



Scottish Borders LEADER

Developing Enterprising Communities

THE LEADER Local Action Group

What is LEADER Local Action Group?

The Scottish Borders LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) is a partnership of local stakeholder organisations. It has responsibility for the management and delivery of the Scottish Borders LEADER Programme in line with the approved Local Development Strategy.

The 19 members of the LAG give their time voluntarily and have agreed a group protocol which sets out how the LAG will operate.

The LAG represents a mix of Public, Voluntary and Private Organisations, with the Public Sector comprising of less than 50%. The following organisations are represented in the current Scottish Borders LEADER LAG.

Public Organisations	Voluntary Sector	Private Organisations
Scottish National Heritage	Borders Community Council Federation	Selkirk Chamber of Commerce and Trade
Scottish Borders Council	Youth Borders	Federation of Small Businesses
Scottish Enterprise	Peebles CAN	National Farmers Union
Forestry Commission Scotland	Scottish Borders Community Council Network	Scottish Borders Food and Drink
VisitScotland	The Bridge	Borders Creative
	The Hippodrome CIC	The Haining
	Borders Forest Trust	
	Tweed Forum	

Details of LAG Membership, including members’ biographies and information on the organisations represented, are on the [Partners](#) page of the SBC LEADER website,

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What do they do?

The LEADER LAG is responsible for the management of programme activities, it assesses project applications, adds value to projects where applicable and monitors the financial and output progress of the Programme.

The LAG has appointed Scottish Borders Council to be the Accountable Body for the LEADER programme in the Scottish Borders. The Council takes responsibility for the financial and administrative management of the programme and for employment of the LEADER team.

The LAG meets up to four times annually to assess project applications and make funding decisions, these times are published in advance on the **timelines** (create link) page.

The LAG is also responsible for promotion of the LEADER programme and for developing community interest in LEADER funding opportunities.

LAG responsibilities:

LEADER FUND – the focus is on finding innovative projects that encourage enterprising communities and enhance the rural economy. Eligible projects will support the delivery of the Local Development Strategy.

RURAL ENTERPRISE FUND – the 2014–2020 programme has earmarked £800.000 of grant support for small and micro rural businesses and farm diversification projects.

Funding applications will be assessed by a specialised Rural Enterprise Decision Making Group (DMG) formed by the LAG which will use its business knowledge and expertise to assess the suitability and sustainability of the projects.

Further information on eligible project activity is available from the [LEADER Team](#).

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