

**North York Moors, Coast & Hills LEADER Programme  
Executive Group Meeting  
NPA Offices, Helmsley, 10.00 – 12.00 pm  
27 October 2015**

**Notes of the meeting**

Attending:

Name	Representing
Steve Arnold (Vice Chair)	Community and Voluntary Sector
Liz Barker	North Yorkshire County Council / York, North Yorkshire & East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership
Malcom Bowes (Chair)	Community and Voluntary Sector
Liz Dowson	Scarborough Borough Council
Tony Gatehouse	Community and Voluntary Sector
Helen Gundry	Community and Voluntary Sector
Chris James	Rural Action Yorkshire
Helen Kemp	Hambleton District Council
Anna Lupton	Tourism and the Visitor Economy
Helen Patchett (non-voting)	North Yorkshire County Council – Accountable Body
David Renwick	North York Moors National Park Authority
Lydia Scarth	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Abigail StokellBeckett	Micro and Small Businesses
Amy Thomas (non-voting)	LEADER Co-ordinator / Programme Manager

Apologies:

Name	Representing
Robin Asquith	Agriculture
Nick Cooke	Forestry
Peter Spencer / Rita Lawson	Tees Valley Rural Community Council
Jo Swift	Micro and Small Businesses
Will Terry	Agriculture
Howard Wallis / Jos Holmes	Ryedale District Council
Will Watts	Tourism and the Visitor Economy

**(1) Welcome and apologies**

MB welcomed the Group. Apologies had been received from 9 members, as listed above.

**(2) Minutes from the last meeting of 15 July 2015**

The minutes of 15 July 2015 were agreed as accurate.

### **(3) Matters arising from the minutes of 15 July 2015**

There were no matters arising from the minutes that weren't covered by the agenda.

### **(4) Programme Update**

HP presented the report that had been circulated, outlining the position of the programme with respect to the contract, the Delivery Plan re-submission, training that had been received to date and the national launch event.

As detailed in the written report, several issues are as yet unresolved and are preventing NYCC from signing the contract. Given the issues (summarised below), it was agreed that the County Council were exercising an appropriate level of risk aversion.

The main outstanding issues were:

- Contract refers to various appendices which are, as yet, to follow.
- Unlimited liability assigned to NYCC
- Management & Admin budget being uncertain
- Certainty (or otherwise) of annual sterling allocation
- Extent to which revenue can be included in the programme.

### **(5) Update on National LEADER meetings**

AET summarised the national LEADER launch event, which had raised several of the issues above.

There had also been a first LEG meeting (LEADER Exchange Group) for this programme, held on 15<sup>th</sup> October, which is the opportunity for LAGs to converse with Defra / RPA through their representatives. The representatives for Yorkshire and the North East are Rima Berry, Co-ordinator of the Yorkshire Dales LEADER programme and Anne Lowrie, Chair of a Northumberland LAG.

The first meeting addressed issues that had been raised on the previous day at the national launch. Various Task & Finish Groups were established to provide clear guidance on the issues raised.

The LEG meeting is likely to meet three times per year.

### **(6) 2016 meeting dates**

**Agenda item was discussed under items 8 and 9 rather than here.**

### **(7) Executive Group discussion – 2016 Calls for Projects**

AET went through a flow chart depicting the process that applicants have to go through to submit an outline application, showing the time-consuming nature of the process.

She circulated the Applicant Handbook, which was a Defra-produced document with spaces to add LAG-specific information. As such, the Handbook doesn't offer specific assistance in relation to the North York Moors, Coast & Hills programme, but merely seeks to direct potential applicants to contact the co-ordinator for a more meaningful discussion on eligibility.

The outline application form was also shared for information.

AET re-issued the Call for Projects that was discussed earlier in the year, with a view to finalising for publication once the contract had been signed.

MB opened the discussion to the Group. The following points were made:

- Projects must create jobs and growth
- Apprenticeships are not counted as a job created
- Query whether self-employment equalled job created (**HP to clarify with RPA**)
- How to define a 'local' slant in a call whilst meeting procurement rules

It was agreed that a call would be finalised and agreed in January, when clarity should have been provided about revenue allowable, with a launch of the programme thereafter.

**Action: AET**

This would mean that spend in 2016-17 would be delayed, with first approvals only being achieved in the summer. This re-profiling would have to be reflected in the 2016-17 Delivery Plan, which is to be submitted in March 2016.

The wider LAG launch event has yet to be arranged and will be a joint event with neighbouring LAGs, once the programmes have been launched. There was a discussion on how the wider LAG could be strengthened to better represent the economic focus of the new programme, and also how an event could best engage attendees.

## **(8) Any other business**

DR raised the possibility of holding future Executive Group meetings at different venues around the area, so that the programme was not viewed as a NPA programme, and to ensure that some attendees were not inconvenienced for every meeting. It was agreed that this would be considered.

**Action: AET**

## **(9) Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting was set for 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 10 am at NPA offices, Helmsley. Dates for the 2016 year would be circulated with the minutes.

## **Summary of Action Points**

	Action	To be completed by
1	Clarify with RPA whether self-employment equals 'job created'	HP

2	Finalise Call for Projects for January meeting	AET
3	Consider alternative venues for Executive group meetings	AET

*Helen Patchett,  
NYCC, 12/11/2015*