

Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 4 February 2016
Caerdydd 3, Cathays Park, Welsh Government

Present			
Will	Atkinson	WA	The Wallich
Philip	Avery	PA	Welsh Sports Association
Jacqueline	Campbell	JC	Shelter Cymru
Bryan	Collis	BC	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Kelly	Edwards	KE	Workers' Educational Association Cymru
Ceri-Anne	Fidler	CF	Wales Co-operative Centre
Martin	Fidler Jones	MFJ	RSPCA Cymru
Catrin	James	CJ	Urdd Gobaith Cymru
Glyn	Jones	GJ	Welsh Government
Lucy	Knight	LK	Chwarae Teg
Calvin	Lees	CL	Learning and Work Institute Wales
Ruth	Marks	RM	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Sue	Leake	SL	Welsh Government
Carys	Moseley	CM	Cytûn
Barbara	Natasegara	BN	Safer Wales
Judith	Stone	JS	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Sian	Williams	SW	Welsh Government
Vanessa	Allis	VA	Welsh Government (Minute Taker)
Apologies			
Carl	Cooper		Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations
Marsha	Feeney		Swansea Council for Voluntary Service
Paul	Glaze		Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services
Victoria	Winkler		Bevan Foundation
Uzo	Iwobi OBE		Race Council Cymru
Nisreen	Mansour		Bevan Foundation

1	Welcome, Introductions & Apologies	
	SL and GJ opened the meeting and welcomed members.	
2	Background to the development of the group	
	GJ explained the background to why the WG had set up this Third Sector Statistics User Panel. GJ and SL spoke about how valuable it was to hear from third sector statistics users to maximise the value of official statistics. GJ attends UK-wide committees and would like to represent, not only the view of the WG, but the view of Welsh users. The group discussed how useful it was to build connections to work together to assist one another.	
3	Background to official statistics in Welsh Government	
	SL presented on the context, challenges and opportunities of statistics within WG. GJ explained how WG statistics fits into the role of policy and decision making within WG. The group discussed how data they provide is processed and used within WG. They suggested that WG could give more feedback to third sectors as to how the data they provide, in particular in respect of grant monitoring, is used. The group discussed a need for a level of finer details provided by data. SL gave an example of WG doing this through follow-up surveys to the National Survey for Wales. One member raised the issue of detailed data collection on members of the public volunteering, particularly looking at motivations for volunteering and how many days members of the public volunteer for.	
4	Arrangements for the User Panel – Terms of reference, membership, frequency of meeting and communications	
	<p>GJ led a discussion on the draft terms of reference for the User Panel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group expressed interest in WG statisticians doing voluntary statistical analysis for other organisations • An organisation raised the issue of data being collected by voluntary organisations across the four nations not always being suitable for analysis of just Wales. The group suggested a sharing best practice session on analysing and presenting statistics <p>The group then discussed the frequency of meetings, membership and communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group agreed to meet twice a year with a potential for webinars before key outputs • The group agreed that emails were the best way for the group to communicate • GJ said it was important for the wider mailing list to be maintained and kept up to date • GJ mentioned that the mailing lists for newsletters from specific statistics team within WG will give more detailed information of statistical outputs in areas members are interested in 	<p>Action: Any members that have potential statistical volunteering opportunities for WG statisticians to let SL and GJ know.</p> <p>Action: GJ and SL to contact ONS to find out how their volunteering scheme works and whether WG and ONS could run a joint scheme.</p> <p>Future Agenda Item: Best practice session on presenting statistics.</p>
5	Quarterly Newsletters	
	GJ highlighted the method of quarterly newsletters to keep User Panel informed. SL spoke about the topics within the newsletter that had been sent to group in December. GJ explained that they'd chosen not to put National Indicators as an agenda item for this meeting because it was in-between the consultation period and next steps. The WG aim to publish something on National Indicators in March. GJ expressed that the consultation process had been very useful and thanked those who had contributed.	

6 / 8	Population and Household Statistics consultation and Current issues of interest for panel members	
	<p>GJ presented on the population and household statistics consultation. The WG currently plans to produce population projections in September 2016. GJ explained that in future the WG would like to publish National Parks, LA, household, and population projections around the same time. One organisation suggested highlighting what's about to be released by WG on Twitter. GJ and SL gave an example of tweeting before the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2014 was published.</p> <p>SL discussed the Census Advisory Group for Wales (CAGW) and suggested it would be useful to have further representation from the third sector. One group member asked if an area of Wales is being included in the test for the census. SL confirmed that an area of Wales would be included in the test for the census and the ONS are liaising with WG about the Welsh language aspect of the census.</p> <p>The group discussed the questions on the Discussion slide of the presentation and discussed current issues of interest for panel members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some organisations raised the issue of not always being able to find the breakdowns of the data that they need. GJ suggested the group contact individual teams mailing boxes with specific issues they have and WG statisticians might be able to help or explain why the data breakdown isn't available. • One organisation said it would be useful to have guidance on good practice around survey weighting to make the third sector outputs more robust. • An organisation suggested the possibility of being able to aggregate geographies within StatsWales would be useful. GJ said he would consider this feedback for future StatsWales developments. The group agreed that the current plans for the future update of StatsWales would be useful. • A group member asked if it was possible to get All Communities First values for some data sets. GJ asked for group members to contact WG with specific examples and WG statisticians can see if it's possible. Another group member asked if there was still a small area to CF lookup. LSOA to CF lookup • One organisation asked if it was possible to adjust WIMD to exclude certain domains or indicators. SL suggested contacting her and her team will respond accordingly. 	<p>Action: Any members that wish to be involved in CAGW to put their names forward.</p>
7	Forthcoming developments for the WG	
	<p>SL presented on forthcoming developments for the WG. In particular, the WG statisticians are developing their websites including StatsWales. They're also taking forward an interest in opening up data – for example, Lle. The WIMD team are currently looking at potentially adding more data to the WIMD interactive tool.</p>	

9	Future Agenda Items and Date of next meeting	
	<p>The group discussed future agenda items and date of next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group agreed that the next meeting should be held in October 2016. • The group agreed that it would be useful to have the WG Chief Social Research Officer to talk to the group to start links between this User panel and Social Research. • GJ suggested the National Indicators as a future agenda item. • GJ and SL asked group to feedback any items that they may wish to talk about in future meetings. • GJ and SL asked group to suggest any other organisations that may wish to join the User panel. There is a potential for video conferencing with organisations in North Wales. • The group was asked to feedback on the consultation to changes to ONS outputs. Examples from the third sector could provide weight to WG points. 	<p>Future agenda item: Presentation from WG Chief Social Researcher</p> <p>Future agenda item: Presentation on National Indicators</p> <p>Action: Any members with any topics they would like to talk about in future meetings to feedback to WG</p>
10	Any other business	
	The group didn't raise any issues.	
11	Close	
	The next Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales will be held in October 2016. Date to be confirmed.	

Summary of Action Points

1	Any members that have potential statistical volunteering opportunities for WG statisticians to let SL and GJ know.	All members
2	GJ and SL to contact ONS to find out how their volunteering scheme works and whether WG and ONS could run a joint scheme.	GJ, SL
3	Any members that wish to be involved in CAGW to put their names forward.	All members
4	Any members with any topics they would like to talk about in future meetings to feedback to WG.	All members

This document is also available in Welsh.