

Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales: minutes of meeting

Thursday 18 November 2021 – 10:00-12:30

Attendees			
Catrin	Awoyemi	CA	Welsh Government
Mal	Colley	MC	Tenovus Cancer Care
David	Cook	DC	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Karen	Deehan	KD	Welsh Government
Amanda	Everson	AE	Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services (CWVYS)
John	Gossage	JG	Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services
Thomas	Hollick	TH	The Wallich
Abigail	Instone	AI	Public Health Wales
David	James	DJ	Monmouthshire Rural Housing Enabler
Sue	Leake	SL	Welsh Government
Calvin	Lees	CL	Learning and Work Institute
Steven	Macey	SM	Welsh Government
Iestyn	Wyn	IW	Stonewall Cymru
Presenters			
Ellie	Brodie	EB	Welsh Government
Brandon	Farrer	BF	Office for National Statistics
Rebecca	Hill	RH	Public Health Wales
Steph	Howarth	SH	Welsh Government (Chair)
Rebecca	Masters	RM	Public Health Wales
Helena	Rosiecka	HR	Office for National Statistics
Dawn	Snape	DS	Office for National Statistics
Minute takers			
Dan	Boon	DB	Welsh Government
Mitch	Case	MC	Welsh Government
Fiza	Mahmood	FM	Welsh Government
Apologies			
Catrin	James		Urdd Gobaith Cymru
Judith	Stone		Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Billie-Jade	Thomas		RSPCA Cymru
Chris	O'Brien		RSPCA Cymru

1	Welcome	Steph Howarth, Welsh Government
<p>SH welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself as Chief Statistician.</p> <p>SH explained that simultaneous translation has not been provided. Due to an issue with the iCalendar invitation, we haven't been able to see who accepted the invitation. The secretariat are trying to find ways to solve this and will be emailing the TSSUP membership on this shortly.</p>		
2	Minutes and actions from previous meeting	Steph Howarth, Welsh Government
<p>The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and all actions had been completed.</p>		
3	Quarterly Statistical and Demography newsletters	Steph Howarth, Welsh Government
<p>Statistics Wales demography newsletter Statistics Wales quarterly update</p> <p>SH drew members' attention to some point in the Statistics Quarterly update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 continues to impact on statistics. The COVID-19 in Wales dashboard was mentioned as a useful tool for a single place to access COVID-19 data. • The economic statistics team will be producing a blog about the outputs they publish with a request for feedback on what users want to see. [Post meeting note: now published] • A few housing outputs are due to be released after publications were delayed by the pandemic . • SL mentioned that outputs due out soon will be on new housebuilding, affordable housing provision and homelessness.SL drew members' attention to the ongoing WIMD information sessions. Members should contact stats.inclusion@gov.wales if interested in attending a session. • SH also mentioned the plans for the Admin Data Research team, who are preparing plans for the next four years. An item on this will be included at a future meeting. <p>SH drew attention to two things in the demography newsletter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variant population and household projections had recently been produced. • A tool for local authority Welsh language data is being developed. Members should contact welshlanguagedata@gov.wales if they would like early access. 		
4	Welsh Healthy Equity Solutions Platform (WHESP) Stakeholder Engagement	Rebecca Masters and Rebecca Hill (PHW)
<p>RH introduced the Welsh Healthy Equity Solutions Platform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work aligns with the Wellbeing of Future Generation Act. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A first report was published in March 2021 which looks at how to encourage a sustained response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The methodology is shown in the presentation • The platform is a live portal which will be released in spring/summer next year and updated regularly. It will link to multiple sources – public health services, social care, academia, the third sector etc. • It is organised around five essential conditions that affect health outcomes: health services, income security and social protection, living conditions, social and human capital, employment and working conditions • Some features and functionality include Welsh Health Equality Status Report Initiative (WHESRI) reports, animations, webinars and an interactive database • There is a process of adding indicators, e.g. coronavirus measures, into the database. <p>Feedback/Discussion: SH asked about how the data in the platform is bought in; how is it linked? This will tell us more about how other platforms could be integrated together. RH says it brings in data from different sources but uses a manual process at this stage. SH noted an opportunity to build in automation in future. JG asked about environmental/natural capital effects on mental health – and asked if these should be included in the platform as a wellbeing indicator. RH said they would look into adding this into the fourth essential condition but said that living conditions are included on the platform.</p>	
5	Inclusive Data Taskforce	Dawn Snape (ONS)
	<p>Presentation available online. DS introduced the Inclusive Data Taskforce and the main principles.</p> <p>The taskforce started off by aiming to understand the wider needs for inclusive data, the evidence currently available and users' needs. An online consultation was open for twelve weeks between January and March 2021 and the taskforce met with many individuals and groups to inform their recommendations. DS ran through the feedback and recommendations received from the consultation.</p> <p>DS explained what the initial responses have been and the work plan going forwards. She also showed how stakeholders/others can help to support this work.</p> <p>Feedback/Discussion: SH described how Welsh Government is responding to this – setting up new equalities analytical units, using the social model of disability, and plans to implement a record level collection of homelessness data. Welsh Government is also working on an easy read version of the Wellbeing of Wales report.</p> <p>IW found it interesting how this translates to Wales, especially the race disparity unit and equalities unit being developed in Wales – how do the</p>	

