to hobbies for children.

Isle, SCVO

- Mentioned the The Robertson Trust internships

1550 AOB

- Nothing proposed

1600 Close

[PTO for summary of actions]

Summary of actions

WHO	ACTION	DUE
Gemma	Publish May 2023 minutes on website	Pass to Marianne
Gemma	Continue comms activity and report back	Pass to Marianne
Gary and Gemma	List steering group members on the website	DONE (orgs/logos)
Gary	Investigate having a TSRF policy theme and report back	Next meeting
Gary and Gemma	Update forum topics description on website as appropriate and report back	DONE
Gary	Organise next three member chat dates and work on getting timings more effective during chats	To be carried over
Gary	Investigate 'research and evaluation' idea and report back	Next meeting
Jane	Re-establish contact with those interested in Public Involvement in Research event	DONE
Sarah, Cathy, Kait	Report back when progress is made on KE event	Next meeting
Alasdair, Ilse	Investigate event on quantitative research and report back	Next meeting
Gary	Clarify role and setup of steering group for members when/if necessary	Ongoing