



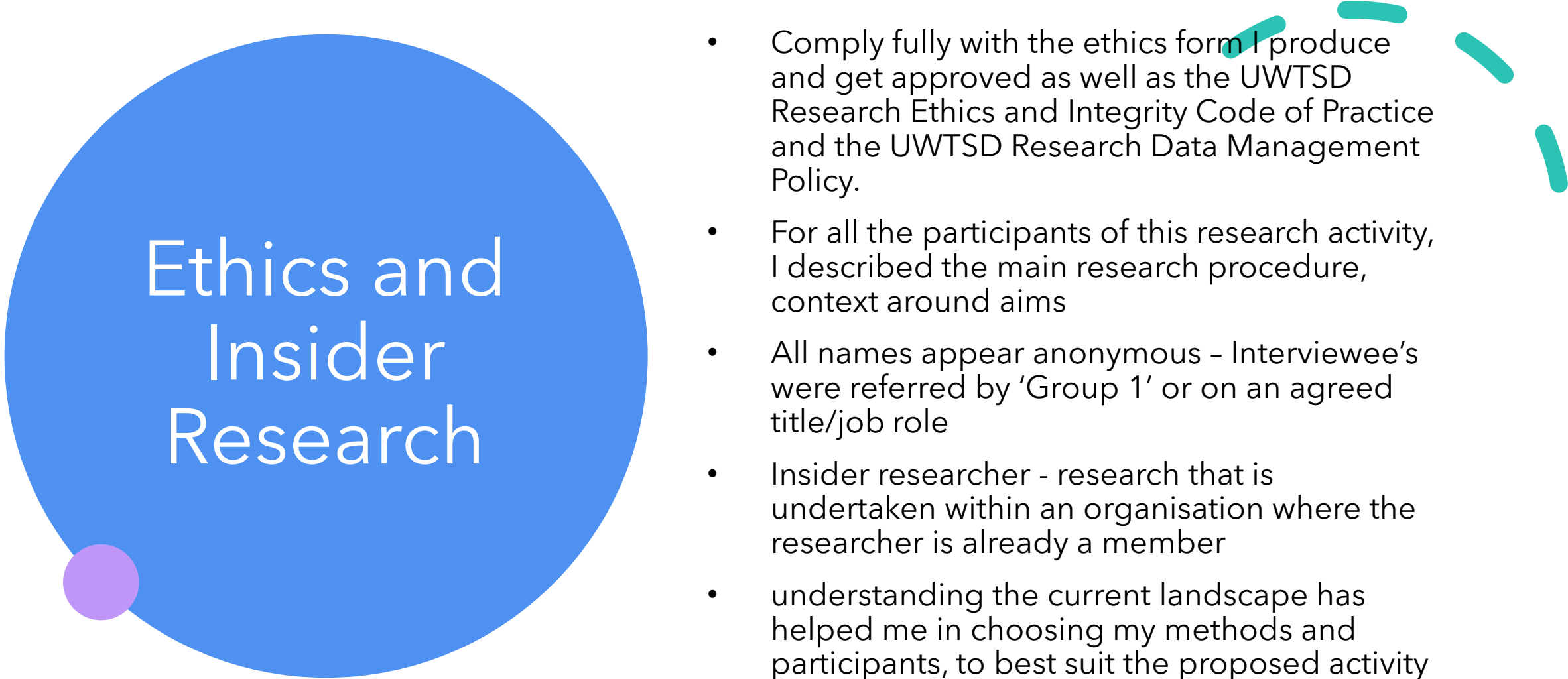
The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 & The Third Sector

