



Transition Group Engagement Plan

For Discussion

Purpose

To outline some ideas and support discussion on an engagement plan for the work of the Transition Group, acknowledging the public commitments made in the terms of reference, the time available, and the timeline for the final report by the end of October 2022

Background

The Terms of Reference for the Transition Group assumed a level of wider sector engagement in conducting its work and set out an expectation of a level of engagement on the emerging recommendations prior to a presentation to the SES Board. Resources have been allocated to conduct some opinion work by Community Enterprise Scotland also.

To date the TG have not yet felt able to lead such engagement until it had formed some clearer views on the matters on which it might seek to engage. The ongoing community conversations being led by Social Enterprise Scotland as part of transition are noted, and the survey commissioned to elicit views from the TSI/SES network is also noted. It is also anticipated that the results of the Census might also become available in limited form to inform the Transition Group work.

The Terms of Reference make mention of work to engage in July and at the end of September 2022 (drafted at a time when the timeline was not secured). Importantly, there is an expectation that there will be some presentation to social enterprises, funders, and stakeholders in advance of the submission of a final report to the SES Board at the end of October 2022

Key Dates for consideration

TG Meetings

23rd September 2022

10th October 2022

24th October 2022

Note, the Social Enterprise Awards are on the 1st of November 2022

Proposal

Online Engagement Events

There is a window from 23rd September 2022 – 10th October 2022 to undertake some engagement. In the interests of time and attracting people to attend, it is proposed to convene 4 – 5 online events, with a regional focus (including a Highlands and Island event). These would be targeted at all social enterprises, funders, and stakeholders. They would be hosted by the Chair and seek views on the key themes and issue emerging thus far from the work of the Transition Group. This assumes that there are some clear themes emerging and that thinking about the terms of any final report are becoming crystallised. The Group could consider an accompanying survey / independent engagement work as was envisaged to coincide.



National Event

The commitment to consult with the wider community in October 2022 is a significant milestone for the group and enables it to road test its draft recommendations. It is envisaged that the final meeting of the Transition Group on 24th October 2022 will seek to finalise recommendations in the light of any engagement, or survey findings that are available.

Historically, SENScot held an annual “ceilidh” event that brought together social enterprises and stakeholders to discuss, debate and network in a mixture of conference style events, and an equally popular social gathering. This annual event was well attended and regarded as a key fixture in the social enterprise calendar. It was usually sponsored and held over 2 half days including an overnight.

Social Enterprise Scotland would like to bring some of the legacy of this event into the calendar of the SEI. It is therefore further proposed that an event of a similar kind be put in place, and this could take place in the period between 10th – 24th October 2022 to enable it to be used in part to engage on the recommendations. Over time, there may be questions of its annual timing, and perhaps its future cycle might include the annual Social Enterprise Awards. The event would be deliberately broader than just the future SEI but would contain other content of interest to attendees.

Recommendations

You are asked to:

- Note the requirements to consult and engage, noting timings and wider developments
- Consider the idea of several online events in the period from 23rd September – 10th October 2022
- Consider whether you wish to conduct further survey work through Community Enterprise Scotland
- Discuss the idea of a national style event in October 2022 as part of its refinement of your recommendations.

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