	<p>taskforce’s recommendations feed into the work these units are doing? Finds the conversation around experiences and inequalities present for marginalised groups necessary and useful.</p> <p>SL mentioned the work going into the Race Equality Action Plan in Wales. It is important to consider the data that is and isn’t present and how to ensure peoples voices are being heard and accounted for.</p> <p>IW echoed SL’s points and reflected on the positive experiences of developing specific action plans that have been grounded in evidence and engagement, such as have the Race Equality and LGBTQ+ action plan where groups have been directly involved. IW wants to see data being more aligned with bridging the gap between data and experiences, recognising intersectionality.</p>	
6	Census 2021 and Welsh language discovery update	Helena Rosiecka, Brandon Farrer (ONS)
	<p>BF talked through current census plans and the recent consultation about outputs which has now concluded.</p> <p>Welsh language discovery A discovery project has been undertaken to understand user needs for census outputs through the medium of Welsh, including seeing what is available at the moment and what could be produced with available resources. BF has carried out some user research about who uses Welsh language census output and what the user needs are e.g. for Welsh web pages or publications, finding data by searching in Welsh. BF highlighted the main users priorities – the main point was that data and the information which describes the data (metadata) should be available in Welsh, not just the headlines. BF also talked about next steps and sharing outcomes with wider users/community.</p> <p>Feedback/Discussion: AE mentioned experiences of barriers in private employment sector for Welsh speakers to use their Welsh e.g. major employees not being able to speak Welsh to customers who wish to speak in Welsh. This is an area which could be looked into. It was noted that this is outside the scope of the work undertaken by BF, but SH would pass on the feedback within the Welsh Government.</p> <p>SH said what Welsh Government has been doing – responding to the census outputs plan, analysing the gaps for Wales and the extra outputs that could be produced specifically for Wales.</p> <p>CL asked if we can produce analysis in more detail on usage of Welsh language e.g. where do you use it and how often. SH drew attention to the Welsh Language Use Survey, with more analysis of the results from this survey planned.</p>	<p>Action – SH to pass on feedback about use of Welsh language in employment to relevant contacts within the Welsh Government.</p>

7	Update from Race Disparity, Equality Data and Disability Disparity Units	Ellie Brodie, Welsh Government
<p>Presentation available online.</p> <p>EB shared a presentation about scoping the Race Disparity Unit, Equality Data Unit and Disability Disparity Unit. This scoping work was inspired partly by the COVID-19 pandemic which highlighted the need to address evidence about inequalities in Wales as this will support policy makers in decisions. Addressing the issues with equality evidence was also a key recommendation in two separate stakeholder reports. WG were committed to involving stakeholders in the process of creating the units in Wales.</p> <p>There were four stages to the scoping: Stakeholder engagement and needs gathering, Analysis and solution finding, Options and Recruitment Strategy. Stakeholder engagement and needs gathering was undertaken within the six months at start of this year through interviews, focus groups and workshops.</p> <p>Analysis was undertaken to identify key themes and sub themes. The Minister for Social Justice decided to implement three separate Units at the Welsh Government. Ethnicity and disability were identified as two priority areas for the Units, intersectionality will underpin the three units once implemented.</p> <p>The next steps are developing a recruitment strategy and outreach approach, develop a strategic evidence plan, mapping of public sector evidence and data, scoping of projects to fill priority needs and investigating the feasibility of co-production mechanisms.</p> <p>Feedback/Discussion:</p> <p>DS asked about the Equality Data Unit and what its remit would be. EB said that the Equality Data Unit focuses on the other protected characteristics including LGBTQ+, and will work to ensure intersectionality is considered across the other two Units.</p> <p>IW asked how the units will be engaged with the existing policy work within WG. EB the units will be in the communities division within policy. The Race Disparity Unit and Disability Disparity Unit will be working with the Race Equality Action Plan Accountability Group and the Disability task force, respectively. The Units will work with Knowledge and Analytical Services to develop how responsibilities will be shared effectively.</p> <p>EB to come back and give updates at future meetings – item to be on agenda going forwards.</p>		<p>Action – add item to future agenda to provide updates.</p>
8	Any Other Business	Steph Howarth, Welsh Government
<p>SH asked for agenda items for future meetings – no suggestions were received but can be submitted to the secretariat between meetings.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 28/04/2022</p>		<p>Action – Secretariat to contact members regarding the use of email for invitations</p>

SH thanked all for joining. The secretariat will contact members regarding the way calendar invitations are sent and will also send around a new review survey for feedback on meetings. Close	Secretariat to send review form to members
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Third Sector Statistics User Panel for Wales 18 November 2021 Summary of Action Points		
1	Secretariat to contact members regarding the use of email for future invitations	Secretariat
2	Secretariat to send review form for feedback on TSSUP	Secretariat
3	SH to pass on point about use of Welsh language in employment to relevant contacts	Steph Howarth
4	Add the Race Disparity, Equality Data and Disability Disparity Units item to future agendas to provide updates	Secretariat