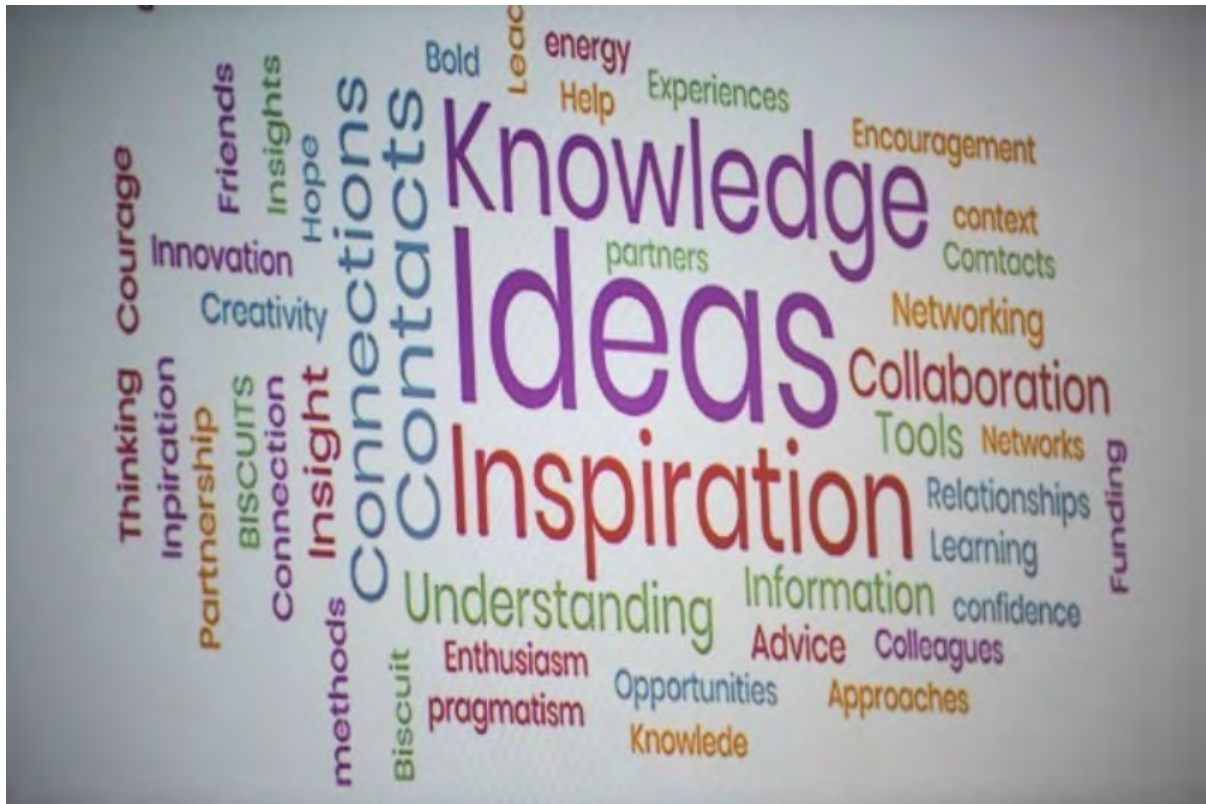


Scottish Third Sector Research Forum

champions the use of third sector research evidence in Scotland

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Summer 2018

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

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TSRF plans for work in 2018/19

At our June meeting we discussed and agreed the work we will take forward in 2018/2019.

This will involve:

- A research conference jointly hosted by the [Centre for Service Excellence](#), University of Edinburgh on 8 March 2019
- Planning a fifth 'Let's collaborate' event in Autumn 2019 (if you missed our last conference 'Researching Together', see report [here](#))

- Participatory research and research into lived experience
- Quarterly newsletters with updates from members and news about our work, events and resources
- Reviewing and revising TSRF webpages.

Explore our webpages here



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New member - YouthLink Scotland



We are delighted that **YouthLink Scotland** has joined the **Third Sector Research Forum**.

