# Do you want to speak up for the Third Sector?

### DO YOU HAVE?

- A significant connection (paid or voluntary) to the
- third sector in Highland
- Relevant skills or knowledge for the area of interest



HTSI are seeking reps for the second year of the Highland Third Sector Representative Pathway.

Voting will take place at our AGM on November 22 for reps for these committees:

- Community Justice Partnership
- The Alcohol and Drug Partnership
- The Children's Services leadership Group (Council)
- Care, Learning and Housing Committee (Council)
- Community Safety and Resilience (CPP)
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group (CPP)
- Infrastructure Delivery group (CPP)
- Poverty Delivery group (CPP)
- Community Learning, Development and Engagement Delivery Group (CPP)

Nominations open on 8 October and close at 5pm on 31 October 2019.

Anyone interested in nominating themselves should complete the nomination form circulated to HTSI Members separately.

Questions or queries should be directed to: events@highlandtsi.org.uk or call 01349 864289.



## We're looking for third sector reps

### **Highland Third Sector Representative Pathway**

Effective representation of Third Sector work, achievements and interests are a critical part of empowering the Third Sector to become a equal partner and participant in public planning and decision making processes. To facilitate and develop the opportunities for Third Sector Representation the HTSI has supporting the introduction of the Third Sector Representation Pathway. The Pathway is intended to strengthen the representation of the Sector, creating more transparency and democracy within the process. Through the introduction of the Pathway we believe engagement will be strengthened and better outcomes for the people of Highland will be achieved.

Representatives will be elected and appointed through a democratic process and supported in their role by both the HTSI and their peers. Over the coming three years the Pathway will be phased in and developed. Phase one started in November 2018 primarily focusing on the thematic areas of the Highland Outcome Improvement Plan.

### **Third Sector Representative Role**

The role of a Third Sector Representative is to represent the interests of the sector as a whole, considering the strategic implications for, needs and impact of the sector. Efforts should be made to draw on the experiences, feedback and intelligence available within the whole of the sector and not only through their own individual experiences. It is critical that representatives are visible and identifiable by the sector, rather than selected directly by the committee or public sector partnership. That doesn't preclude an organisation or partnership seeking membership from any Third Sector organisation based on the experience/knowledge or skill set that Third Sector organisation has; but it must be understood that that individual cannot, in that capacity, represent the broader Third Sector in Highland.

Any representative is agreeing, by nominating themselves, to provide updates and information as appropriate for general circulation to the sector. They are also agreeing to members of the sector being able to contact them, when appropriate, in relation to the role they have undertaken.

### The Role of HTSI

The HTSI will provide ongoing support and training for the representatives. They will also collate information coming in from representatives and ensure that is shared within the sector more broadly. HTSI will have a responsibility for coordinating the Third Sector Forums and ensuring that they continue to achieve their identified purpose and outcomes as agreed by the members of those Forums, the HTSI Board and the Scottish Government. The HTSI will also provide an assurance that the above process and outlined role of the representative is undertaken and fulfilled.

### NOMINATE NOW

### The Selection of Representatives

Individuals will self nominate for consideration as a representative for one or more of the groups or committees open for nomination. To qualify for nomination an individual must be able to demonstrate the following:

- A significant connection, either through a paid or voluntary role, or roles, currently being undertaken within the Third Sector here in Highland
- Relevant skills or knowledge for the area of interest specific to the role for which they are seeking nomination

The membership of HTSI will then select their representatives at the annual Third Sector Assembly on 22 November through a voting system, with votes in absence if necessary.

### **Representative Commitment**

If you are considering a nomination to represent the Sector then you need to ensure that you are able to commit to:

- Providing written or verbal feedback to the HTSI for dissemination to the wider Sector
- Attend the group/partnership regularly and to actively participate as a member of that group
- Attend the relevant Third Sector Forum to provide updates and receive peer support
- To participate in an annual gathering of the Sector where possible.

Selected representatives will be asked to undertake their role in the interests of a whole sector and to endeavour as far as possible to consider the implications and opportunities within that context. A selected representative is expected to undertake to commit to the role for the following 12 months and their contact information being made available to members to contact in relation to the role.

### How to nominate

Nominations open on 8 October and close at 5pm on 31 October 2019. Anyone interested in making a nomination should complete the nomination form circulated to HTSI Members separately.

### AGM and Third Sector Assembly 22 Nov, 10-3pm, Inverness