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Background

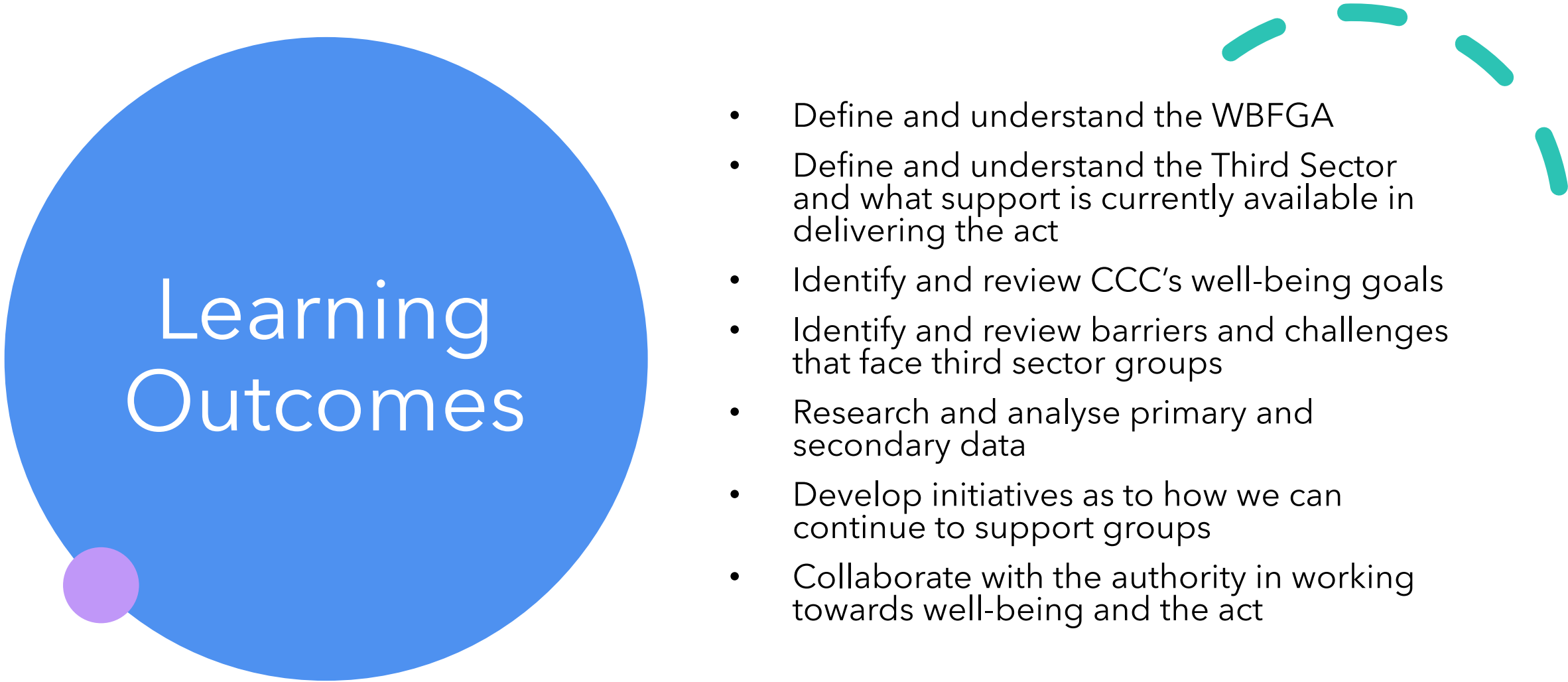
How do we as a Local Authority enhance the support given to third sector organisations in delivering the authority's well-being goals, and maximising contributions to well-being?

- Wales is the first country in the world to create an independent office and act that focuses solely on protecting Wales now, and in years to come for our future generations.
- In a recent study, not many Social Enterprises knew much, or knew anything at all about the WBFGA
- Now working first hand with third sector groups, it seemed to me that their ethos' align perfectly with that of the act
- After COVID-19, the authority is focusing on recovery plans and well-being now more than ever
- National support such as The Welsh Government's Third Sector Scheme Wales and the Wales Council for Voluntary Action's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan focusing on equality for third sector groups in achieving well-being



Ethics and Insider Research

- Comply fully with the ethics form I produce and get approved as well as the UWTSD Research Ethics and Integrity Code of Practice and the UWTSD Research Data Management Policy.
- For all the participants of this research activity, I described the main research procedure, context around aims
- All names appear anonymous - Interviewee's were referred by 'Group 1' or on an agreed title/job role
- Insider researcher - research that is undertaken within an organisation where the researcher is already a member
- understanding the current landscape has helped me in choosing my methods and participants, to best suit the proposed activity



Learning Outcomes

- Define and understand the WBFGA
- Define and understand the Third Sector and what support is currently available in delivering the act
- Identify and review CCC's well-being goals
- Identify and review barriers and challenges that face third sector groups
- Research and analyse primary and secondary data
- Develop initiatives as to how we can continue to support groups
- Collaborate with the authority in working towards well-being and the act



Literature Review

The basis of this research activity relates a significant amount to the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) (WBFGA).

