



RDPE: Delivering success through local action 3rd and 4th February 2010 Dunchurch Park Hotel and Conference Centre

Fringe Activity – Washing Line

A washing line was hung in the main room at the venue and participants were encouraged to peg ideas and / or examples that would help others in their delivery of RDPE. The following information has not been interpreted and has been transcribed from the items that were added to the washing line on the day:

- “Calls for Projects” – procurement of services by publicising the opportunity in general; allowing specific applications from the applicants. NOT top down tendering – *anon*
- Explain in simple, understandable terms in the EOI guidance notes and to any potential projects that contact you about the requirement for DEFRAYAL of expenditure – *Elspeth Fry, Worcestershire County Council*
- It’s a safe bet few councillors with decision-making powers and budgets actually understand this, so I think RDPE would benefit from educating them! – *Jill Makinson Sanders, Lindsey Action Zone*
- Share simplified application form and appraisal system for grants under £50k. This has reduced process time for 6 months to now 2 weeks and depending on frequency of meetings – *Mark Hodgkinson, Cambs ACRE (Fens Adventurers)*
- 1) How can national support bodies engage with RDPE on a regional or LAG level?
2) Can RDPE fund intermediary organisations to deliver some RDPE objectives?
3) Is there a role for LAGs to promote other funding / support programmes? – *James Alcock, Plunkett Foundation*
- Not very revolutionary – make sure every LAG meeting (a) is out there at the grass roots and (b) has some theme / project presentation / speaker or something interesting! - *John Dowsett, Plain Action LAG*
- Ongoing training for LAG members – to keep up to date and engaged, to understand processes, to advice applicants and champion local action – *Jenny Carey-Wood, Leader for Torridge and North Devon*

- Involve LAG members in visiting projects pre-application, to then report to LAG and LAG members to carry out monitoring of ongoing and completed project (with training of course) – *Jenny Carey-Wood, Leader 4 Torridge and North Devon*
- We have sub-regional networking sessions in the West Midlands as well as regional where contacts are developed. Very useful as you don't need to devote a day to travel somewhere and can see advise and best practice on the phone / via email – *Elspeth Fry, Worcestershire County Council*
- We are looking into a renewable energy project and would love to have contact with another LAG who are similarly interested – *Doug Haynes, Northern Marshes*
- Pride of Place. A themed approach of local development based on local distinctiveness combined with the creation of a “real” tourism officer – *anon*
- Have an RDPE Champion on every council, linking positively, but not part of, the LAGs - *Jill Makinson Sanders, Lindsey Action Zone*
- Don't take “no” for an answer – *anon*
- Task and Finish group for branding – we have put together a group to look at branding and marketing the area as a tourist area to support tourism projects in the area - *Caron Kendall, Greensand Ridge*
- Using ‘open space’ technology to run this conference – *Jenny Archard, Making it Local*
- RDA groups to get together, have an opportunity to discuss difficult questions raised by LAGs – and then to report back to LAGs. All news could be posted on website – *anon*
- Consider how we evaluate the value of the Leader method now. Not as an afterthought; we get up to 10% extra to do this (not to do extra admin) – *anon*
- Mentoring or Twinning Scheme - the Network to uncover and pair natural partners out of the region who share similar attributes especially when one is lagging behind – *Caron Kendall, Greensand Ridge*
- The West Midlands LAGs are developing a brief for a new ‘wellbeing toolkit’ for Leader projects to compare across programmes. Need to make sure this isn't being duplicated elsewhere – *Clare Fildes, Shropshire Hills AONB*
- Case studies are critical to sell the programme – we'll send a couple through and to include these within promotional material – *Mike Carter, Fens Adventurers Rural Development Programme*

- Having a reimbursement of mileage costs and a networking lunch to develop cohesion and loyalty of Local Action Group members (simple but important!) – *Mike Carter, Cambs ACRE*
- We would love to have an England wide link readily available on projects so that we could liaise with others and share experiences – *D Haynes, Northern Marches LAG*
- We are running a small grants scheme. I know a lot of other LAGs want to do this. We see it as being the seed fund that sows bigger projects and gives Leader greater profile. Check out our website www.pennineprospects.co.uk/leader/smallgrants - *Ruth Hair, South Pennine LEADER*
- Networking aimed at LAG members specifically – *John Dunford, South Pennine LAG*
- Enabling the LAG by providing “full roles” and picking horses for courses so projects and theme approaches have champions – *anon*
- March visit from Estonia: Analysis (A4) required of what they wanted, what they got and vice versa – *Jenny Archard / Paul Diviani, Making it Local*
- Eat with the LAG! We meet in a different location every meeting and in a local village hall. We ask a youth group or local village organisation to feed us at the meeting so again we are supporting others and the LAG members have a good chat before the meeting and get on well and respect each other - *Mark Mather, Northumberland Uplands LAG*