



# OUTER HEBRIDES LEADER 2014-2020 PROGRAMME



**Note of the Meeting of the Outer Hebrides LEADER Local Action Group**  
In the Committee Room 3, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Stornoway  
with video-conference to Comhairle offices in Balivanich and Barra Comhairle office

**on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 10.30am**

**Present:** Ian Fordham, Outer Hebrides Tourism (Private) (Chairperson)  
Duncan MacInnes, Western Isles Fishing Association (Private)  
Lorna Macaulay, Harris Tweed Authority (Private)  
Matt Bruce, Lewis and Harris Horticultural Producers (Private)  
Murdina Naylor, Tagsa Uibhist (Private)  
Neil Campbell, Community Land Scotland (Private)  
Donnie Macdonald, MG Alba (Public)  
Cllr. Donald Crichton, Chair of Sustainable Communities Committee CnES (Public)  
Rachel Mackenzie, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (Public)

**In attendance:** Donna Matheson, Outer Hebrides LEADER Co-ordinator (KM)  
Catherine Myles, Outer Hebrides LEADER Project Support Assistant (CM)  
Ameena Camps, Outer Hebrides LEADER Development Officer, Uist and Barra (AC)  
Murdo Mackay, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Accountable Body Representative

### Apologies/ Absent

Bill MacMillan, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (Public)  
Alison MacCorquodale, Tourism Outer Hebrides 2020 Leadership Group (Private)  
Andrew Ross, North Uist Development Company (Private)  
Alistair MacLennan, Federation of Small Businesses (Private)  
Colin Gilmour, Outer Hebrides Community Planning Partnership (Private) Vice  
Chairperson  
Eoin MacNeil, Co-Cheangal Inne Gall (Private)  
Iain MacLennan, Skills Development Scotland (Public)  
Hector MacLeod, Third Sector Hebrides (Private)  
Cllr. Iain Macaulay, Princes Trust (Private)  
Sarah MacLean, Scottish Crofting Federation (Private)  
Johanne Ferguson, Scottish Natural Heritage (Public)  
Michael Smith, Mossend Residents Association (Private)  
Domhnall MacDonald, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Accountable Body Representative

	<i>Action for:</i>
<p><b>1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from those listed above. Sarah Maclean and Eoin MacNeil did attempt to VC in from Barra but were prevented from doing as the room booking was cancelled with to allow the room to be used for a Comhairle</p>	



<p>Committee meeting. The LEADER Team were not notified of this. Therefore a quorum was not achieved.</p> <p><b>Representation from 3 Public and 6 Private members of the LAG were present.</b></p>	
<p><b>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p>Matt Bruce declared an interest in the EOI submitted by Tighean Innse Gall in relation to a possible Co-operation project.</p> <p>All LAG members were reminded to submit updated Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality forms to Catherine Myles if they have not already done so within the previous 12 months.</p>	<p><b>LAG</b></p>
<p><b>3. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT NOTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS AND MATTERS ARISING THEREOF</b></p> <p>The minutes of the LAG meeting on 17.04.18 were presented with minor corrections being noted and require ratification by a quorum of the LAG at a later date.</p>	<p><b>LAG</b></p>
<p><b>4. PROJECTS</b></p> <p><b>a) Note of projects approved/rejected</b></p> <p>A paper was circulated noting the results of Funding Round 16 which were as follows for the Youth LAG fund. All projects received approval by the LAG via email so were simply noted at the meeting. The project conditions, already sent to the LAG via email, were presented for ratification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>065 Island Life Group</b> - £19,238 - APPROVED</li><li>- <b>066 Hotspot Intervention Programme</b> - £20,209.77 - APPROVED</li><li>- <b>075 Skiff ‘Young Leader’</b> - £16,678.68 - APPROVED</li><li>- <b>077 Lewis and Harris Mountain Bike Project</b> - £11,327.40 - APPROVED</li><li>- <b>079 Barra and Vatersay Year of Young People</b> - £12,884.37 - APPROVED</li><li>- <b>081 Isle of Harris Youth Music Festival</b> - £9090 - APPROVED</li></ul> <p><b>b) Project change requests</b></p> <p>A paper was presented with a number of change requests. All were completed by LEADER Officers on LARCs and were noted by the LAG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>004 – Husinis Gateway</b></li><li>● <b>005 – Hebrides Dance Studio</b></li><li>● <b>010 – Place Names and Archaeology</b></li><li>● <b>012 – Uig Lodge Restaurant</b></li><li>● <b>025 – John’s Bunkhouse</b></li><li>● <b>028 – Community Energy Facility Based Programme</b></li><li>● <b>039 – Kilbride Hostel</b></li><li>● <b>048 – CKC Innovation and Development Manager</b></li><li>● <b>058 – Commun Eachdraidh Nis Development</b></li></ul>	<p><b>LAG</b></p> <p><b>LAG</b></p>

