



Autumn 2017

Welcome to this edition of the Scottish Third Sector Research Forum (TSRF) newsletter.

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Introducing Louise Bowen

[Louise Bowen](#) is the new ESS Knowledge and Networks Officer. She will be providing secretariat support to the TSRF and leading on programme development for the

[Researching Together](#) conference to be held in Edinburgh on Feb 1st 2018. (See below for more details).

Follow her on Twitter [@KNO_EvalSupScot](#) for updates on the conference and other learning events hosted by ESS.



Researching Together conference

[Researching Together Conference](#) - the next Let's collaborate event will be on **1st February 2018** at John McIntyre Centre, Pollock Halls, University of Edinburgh.

The theme of the conference will be '[Doing research with other people](#)' and is aimed at third sector practitioners, academics and public sector who are interested in researching for and about the third sector. We are now in the process of finalising the programme and speakers. Booking will be open in **November** through ESS's website. Keep in touch by Twitter [@KNO_EvalSupScot](#)

If you would like to register your interest please email [Louise Bowen](#)

Information about previous events is [here](#).

Help us find out who is funding third sector and academic collaborative research

ESS, on behalf of the Forum, is undertaking a small piece of research to find out about who funds collaborative research between third sector and academics.

At previous 'Let's collaborate' events we have heard from several third sector organisations who have successfully collaborated with academics to produce a variety of research. During following discussions we identified funding (among others) as a challenge to collaboration and we want to find out about the current funding situation.

Calling all academics and third sector organisations who have or are doing research together - please complete [our survey](#) by 10th November 2017



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Research updates from our members

Voluntary Health Scotland

VHS publishes community link worker study

A report setting out the extensive and varied nature of third sector approaches to community link working across Scotland was launched by VHS in June at a well-attended seminar in Edinburgh. Published as Gold Star Exemplars: Third sector Approaches to Community Link Working Across Scotland the VHS report



presents the findings of a Scotland wide mapping exercise that involved 60 third sector providers, 15 Third Sector Interfaces and 3 case studies.

The study was carried out for VHS by Simon Jaquet Consultancy Services. It was commissioned by the Scottish Government to help it scope the development of a national programme which will see 250 additional Community Link Workers deployed in primary care settings to help tackle health inequalities. The report recommends that the Scottish Government ensure the third sector is a key partner in the strategic development and delivery of the new programme and that primary care should be supported to identify and involve third sector partners from the offset of developing a CLW service. The Scottish Government is still to formally announce its plans for the new programme.

[Read more and download the report here](#).

Social Enterprise Scotland

The new Social Enterprise in Scotland: Census 2017 is out. See the top headlines plus full report [here](#) and Facebook page [here](#).

Glasgow Centre for Public Health (GCPH)

Sheena Fletcher, Communications Officer at GCPH has written a blog about using infographics to make research more accessible. [Get in the picture – using infographics to share and promote research](#)

Iriss has published:

- [Getting there: Maddiston and Rumford Activity Report 2016 - 17](#)
- [Gypsy Traveller history in Scotland](#) – pictorial history showing importance of identity and representation
- [Series of Insights](#) – research into social services on a variety of subjects latest are:
 - Good practice with fathers in children and family services
 - Child protection: listening to and learning from parents

University of Stirling, Faculty of Social Sciences

Researcher Diarmuid McDonnell has just completed an ESRC collaborative studentship with Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and the University of Stirling on “[Risk & Resilience in Scottish Charities](#)”. Some information on his research can be found [here](#) and more [here](#).

Claire Stuart, is beginning a four-year ESRC collaborative studentship with Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) at the University of Stirling on “[Charity Trustees, Governance and Accountability in Scottish Charities: Modelling Trustee Dynamics Using Linked Regulator Data](#)”.

Crisis

Welcome to [Crisis](#) who has joined the Forum. [Ligia Teixeira](#) will attend meetings on behalf of Crisis.

