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**Third Sector Leeds Leadership Group**

**26 June 2023**

**1.30pm – 3.30pm**

**Stringer House**

Present:

Kim Groves KG TSL Chair

Jo Volpe JV Older People Rep (Leeds OP Forum)

Hannah Bailey HB VAL Rep (Voluntary Action Leeds)

Julia Preston JuP Children and Young People’s Rep (Gipsil)

Helen Hart HHa Children and Young People’s Rep (Barca)

Adrian Curtis AC Localities South East (Groundwork)

Maggie Dawkins MD LGBT+ Rep (LGBT Forum)

Gayle Graham GG Small Groups Rep (Health for All)

Caroline Rountree CR Crime Reduction Network Rep (Restorative Justice)

Dave Paterson DP Housing Rep (Food Aid Network)

In attendance:

Meg Russell MR TSL Support - VAL

Carl Robertshaw CR TSL Support – VAL

Bradley Keast BK KPMG

Apologies:

Pip Goff PG Health Rep (Forum Central)

Nick Morgan NM Advice and Financial Inclusion Rep (Chapeltown CAB)

Nik Peasgood NP Women and Girls Rep (Leeds Women’s Aid)

Helen Hoyle HHo Infrastructure Rep (SEE Ahead)

Simon Phillips SP Faith Groups Rep (Leeds Faith Forum)

