



North York Moors, Coast & Hills LEADER Information Sheet 1

The Local Action Group

1. What is the Local Action Group?

The Local Action Group (LAG) is a requirement of the LEADER programme. It is a group of individuals who broadly represent the interests of the North York Moors, Coast and Hills LEADER area and its communities. The Group will help to set policy and provide strategic steer to the LEADER programme. In addition the LAG will appoint the LAG Executive and delegate decision making powers to them.

2. How many members does the Local Action Group have?

There are currently around 80 members registered. There is no minimum or maximum number of members required.

3. What is the membership constitution?

60% of the LAG members are from the non public sector which fulfils the requirement of at 50% coming from the non public sector.

Public sector organisations include:

Parish Councils
Government bodies (including quangos)
Local Authorities (including District Councils,
County Councils, National Park)

Non public sector organisations include:

Voluntary organisations
Registered charities
Individuals
Private businesses

4. How often does the Local Action Group meet?

The group will meet approximately twice a year.

5. Where does the Local Action Group meet?

Meetings will be located throughout the LEADER area and will move around in order to fairly distribute travelling distance by members.

6. How do I become a Local Action Group member?

Registration for the Local Action Group is now open. In order to become a member please complete and return to us the Local Action Group Registration Form found on the website www.moors.uk.net/leader.

7. Who has overall responsibility for the Local Action Group?

Essentially, the LAG are responsible for themselves. Support will be provided by the North York Moors National Park (as the Lead Partner) and North Yorkshire County Council (as the Accountable Body). Coordination of the LAG will be undertaken by a Programme Manager and Programme Officer who are based at the National Park.



8. What are the priorities for funding in our LEADER area?

There are three key priority themes or areas of investment for the North York Moors, Coast and Hills LEADER programme as identified by the Local Development Strategy (see www.moors.uk.net/leader) for more details. Please indicate on the Registration Form which of these areas you feel you would bring particular expertise or knowledge of to the Local Action Group. The definitions outline, very broadly, some of the envisaged activities.

A. Sustainable rural communities

- Support of rural business including micro-enterprises, diversification, social enterprise
- Community development including community action planning, volunteering, training and skills

B. Conservation and enhancement of the rural heritage, recreation opportunities and environment

- Heritage – including improved understanding of the historic environment, support for traditional skills and crafts, using heritage assets to benefit of people (health, economy etc)
- Support for conservation related projects (environmental and biodiversity enhancements)
- Recreation – including new networks (cycling, walking, riding), new opportunities for adventurous activities, provision of interpretation and information
- Tourism – including enhancing the tourism benefits of the heritage and environment, sustainable use of assets

C. Village renewal and development

- Village enhancement and coherence including support for festivals, events, local greenspaces and other public spaces, improving community cohesion.
- Basic access to services including support for joint amenities and cooperative facilities, small scale transport, mitigating loss of existing services

9. What is the Local Action Group Executive?

The Local Action Group Executive is a smaller group of elected and appointed members who will make decisions relating to applications for funding. The process of their appointment was agreed by the Local Action Group at their first full meeting on 12 November 2008. More information about the Local Action Group Executive is available on Information Sheet 2.



Information for registered members of the Local Action Group

10. As a member what is expected of me?

As a member you would be expected to participate fully in the Local Action Group and try to attend the meetings of the group whenever possible. As a LAG member you would be expected to comment and agree on a range of issues including the delegation of decision making powers to the LAG Executive Group, strategic steer of the programme etc. You can only have your say or vote on a particular issue if you attend a LAG meeting. There will be no proxy or postal voting.

Your membership of the LAG will remain current until your resignation or until the end of the LEADER programme (late 2013).

11. How can I find out about sharing lifts to meetings with other members?

After the LAG is up and running we hope to circulate a list of members with whom car sharing to meetings is possible. More information will be made about this in due course.

12. Are meeting venues be accessible by public transport?

We will try to ensure that meetings can be accessed by public transport but unfortunately we can't promise it because of the rural nature of the area and the limited number of venues there are for large numbers of people to meet. More information will be provided when further dates and locations of meetings has been set.

13. I have a disability or another condition which means that I have particular requirements to help me attend a meeting. What should I do?

Firstly, by letting us know. If you have particular requirements, for example you use a wheelchair then please inform us if you have not already done so on your LAG registration form. Having this information in advance will help us to find meeting venues which meet everybody's needs.

14. Will my out of pocket expenses be reimbursed?

Only those members who are not from the public sector organisations can claim out of pocket expenses for travel. Time cannot be claimed for. A form will be available for at each meeting which can then be completed for reimbursement. Details will be included on the form about allowances and where to submit the form.

15. How will I be informed about what's happening with LEADER?

Updates and information will be sent out when there is a specific need to do so. This information will be sent by email. If you do not have email or wish to be sent information in the post then please let us know if you have not already done so on your registration form.

16. I have another question which has not been answered here – who can answer it for me?

If you wish to discuss any issue relating to the Local Action Group then please contact:

Mike Horrocks, LEADER Programmer Manager
Amy Thomas, LEADER Programme Officer

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