Plan to End Homelessness consultations:

Crisis is undertaking a [major consultation](#) to find out what’s needed to end the worst forms of homelessness once and for all. Running for six months across Scotland, England, and Wales, the consultation - Have Your Say on a Plan to End Homelessness - forms part of Crisis’s 50th anniversary year and aims to identify the practical solutions needed to prevent and end homelessness in Britain, particularly focusing on those groups in most immediate need of support, specifically those who are sleeping rough; sofa surfing; in emergency shelters and women's refuges; in hostels; squats; unsuitable non-residential buildings; or unsuitable temporary accommodation. The resulting plan will be developed throughout the year and will be published in April 2018 with the aim of involving national and local government, charities and public services.

A better way to talk about homelessness:

The housing and homelessness sector needs to change the way it talks about homelessness if it is to convince the public that it can be ended, according to [a new report published by Crisis](#) and partners from across the sector. Conducted for Crisis by the FrameWorks Institute, and drawing on interviews with experts and members of the public, as well as analysis of sector and media stories, the study reveals that while experts see homelessness

as a range of insecure housing situations, with some groups at greater risk than others, the public tend to equate it with rough sleeping and certain 'typical' images – the middle-aged male rough sleeper with poor mental health, the young person kicked out of the family home or the woman fleeing domestic violence.

Homelessness Projections research:

Nearly 160,000 households, estimated at just under a quarter of a million people, are experiencing the worst forms of homelessness across Britain, with rough sleeping forecast to rise by 76 per cent in the next decade unless the governments in Westminster, Scotland and Wales take long-term action to tackle it. This is according to [new expert analysis](#) conducted for Crisis by Heriot-Watt University providing the most complete picture to-date of the worst forms of homelessness, including rough sleeping and sofa surfing, as well as 25-year forecasts for each category across England, Wales and Scotland.

Hothouses for innovation:

We are currently working with [Dartington Social Research Unit](#) to implement a rapid cycle innovation and testing methodology, which will help us measure which interventions are efficient and should be scaled up and how best to improve existing one.

From non- members

[Economic and Social Research Council \(ESRC\)](#) is gathering evidence on where we need to build knowledge and skills to improve the UK's social science capability and capacity. See further details [here](#).

[The Scottish Graduate School of Social Science \(SGSSS\)](#) will be shortly announcing details of a competition for collaborative PhD student funding, and details will be published soon [here online](#).

Share your findings

Do you have research evidence from, or about, the third sector you'd like to share or present to the Forum? Please email [Louise Bowen](#)

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At the October Forum meeting Sarah Munro and Emma Horrell, Equality and Human Rights Commission presented the [range of work of the Commission](#) which includes research, inquiries, and strategic legal cases. The Commission is a UK Regulatory body.

Currently Sarah and Emma are data-gathering for a statutory review "Is Scotland fairer?" Read the last review - [Is Scotland Fairer? The state of equality and human rights 2015 Executive summary 2016](#). They have been working on a new measurement framework which will be launched in November following consultation events earlier this year. In Spring 2018 there will be a stakeholder event to share findings and look at data gaps.

Is Scotland Fairer?

The state of equality and human rights 2015

Equality and Human Rights Commission

Sarah and Emma are looking for ways to encourage third sector organisations to share data with the Commission. If you have data to share or want to know more please get in touch with [Sarah Munro](#).

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Keep up with the Forum

The Scottish Third Sector Research Forum meets quarterly. You can read the minutes from the meeting which took place on **25 May 2017** [here](#) and [previous meetings here](#). And for more news from Scottish Third Sector Research Forum please read the [TSRF newsletters here](#).

The next Forum meeting will be on **8 December 2017** at Volunteer Scotland, Stirling.

You can also read more about the [Forum's work here](#) and see [previous evidence papers](#).

Get in touch!

Tell us what you think about the Forum by emailing [Louise Bowen](#)

Follow [Louise](#) on Twitter [@KNO_EvalSupScot](#)

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[Evaluation Support Scotland](#) manages the day-to-day activities of the Forum.



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