- Research into the act is somewhat limited due to it being a rather new legislation
- Now more than ever a solid and sustainable plan was so relevant, and effects on our future generations could be detrimental without these plans in place
- Future Generations Framework, developed alongside New Economics Foundation (NEF) Consulting, and using tools such as Sustainable Development Goals to tackle societal issues.
- Sustainable ways of working

Alongside that, the second element was the Third Sector

- The Welsh Government's Third Sector Scheme Wales is made under Section 74 of the Government of Wales Act 2006
- The Wales Council for Voluntary Action Annual Reports
- Relatively new phenomenon, whereby problem solvers such as social entrepreneurs have been finding new ways to tackle old problems, which would have usually been the domain of the government



Methodology

- Project takes the subjective position in ontology which is considered independently of experiences and the interpretivism position in epistemology
- Aligns with the interpretivism approach of researching and the use of a qualitative methodology for this project is most suitable, as it is intended to gather experiences of people in the real world
- Phenomenology is one of many types of qualitative research methodologies that examines the lived experiences of humans
- a qualitative methodology develops concepts and insights from patterns and themes in inductive data
- Qualitative methods make it easier to understand what people think and perceive due to their communicative and descriptive manner.



Methods

- **Interviews**
- **Survey**
- **Focus Group**

Project Activity

1

Spoke with Line Manager about an appropriate project, linking ongoing work wider engagement of the local authority

2

Created a Microsoft Form survey to send out to other Local Authorities to see what they did to support third sector groups and compare

3

Carry out 5 interviews with different KAM groups, an interview with Policy Officer in CCC and another with Future Generations office

4

Hold a focus group to discuss key points from rest of research and finalise recommendations to take forward

5

Reflect on the project, what went well, what didn't and decide on reactive instant things to do



Key Findings

Contextual Analysis

The Act

- 7 goals and 5 ways of working. – listed Public Bodies
- Aim to improve social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being in Wales now and for future generations
- In accordance with the sustainable development principles, public bodies must also provide a Local Well-being plan.
- The 46 National Well-being Indicators seen in were set by Welsh Ministers at the Senedd in 2016 to represent the outcomes of Wales, and more specifically measure the seven well-being goals
- Third sector not in receipt of constant strategic WG funding, so not listed as body that is bound by the act

The Third Sector

- Otherwise referred to as the voluntary sector, third sector organisations operate not-for-profit, rather they aim to create social impact
- that third sector groups are now part of the wider welfare state and are an established part of people's day to day lives, supporting them in services
- WG introduced the Code of Practice for Funding the Third Sector, part of the Third Sector Scheme. Made under Section 74 of the Government of Wales Act 2006, Welsh Ministers set out this scheme proposing how they would support, promote and fund the sector
- service delivery from third sector organisations can be integrated into public services, part of a mixed economy or simply independently



Well-being Objectives

1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences.

2. Help children live healthy lifestyles.

3. Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learner.

4. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, helping people into work and improving the lives of those living in poverty.

5. Create more jobs and growth throughout the county.

6. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes.

7. Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity).

8. Support community cohesion, resilience & safety.

9. Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years.

10. Look after the environment now and for the future.

11. Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity.

