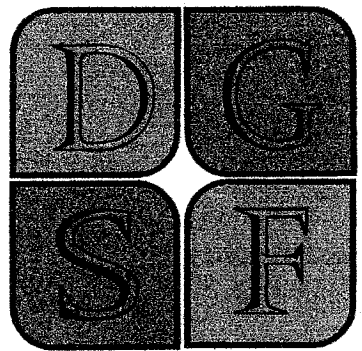


here to make a difference

Thursday 18th March 2010



**Dumfries & Galloway
Seniors Forum**

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PRESS RELEASE

(For immediate distribution)

Dumfries & Galloway Seniors Forum continues to exist officially as we have always done to represent older people in the region. We carry out this representation at local and national level as a non-party political, charitable organisation, supported by the local Council, NHS D & G, and several other external funders. Our funders rightly expect us to maintain high standards of governance, conduct and accountability and we strive to meet these obligations.

We have learned about the proposed establishment of a new organisation in the region, styling itself as a new group set up to service pensioners.

DGSF would welcome any group genuinely proposing to represent older people and to undertake that engagement in a positive and collaborative manner. The more people there are fighting the corner for seniors in this country the better. However, the Seniors Forum is sadly of the opinion that this faction could well be no more than a political protest organisation full of rhetoric.

This statement is issued on behalf of the Executive Committee of D & G Seniors Forum.

Ends