YouthLink Scotland is a membership organisation with representation from local authority youth services, third sector youth organisations, some issue specific organisations, such as 'respect me', and uniformed youth organisations. The organisation's core activities include lobbying, providing information, running events, and research into the impact of youth work.

Research activities in 2016 - 2018 include

- **Research matrix** – mapping what is already known about the impact of youth work, including formal and informal research, evaluations and European Commission's studies
- Transformative Evaluation – **Universal Youth Work Research Study** – providing training to third sector and field workers to collect change stories from young people.
- **Being Young in Scotland** survey by Ipsos MORI
- Youth-led research around issues such as sectarianism, and **forgotten women in history**

the **Scottish Youth Work Research Group**, chaired by Dona Milne, to address this. The group includes Scottish Government, youth work academics, community education, quantitative researchers, and researchers working on birth cohort studies such as Growing Up in Scotland.

Any questions [please email Susan Hunter](#)

YouthLink Scotland research



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Research updates from our members

[Scottish Charity Regulator \(OSCR\)](#)

Scottish charity and public surveys

At the end of May the [Scottish Charity Regulator](#) published the findings of its [Scottish Charity and Public Surveys](#). The bi-annual research found that the Scottish public's overall trust in charities is around the same as it was two years ago, but that there was an increase in those saying their trust has decreased over the same period. Trust was higher for local charities than for Scotland-wide, UK and international charities. Knowing how much of a donation goes to the cause, seeing evidence of what it has achieved and knowing it is well run were the highest rated ways to increase public trust. The charity survey found that, as in previous years, funding is the most pressing concern. Charitable status was rated as very important by 73% of charities and 86% say they benefit from being a charity, with access to tax/rates relief and increased public trust being the highest rated benefits identified.

[Voluntary Sector Studies Network \(VSSN\)](#)

'Trust, Transparency and Accountability of Charities and Voluntary Organisations: Challenges for Policy, Practice and Research'

Voluntary Sector and Volunteering Research Conference 2018

6th September 2018 - 7th September 2018 (All Day)

London

[Bookings now open – book online here](#)

Public trust in charities, voluntary organisations and wider civil society is under threat from a perceived lack of transparency and accountability surrounding its work. From the Oxfam scandal, to the failure of Kids Company, and ongoing concerns about fundraising practices,

- How is the sector, and civil society more generally, affected by and responding to media and political challenges to become more transparent and accountable?
- How is public trust holding-up in light of recent events, for individual organisations and the sector as a whole?

The **Voluntary Sector and Volunteering Research Conference** – organised by [NCVO](#) and [VSSN](#) – provides a unique opportunity for academics, policy makers and practitioners from the UK and further afield to come together to share and discuss research that addresses the conference theme and the broader issues facing the voluntary sector and volunteering at this time.

[For more information...](#)

Inclusion Scotland

DRILL research projects in Scotland: one of our projects launched their report about **how people with lived experience of mental health issues engage in civic and public life** in June. The well attended launch was held at the Insight Institute at the University of Strathclyde. Nick Bland from the Local Governance Review Team took part in the panel discussion, as did Heidi Tweedie-MacFarland and Benjamin McElwee. There were also several personal accounts of being involved in public life from people with lived experience of mental health issues, as well as feedback on the process of co-production from the Research Collective.

The report “Untapped Potential” can be found [here](#)

Centre for Homelessness Impact

Last month we launched our [flagship tools](#) which have been designed to put evidence at the fingertips of those working to end homelessness. We're now working collaboratively with the Scottish Government to extend our work to develop an outcomes framework that underpins current efforts to undertake an options appraisal for Scotland's new national data system on street homelessness.

We are partnering with Clore Social to offer emerging leaders in housing and homelessness sectors a 6 month [intensive leadership programme](#).

Iriss

Iriss has published a series of Community Social Work case studies, drawn from both the statutory and third sector. Read them [here](#)

Social Enterprise Scotland

Social Enterprise Scotland is seeking views from social enterprises on what will help them raise their profile to customers and unlock new markets. Please take 10 minutes to fill in [this survey](#) to share the ambitions you have and challenges you face when trying to reach customers - your views will shape the national Social Enterprise Action Plan.