Ali Magoub AM Leeds Refugee Forum

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| **Item** |  | **Action** |
| **1** | **Welcome and Introductions** |  |
|  | KG welcomed all attendees to the meeting and apologies were shared.  Also attending this meeting is Bradley Keast from KPMG to talk about to talk about their offer to third sector organisations in Leeds. |  |
| **2.** | **Previous Notes, Matters Arising and Report on TSL Activity** |  |
|  | **Previous actions:**  Steph and Kate to let TSL LG know when the Fair Work charter is published at the end of this month – this has been agreed and a website to house it is in development. Applications to join the Charter will be open from September 2023. Kate Hainsworth is happy to come to a future meeting to discuss the charter further.  Meg to feedback suggestions to link IG strategy with wider thinking around social value (i.e. State of the City social value working group, and ambitions from the Third Sector Strategy draft) – complete, with a follow-up meeting arranged to link in further with the IG strategy refresh.  All to send or pick up any further feedback with Meg and to consider how best to use TSL Goes Local events to prioritise and plan action – complete, Meg thanked the LG for further feedback on the strategy.  HB to check in with Soo Nevison about space for the sector on the UKSPF sounding group – complete, update below.  **Chair’s update**  Kim gave a verbal update outlining her work as TSL Chair in the first three months in role:   * Meeting with several LG members, including HHa, JP, HB, PG, MD, GG, RM and others. * Meeting with Tom Riordan, James Rogers, Cllr James Lewis, and Cllr Harland to introduce herself and key priorities for TSL – email update circulated * Meeting with Ben Still, Director at WYCA to discuss the need to a third sector engagement mechanism at a West Yorkshire-level – update provided below * Taking over co-Chairing Third Sector Partnership Group, including agenda planning and follow up with partners * Kim outlined several funding opportunities upcoming through WYCA, e.g. Better Neighbourhoods, and will share more detail when this is available.   **Third Sector Strategy and TSL Events**  The Third Sector Strategy is still undergoing engagement and edits but gaining momentum. There was a discussion on how to launch the finalised strategy with broad agreement on 2-3 TSL Goes Local Events (in partnership with LCAN) followed by a larger Citywide event to take place in Autumn 2023.  The TSL Goes Local events would be used as a way to share the strategy with local smaller organisations and to gauge initial priorities, with these findings to be shared and finalised at the citywide event.  **Action:** Meg and Alex to pick up with LCAN colleagues and TSL locality reps to plan events  **UKSPF**  Dynamic purchasing is now live. It is important for the forum to influence at a local level to ensure that the money is spent.  Small groups may not have the ability to access funds through dynamic purchasing.  NEETS are a ‘city obsession’ and a focus of Young Lives Leeds. With Sam Lowe, Positive Destinations Manager at Leeds City Council attending a recent YLL meeting to talk to member about the council’s work to tackle the problem. Leeds has high numbers of NEETS. There is potential to shape plans around the UKSPF Youth Unemployment Grant.  HB received an update from Soo Nevison of CABAD on the first meeting of the UKSPF regional partnership, which took place on 15 June. The meeting was mostly focussed on Pillar 3 of the fund on People and Skills. This is a pot of £16.65m of which £2.65m is to be allocated to LAs.  It is proposed that some of the remaining fund be spent on three community grant schemes covering work and health, support for those furthest from the labour market and digital inclusion (c£4.2m across all three), a youth unemployment scheme (c£3m) and a work and health programme (c£4.4m). Proposed final allocations are expected to be confirmed at the end of July.  It is believed that money will be moved from pillar 3 to pillar 2 if this is unlikely to be spent.  Funding for women’s and girl’s schemes are now fully allocated and Women’s Lives Leeds have been involved in this work.  **ACTION:** KG to ask for an update at Third Sector Partnership Group and for clarification on whether grants will need to go through DPS.  **Vice Chair Recruitment**  The Task and finish group for vice chair recruitment will reconvene in September, and is open to new members. The scope for the vice chair role and how we should approach recruitment is to be agreed with a specific focus for the vice chair under consideration – potentially health, sector resilience or small groups – noting that it may complicate recruitment if the role is too narrowly defined.  **Action:** Members to contact MR if interested in joining task and finish group for Vice Chair recruitment.  **West Yorkshire Engagement Structure**  KG recently met with Ben Still, Managing Director, WYCA to discuss funding, social value and the structure the authority wish to see.  The third sector is currently underrepresented on WYCA boards and had no input into the development of the West Yorkshire Plan as far as we are aware.  The Leadership Group agreed that a letter to the Mayor of West Yorkshire stating that the sector is keen to be involved in the West Yorkshire Plan, outlining our essential role in the economy, would be a good idea.  **Action:** Meg to draft letter to WY Mayor on behalf of TSL outlining the sector’s essential role in the economy, and part in the West Yorkshire Plan.  A West Yorkshire mechanism for engagement for the sector is now in draft and indications are favourable with changes to the composition of WYCA board to take place.  The next steps for engagement are under discussion with WY infrastructure leaders.  Leadership at Leeds City Council is supportive of efforts for better sector engagement with the WYCA.  If the current approach is unsuccessful there was broad agreement that a formal joint letter to WYCA may be helpful. This would need to be agreed by other infrastructure leaders in West Yorkshire.  **Action:** Kim to share more details of upcoming WY funding opportunities. | **MR & AC**  **KG**  **All**  **MR**  **KG** |
| **3.** | **Bradley Keast, KPGM – Mentoring for Third Sector in Leeds** |  |
|  | KPMG has over 1700 employees in the UK and 900 locally with an active corporate social responsibility office and around 20% of all staff volunteering.  CSR work at KPMG has until recently been focused on mentoring young people and students but the firm is looking to expand its offer to organisations working within the sector. The offer is bespoke and could be:   * Mentoring individuals * Assisting with impact assessments * Help putting together a business plan * Financial modelling * Access to networks   Bradley has recently been working with SNAPS on business mentoring and the KPMG has worked with Gipsil on an IT project in best utilizing MS Teams for internal communications.  Bradley was asked to provide some case studies on the mentoring offer. These are not currently available but will be produced and circulated to members when produced.  **Action:** VAL staff to share slides with forums and networks  **Action:** Bradley Keast to share case studies with TSL Leadership Group | **MR**  **MR** |
| **4.** | **Strategic Updates from Leadership Group Members** |  |
|  | **Helen Hart – Children and Young People and West Leeds**  **CYP:** Young Lives Leeds recently held a planning day to determine priorities for the coming year with the following identified:   * Recruitment, training and retainment * NEETS * Facilitating collaborations across the sector * Health inequalities * Trauma informed practice * SEND * Measuring impact * Safeguarding * Early help   **West Leeds:** Rachel Reeves is to attend a meeting on the impact of gun and knife violence on young people at New Wortley Community Centre in the near future and it is likely that this will generate news coverage.  **Caroline Rountree – Crime Reduction Network Rep**  The Leeds Crime Reduction Network meeting will be held on 12 July at the Vinery Centre and will focus on prison leavers. There will be input from HMP Leeds and Wealstun.  **Hannah Bailey – VAL Rep**  Hannah is on the working group on Leeds becoming a Marmot City which recently convened with the Marmot Institute and is scheduled to meet quarterly. A representative from the institute has indicated interest in attending a future TSL Leadership Group meeting to get a sense of its work and the current picture in the city.  Hannah has met with Kaye Hainsworth of LCF and Forum Central to discuss a coordinated approach to social value.  Discussions with Leeds City Council are underway on a potential social value levy for city service users. A process map for the proposed levy is in production at LCF, whom it is envisaged will hold the fund for investment across Leeds. Hannah will meet Kate again in August with an update to members to follow. Kate is due to leave LCF in the next six months but is keen to make good progress on this work before her departure.  VAL took part in a roundtable with LCF, 100% Digital Leeds and Tech Companies working in the city to discuss how the tech sector in Leeds can invest in corporate social responsibility and how to nurture relationships between the two sectors.  Measures being looked at include how the tech sector could best invest time and funds and procurement. Hannah will update members on this work as it progresses.  **Dave Paterson – Housing Rep**  **Leeds Street Support Partnership:** Rough sleeping in Leeds in May was at a high level and there is a noted increase in the complexity of cases.  Housing benefit rates no longer match rising rents and unless addressed an increase in homelessness is expected.  Commissioning is an issue with short term contracts resulting in services being replaced every few years as contracts end, with this having a negative impact on the recruitment and retention of staff.  **Leeds Food Aid Network:** Food bank usage in the city is significantly up on the previous year with c59k users (prev c42k).  There are 19 food pantries currently operating in Leeds with c30k allocations this year.  There have been c13k referrals to Leeds Fuel Bank this year.  Welfare support in the city is currently at its highest ever usage.  **Maggie Dawkins - LGBT+ Rep**  The LGBT+ Forum is linking with Touchstone on NHS recruitment for marginalised groups. Older LGBT+ people are often not receiving the services they need due to stigma and many LGBT+ NHS workers feel marginalised.  Health for All are carrying out work on sport for LGBT+ young people aged 11-15 and are currently surveying the national picture on this.  **John Preston (in absence) – Environment Rep**  Leeds Green Activity Provider network is doing some exploratory work on better ways to evaluate the impacts of the work our social prescribing type projects do.  **TSL Support**  TSL have been asked to provide a letter of support to a bid being developed by the University of Leeds called INFUZE, which is aiming to co-design carbon-free transport options for Leeds. Meg will circulate further details via email. |  |
| **6.** | **AOB** |  |
|  | HB provided an update on the membership of the Third Sector Partnership with the following action noted.  **ACTION:** Meg to review the 5 x third sector representatives at Third Sector Partnership, as some have left, circulate rep opportunities with the Leadership Group and/or explore the possibility of flexible representatives. | **MR** |
| **7.** | **Date and Time of Next meeting** |  |
|  | 26th June 2023, 1.30 – 3.00pm in person at Stringer House, Hunslet |  |