<p><b>c) Updates</b></p> <p><b>005 – Hebrides Dance and Wellbeing Studio</b> – the outcome of the planning process is expected imminently and approval is anticipated. There was discussion on possible changes to the total project costs and knock-on impact to the match funding package. LEADER and HIE to go back to applicant for clarification.</p> <p><b>057 – Winter Season Development</b> – A late paper was circulated following discussions between the Tourism Sub-group and the applicant following the submission of a revised, scaled-back project proposal. The Sub-group recommend the LAG accept the proposal and a quorum is required to ratify the decision.</p> <p><b>073 – Save a Penny</b> – The LAG have previously agreed by email to the requested extension on the deadline of the interim letter of offer and this was noted. The agreed deadline is 31 July 2018.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DM &amp; HIE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAG</p>
<p><b>5. YOUTH LAG FUND UPDATE</b></p> <p>A note of the wash-up meeting of the Youth LAG which took place on 18th May 2018 was presented for noting. The LAG offered a vote of thanks to the young people involved and noted that six projects had been successfully approved. The LAG expressed a wish that the remaining underspend of £10,571.78 within the Youth LAG fund be transferred back to the general fund. This decision requires ratification by the LAG.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LAG</p>
<p><b>6. CO-ORDINATOR UPDATE</b></p> <p>The Coordinator update paper was presented by Donna for noting by the LAG. A vote of thanks was noted by the LAG in relation to the excellent result achieved during the recently completed internal audit process. A copy of the final report was provided.</p> <p>A number of Co-operation projects are in the early stages of development. The LAG discussed a possible change to the intervention rate for Co-operation projects, particularly in relation to the TIG project but it was agreed that no changes would be made at this time and it would remain at 90%.</p> <p>The LAG is awaiting a decision from Scottish Government on the possible reallocation of monies between the Co-operation budget and General funds and it is hoped a decision will be reached before the next LAG meeting. Murdo Mackay will be participating in the next Accountable Bodies meeting on 27 June 2018 and will seek a further update at that time.</p>	
<p><b>7. FINANCIAL UPDATE</b></p> <p>Catherine presented the report detailing the current financial position of the Programme in relation to committed funds and those available for allocation.</p> <p>Following the approval of six (Round 16) projects a further £89,428.22 has been</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CMY</p>

<p>committed. A number of pipeline projects were discussed ahead of the next application deadline on 29th June 2018. A decision was taken to continue with rolling deadlines as previously with the next one set for 21st August 2018.</p> <p>LAG members requested a table with projected underspend in order to consider what additional finance might be left in the budget and ascertain high/low risk projects.</p>	
<p><b>8. TOURISM SUB-GROUP</b></p> <p>It was requested that additional members join the existing sub-group due to depletion in members as a result of LAG members stepping down.</p> <p>Neil Campbell volunteered to join the Tourism Sub-Group and it was suggested that Andrew Ross also be approached bringing the membership to five, including Ian Fordham, Alison MacCorquodale and Lorna Ellor.</p>	LAG
<p><b>9. AOCB</b></p> <p><b>Internal Audit</b> – As discussed under item six, a ‘clean sweep’ was noted for the LEADER Programme following the internal audit process.</p> <p><b>Chair’s Meeting Update</b> - Colin Gilmour attended the Chair’s meeting on 14th June 2018 and provided notes to Ian Fordham. It was suggested by Colin that the LAG and the OHCPP are to respond to the current consultation exercise underway with the NCRA.</p> <p>In addition it was noted that there will be 15 funded places on the Rural Leadership Programme through HIE.</p> <p><b>AB Meeting</b> – it was noted that Murdo Mackay would be attending the next meeting as a substitute during Domhnall MacDonald’s absence.</p> <p><b>LDT Quarterly Update</b> – the LAG noted the update and in particular the statistics showing that the Outer Hebrides LEADER programme had the highest level of match funding leverage of any LAG area in Scotland</p> <p>A suggestion to review the quorum for meetings was recommended and will be discussed at the next LAG meeting</p>	LAG
<p><b>10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 @ 10.30am in the Stornoway Comhairle offices (Committee Room 3) with v/c to Comhairle offices in Balivanich and Castlebay.</p>	