Parliament.

Share your findings

Do you have research evidence from, or about, the third sector you'd like to share or present to the Forum? Or if you are interested in joining the Forum please email [Louise Bowen](#)

[Bowen](#)

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Doctural Internship and Artist Residencies in Third Sector Organisations

The **Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities** (SGSAH) Doctoral Internship and Artist in Residence Programme aims to connect the research skills and creative practice of PhD students with organisations from all sectors to develop impact and make a difference. The process for recruiting an intern starts every June, and the 2018 deadline has been extended to July 9th. However you may want to start planning now for hosting an intern in 2019. SGSAH are keen to hear from third sector organisations. [More information about the programme](#) or contact [Gillian Daly](#)

Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities

RECAP (Research capacity) Fully funded student internships

The University of Edinburgh Business School and the School for Social and Political Science are pleased to offer **four fully funded student internships** during the academic year 2018/19 (September 2018-June 2019).

We would like to invite applications from **Third Sector Organisations**, irrespective of status and form of incorporation, as host organisations. This would provide your organisation with a talented 4th year student to engage in up to 144 hours of research work. The available hours can be used on a flexible basis, e.g. 18 hours over 8 weeks, 36 hours over 4 weeks or irregular hours over the course of several months.

Host organisations will host one student, and there will be two students from a Business and two from a Social Policy background. Only the best and most highly skilled students will be eligible to apply, and all will have taken some prior coursework relating to the Third Sector. In addition to a broad range of qualitative skills, some students will have taken part in the

Internships will be paid at the Living Wage rate, with up to £100 for travel expenses. The total cost of each internship will be £2,293.08, which will be fully funded through the University of Edinburgh Business School and the School of Social and Political Science. We invite applications in particular from organisations that would otherwise not be able to undertake a research or evaluation exercise.

The student will be assigned an academic supervisor from the University of Edinburgh and will be supported by our student development team. The host organisation is required to provide a named mentor for the student. This mentor will discuss the project and any revisions to it in liaison with the student and the academic supervisor and act as a point of contact throughout the project.

If you are interested in applying, please read the attached one-page summary and complete the application form. Full applications should be sent to **Dr Sophie Flemig** by 5pm on Friday, **10th August 2018**. Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by Friday, 31st August 2018 at the latest.

For information, please contact Dr Sophie Flemig

New resources

TSRF **Scottish Third Sector Research Forum**
TO PUBLISH OR NOT TO PUBLISH?
Thinking about writing up practice learning or research findings for a peer reviewed journal? Challenges & considerations for Third Sector Organisations

- Time consuming.** More than one redraft is common before the article is accepted
- Prepare for rejection.** Some of the most competitive journals have acceptance rates of around 10%
- Journal subscriptions are expensive.** Few TSOs can afford to access the articles inside
- Journals tend to be written by & for academics** using specific research language and style
- A journal article is unlikely to reach stakeholders and service users**
- Editors may expect your article to include theory as well as practice learning or just data alone**

Where are the most accessible and relevant places for you to publish your work?

What are the most useful formats for your audiences? Could film, posters & infographics be used as well as, or instead of, an article?

Some journals actively include practice-based articles e.g. Voluntary Sector Review. Editorial teams for this type of journal will support TSOs through the publishing process.

About the TSRF: <https://bit.ly/2GRmXmr>

Evaluation support Scotland

Scottish Charity Number: SC036529
Scottish Company Number: SC284842

an insight into some things you may consider before making a decision to publish or not to publish.

[The Operation Modulus Approach: further lessons for public service reform](#)

This report examines how the approach and learning from a successful violence and anti-social behaviour intervention has spread to two other communities. The report shows how the distinct characteristics of the Operation Modulus approach support the principles and practice of public service reform. In particular the report highlights effective public sector and third sector collaboration.

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 **15 March 2018** [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 **2 October 2018**.

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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Our mailing address is:



Evaluation Support Scotland
Thorn House
5 Rose Street
Edinburgh
EH2 2PR

t: 0131 243 2770
e: info@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk

Company No. SC284843 | Charity No. SC036529

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