

# Cross-Party Group on Volunteering

29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 1pm-2pm online

Minute

Present

MSPs

Jeremy Balfour MSP, Co-Convenor  
Foyso Choudhury, MSP Co-Convenor

Invited guests.

Laura Moffat, Senior Policy Advisor, Wellbeing Economy Team, SG  
Sarah Latto – Volunteer Scotland

Non-MSP Group Members

Louise Ian	Orr McCall	Volunteering Matters Paths for All CHAS (Children's Hospices Across Scotland)
Fiona Emma Sue Claire Diane Louise Sarah Tracey	Harvey O'Shea Bowen Stevens Wilson McGinty Murray Brown	Impact Funding Partners Dyslexia Scotland Voluntary Health Scotland Impact Funding Partners Quarriers Royal Voluntary Service Marie Curie ACVO (third sector interface for Aberdeen)
Mike Catriona Tracey Kimberley Marion Sharon Ann Fiona Tina Anna Emma Sarah	Melvin MacLeod Passway Somerside Findlay Bleakley Wilson Zapirain Cameron Stark Kyles Cleary	CVS Inverclyde NHS Tayside Voluntary Health Scotland Volunteer Edinburgh Healthcare Improvement Scotland The Ayrshire Community Trust Scottish Government VASLan Voluntary Action South Ayrshire YouthLink Scotland Volunteer Edinburgh

Damian	Sherwood- Johnson	Sistema Scotland
Katy	Wilson-Scott	Kairos Women+
Paul	Wilson	Volunteer Edinburgh
Karen	Russell	Stroke Association
Kirstin	Worsley	The Breastfeeding Network
Alison	Crofts	Voluntary Health Scotland
Ruth	Hutton	Scottish Government
Wendy	Diack	Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland
Alan	Stevenson	Volunteer Scotland

## Apologies

Kim Atkinson SSA  
 Alison Crofts VHScotland  
 Lauren Blair VHScotland

### 1. Minutes of previous meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### 2. Laura Moffat, Senior Policy Advisor, Wellbeing Economy Team, SG

- The Scottish Government's vision for Scotland is to transition to a wellbeing economy - that is, an economic system operating within safe environmental limits, which serves and prioritises the collective wellbeing of current and future generations.
- Wellbeing is an explicit part of our national purpose as a country, underpinning the [National Performance Framework](#) - Scotland's Wellbeing Framework.
- The [National Strategy for Economic Transformation](#) sets out a path to transition to a wellbeing economy, which forms its overarching vision.
- The [Wellbeing Economy Monitor](#) was first published in June 2022 and updated in December. It aims to complement and look beyond traditional economic metrics like GDP and employment figures by measuring broader outcomes that people value, such as health, environmental sustainability, fair work, and income and wealth inequality. The monitor is based on Scotland's National Outcomes and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- A place-based [Wellbeing Economy Toolkit](#) was published in November 2022. The toolkit builds on insights from a pilot in Clackmannanshire and supports local authorities to identify and measure wellbeing outcomes and how they inter-connect, and to prioritise economic interventions likely to have the biggest impact on social and environmental wellbeing.
- A [local wellbeing economy monitor](#) was published in December, which aims to support local authorities to carry out the diagnostic process set out in the Wellbeing Economy Toolkit by providing data on a set of wellbeing indicators based on the NPF National Outcomes and indicators. This takes the form of an

interactive excel file, allowing users to select data for any given local authority at the press of a button.

- The group of Wellbeing Economy Governments (WEGo) was launched in 2018 by the Scottish, New Zealand, and Icelandic governments at the OECD World Forum. Wales and Finland joined the network in 2020, with Canada taking part in activities and invited to become a formal member. The group seeks to promote sharing of expertise and transferable economic policy practices to deliver societal wellbeing.
- The network holds regular online policy labs and seminars. Discussions have touched on a wide range of topics including wellbeing measurements and frameworks, child poverty and wellbeing, just transition and green and inclusive recoveries from COVID-19. An in-person event was held in Glasgow in November 2022 and will meet again at a Wellbeing Economy conference held by the Icelandic Government in June 2023.

### 3. Policy Champions Network (PCN) – Sarah Latto, Volunteer Scotland

Sarah provided an overview of the Policy Champion Network (PCN) which was launched in February 2023 and relates to action 4 of the Volunteering Action Plan.

**Organising for policy success** through a **Policy Champions Network**, developed and supported by the Scottish Government and Volunteer Scotland, with representation from across the volunteering sector.

So far, we have over 40 members as well as a stewardship role in place.

The purpose of the PCN is to;

- Influence policy teams across the Scottish Government and wider public sector
- Use collective experience to identify policy priorities and inform policy content.
- Contribute to the policy output of organisations with dedicated policy capacity and volunteering remit.
- Map and monitor policy and influence work related to volunteering.
- Ensure accountability of infrastructure bodies and Third Sector Unit around policy ambitions
- The PCN structure is to create a wider network that will be informed of relevant policy updates and invited to share experiences to inform collective influence.
- The stewardship group who listens and informs, it does not control.
- Stewards will use feedback to inform the identification of policy priorities and shared messaging.

We are holding our first PCN event, on **Community Wealth Building (CWB)** on the 11th of April on-line at 1pm.

If you would like to find out more or join the PCN please email [sarah.latto@volunteerscotland.org.uk](mailto:sarah.latto@volunteerscotland.org.uk)

#### 4. National Campaign – Margaret Starkie- Volunteer Scotland

The need for a national recruitment campaign has come from research shared with the Cost-of-Living Task Group.

Volunteer Scotland are establishing a campaign group of which invitations will be sent out and possible launch early 2024.

If you would like to find out more please contact: [margaret.starkie@volunteerscotland.org.uk](mailto:margaret.starkie@volunteerscotland.org.uk)

#### 5. Volunteers' Week 2023 – Margaret Starkie- Volunteer Scotland

- The Volunteers Week 2023 campaign is launched today.
- <https://volunteersweek.scot/>
- Theme is Celebrate and Inspire
- We are working with UK partners, NCVO, WCVA and Volunteer Now as a 4-nation approach.
- We also have a Recognition and Celebration Group, made up of 10 organisations, working on the Scotland campaign.
- We will be holding a VW reception at Scottish Parliament on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023
- For more information and to provide volunteer case studies please contact [margaret.starkie@volunteerscotland.org.uk](mailto:margaret.starkie@volunteerscotland.org.uk)

#### 6. AOB

No AOB was discussed.