

Note of Meeting

Independent Living Fund Scotland: Scottish Recipient Advisory Group Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Monday 24th May 2021 1.30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Present

Jim Elder-Woodward

Joan Turner

Christine Mercer

Kate Walsh

Jacqueline Walsh

Andy Higgins

Hugh John Glancy

In Attendance

Lee House

Linda Scott

Apologies

Chloe McKee

Peter Scott

Niqi Rainey

List of Actions:

1. Charter for involvement to be added to each meeting agenda (Lee)
2. Linda Scott & Jim Elder-Woodward to look at TOR before next meeting.
3. Lee House to share the findings and final report from the recipient survey feedback analysis.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Jim Elder-Woodward welcome everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes from previous meetings

Recipient feedback survey still under review.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. Covid 19 – Vaccines, sustainability, and “Thank You” payments

The vaccine program is operating relatively well.

There has been no further news from the Scottish government regarding an extension of the sustainability payments beyond 30 June 2021.

The Scottish Government and COSLA are still discussing how to administer the £500.00 ‘Thank You’ payment. Some members expressed their disappointment that they can’t yet make this payment to their PAs and about the time taken to honor the First Minister’s commitment made in December. Members discussed contacting their MSPs with a view to raising a Parliamentary Question about this delay.

5. Recipient Survey Feedback

Once ILF Scotland has completed the survey analysis, Lee will share the findings with the group.

6. Policy updates including policy 4

The letter from the Advisory Group about the ILF Scotland Available Income charge submitted to the sponsor team was successful in helping to achieve the reduction from £83.00 to £43.00 from 1 June 2021. ILF Scotland will continue to push for this to reduce to zero. ILF Scotland received a complaint and some comments from recipients already paying £42.00 per week contribution who will not see the benefit from the policy change.

ILF Scotland has updated Policy 41 to introduce more flexibility for recipients in how they can use their ILF Scotland funding. Will expect feedback on this change once Review Visits start again in the coming months.

ILF Scotland has carried out a full review of the suite of policies across both funds to ensure they are up to date with current legislation and are easier to read and understand.

7. Your Responsibilities and Employer support

ILF Scotland has revised the Your Responsibilities guide and Employer Support Information Note and published these on a new page on its website entitled “Advice for Award Managers”. There will be a joint session between the Scotland Recipient Advisory Group and the Northern Ireland Stakeholder Group to discuss the document content. ILF Scotland will then invite Award Managers to a similar session. ILF Scotland will send out its third newsletter in June and will refer to this in that.

8. Review of adult social care

There has been no further discussion about this. Linda said she expects there to be a consultation discuss the re-opening of the fund in due course.

9. Terms of reference

The Group discussed the updated Terms of Reference adopted by the Northern Ireland stakeholder Group. Members thought it might be worthwhile adopting some of the content but cautioned about putting people off if it was too formal, given the difficulty in recruitment new members. Linda suggested the Group could look at promoting recruitment on an annual basis.

Action: Linda and Jim to look at the ToR before the next meeting.

10. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

It is time to elect a chair and vice chair. Linda asked members to think about who they would like to put forward. Action: Andy up an online process.

11. AOB

Lee asked the group to confirm by email if they were happy for ILF Scotland to include their email address group mail outs for sending out documents.

12. Date of next meetings

Monday 23 August 2021

Monday 22 November 2021

Monday 21 February 2022

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Monday 23 May 2022

All meetings will be from 1.30 to 3.30 pm