12. Promote Welsh language and culture.

13. Better Governance and Use of Resources

Lead Officer		WBO 1	WBO 2	WBO 3	WBO 4	WBO 5	WBO 6	WBO 7	WBO 8	WBO 9	WBO 10	WBO 11	WBO 12	WBO 13
Supporting Officer		✓												
CEX	Admin & Law	Linda Rees Jones												✓
	People Mgt	Paul Thomas			✓	✓		✓						✓
	Regeneration	Jason Jones			✓	✓						✓		✓
	ICT & Corp Policy	Noelwyn Daniel		✓	✓	✓			✓				✓	✓
CS	Financial Services	Randal Hemingway												✓
	Revenues & Financial Compliance	Helen Pugh			✓									✓
Communities	Head of Adult Social Care	Avril Bracey		✓				✓	✓	✓				
	Regional Collaboration	Martyn Palfreman		✓					✓	✓				
	Integrated Services	Alex Williams						✓	✓	✓				
	Homes & Safer Comm.	Jonathan Morgan			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
	Leisure	Ian Jones		✓				✓			✓		✓	
E&CS	Edu & Inclusion	Aneurin Thomas	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓					
	Curr & Wellbeing	Aeron Rees	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	
	Access to Education	Simon Davies	✓	✓	✓		✓							
	Children	Stefan Smith	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓					
ENV	Property	Jonathan Fearn			✓		✓	✓			✓			✓
	Planning	Noelwyn Daniel		✓			✓	✓			✓			✓
	Trans. & Highways	Stephen Pilliner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Waste & Env.	Ainsley Williams		✓						✓	✓			✓

Key Themes

<i>Communication</i>	<i>Collaboration</i>	<i>Engagement</i>
<i>Trust</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Power</i>
<i>Support</i>	<i>Interaction</i>	<i>Relationships</i>
<i>Relatable</i>	<i>Development</i>	<i>Resilience</i>
<i>Participation</i>	<i>Communities</i>	<i>Change</i>

Carmarthenshire's Third Sector Groups

"It's mainly through when we are applying for funding etcetera that we really use the act and knowing we need to make sure that our plans for growth and future business align with that of the act".

"That's what we're looking at mostly from the act, is improving the lifestyle of everybody".

"Whether we apply for pots of funding, whether we create business plans, or whether we deliver training, it is all underpinned by the resilience model".

"Everything is underpinned by well-being, the positive promotion of wellness in our families and young people".

"So many of our policies and goals align with the act and knowing that the act is there for reference is a huge benefit".

"We fulfil some of the goals of the act by promoting a healthy lifestyle, encourage community-based activities and promote the use of the Welsh language"

Recommendations

- Update our third sector distribution list as a matter of urgency to assure that all relevant groups will be communicated with effectively.
- Encourage local authority staff and members to enhance their knowledge in understanding more about the third sector and how its groups operate.
- Encourage third sector groups to collaborate more on a sectoral basis, complementing work on a geographical basis, through CAVS, articulating a common message on key issues.
- Organise a face-to-face networking event between all our Key Account third sector organisations.
- Suggest that the third sector help public bodies by sharing experiences and insights of how likely trends are or what communities are saying and doing.
- On a local level, we need to be seen to be showcasing third sector groups' positive contributions to well-being more often through different channels such as social media.
- Continue to reflect more efficiently on that partnership context and bring in examples to our corporate work, demonstrating where the voluntary sector can and has made an impact.
- Include latest news stories about changes in policies and commissioned guidance resources, shared by the OFGC and WG in our monthly third sector newsletter.
- Create or source innovative resources to share with groups such as videos and infographics to communicate new information.
- Encourage more participation from the third sector to be a part of the local PSB, being involved in decision making and democratic processes.

Conclusion



- Happy with the overall outcome and feel like I have come to a sound conclusion and recommendations to take forward
- Secondary research helped get a general understanding of the two key elements of the project
- Although I initially was learning more about national issues, carrying out my primary research allowed for me to understand things on a local level
- Enjoyed and benefited a lot from all the interviews and the process went well
- Interviewed the right people, to provide me with different perspectives, that either being part of the third sector, part of the local authority or part of the OFGC.
- The key elements arisen throughout the research were partnership working, decision making and promotion. The other was communication which I believe was the most important and influential
- Disappointed with survey response but learning that we are the only Bureau function was detrimental
- Improving general awareness of the sector is important, and we need to think more innovatively about how we engage with groups



Thank you.

I welcome any
questions or
feedback.

Abigail Rees

