

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WESTMORLAND & FURNESS

LOCAL PARTNERSHIP GROUP

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The Westmorland and Furness Local Partnership Group (LPG) will provide advice on strategic fit and deliverability of both the investment plan and constituent projects of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) Programmes for the Westmorland and Furness area.

1.2 The LPG will provide expert advice and constructive challenge to ensure the UKSPF and REPF is delivered in a manner that responds to the challenges and opportunities relevant to Westmorland & Furness, in order to create a prosperous and sustainable future for its communities, places, businesses, natural assets and people.

1.3 The LPG will oversee impact of the Programmes, considering both quantitative and qualitative performance information provided by the constituent projects and verified by Westmorland and Furness Council.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the LPG are as follows;

1. To keep under review all aspects of the UKSPF and REPF Programmes.
2. To provide advice on strategic fit and deliverability of both the Investment Plan and projects seeking support from the Programme.
3. To ensure the focus of the UKSPF and REPF reflects the current and emerging needs of local communities and businesses.
4. To provide a route for the effective and timely engagement of a range of key local stakeholders.
5. To receive regular updates on Programme performance from Westmorland and Furness Council and consider the impact of the Programmes in line with the aims and aspiration of the Investment Plan.
6. To consider and provide views on any proposed material changes to the Programme to ensure it continues to deliver the Investment Plan priorities.
7. Act as ambassadors in championing Westmorland & Furness and all it has to offer.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Members of the Westmorland & Furness Local Partnership Group will be appointed for the lifetime of UKSPF/REPF i.e. to 31st March 2025, following invitation to join the group by the local authority.

3.2 A number of Observers and Officers will also attend the meetings upon prior agreement of the Chair, including representatives of government departments.

3.3 Members have been invited to ensure wide representation from sectors, organisations and the community. Although members are not required to consult widely across a particular constituency in advance of meetings, they are expected to share their broad professional and sectoral expertise with the LPG to ensure it operates in the best interests of Westmorland & Furness, its economy, its businesses and people.

3.4 Meetings will typically take place on a quarterly basis. The Chair of the LPG will determine whether these need to occur more or less frequently as business determines.

3.5 Members will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair at the LPG meeting on 19 July 2022; this decision will be agreed by consensus and can be reviewed as required

3.6 Westmorland and Furness Council will provide the Secretariat for the LPG.

3.7 Papers will be circulated at least 5 working days in advance of the meeting. Occasionally, it may be necessary to seek the views of the LPG on an urgent basis, outside of the ordinary meeting cycle. In these circumstances a paper will be issued, which provides a minimum of 5 working days for a response.

3.8 All members will be expected to attend meetings, other than in exceptional circumstances. Those members acting in a representative capacity may be able to nominate a Deputy to attend, subject to the agreement of the Chair.

4. Conduct

4.1 All members will be expected to operate in a professional, courteous and productive manner and in a way that is consistent with building consensus and fostering productive partnership working. Members who do not adhere to these standards will be invited, by the Chair, to consider their ongoing membership of the LPG.

5. Conflict of Interest

5.1 Although the Local Partnership Group does not have decision making responsibilities, it does have significant responsibility as an advisory body. It also has access to privileged information about future investment opportunities. It is therefore essential that any member who may have pecuniary or non-pecuniary benefit from any discussions in the LPG declare these interests appropriately.

6. Collaborative Working

6.1 The LPG will work collaboratively with all local bodies and organisations and with the Cumberland LPG as appropriate to ensure that commonality of challenges and opportunities are identified and joint working takes place on shared issues.

Appendix One

Members

Organisation	Name	Position
Westmorland and Furness Council	Cllr Jonathan Brook	Leader of the Council
Westmorland and Furness Council	Cllr Virginia Taylor	Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Communities and Localities
Kendal Futures	Mark Cropper	Chairman
Farmers Network	Adam Day	Managing Director
Brilliant Barrow Town Deal	Steve Cole	Chair
BAE Systems Submarines	Jeremy Ure	Chief Infrastructure Officer / Chair of LPG
Cumbria Chamber of Commerce	Suzanne Caldwell	Managing Director
Cumbria Tourism	Gill Haigh	Managing Director
Cumbria LEP	Jo Lappin	CEO
Cumbria CVS	David Allen	Chief Executive
Cumbria Action for Sustainability	Karen Mitchell	CEO
Furness College	Andrew Wren	Principal
Lake District National Park Authority	Hanna Latty	Head of Strategy
University of Cumbria	Julie Mennell	Vice Chancellor
Member of Parliament for Barrow and Furness	Simon Fell MP	
Member of Parliament for Westmorland and Lonsdale	Tim Farron MP	
Member of Parliament for Penrith and the Border	Neil Hudson MP	

Observers

Organisation	Name	Position
Arts Council England	Jane Beardsworth	Senior Manager (North)
Cumbria Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	Gill Shearer	Chief Executive
Department for Work and Pensions	Sharon Riding	Manager
Department for Business and Trade	Eloise Abbott	Assistant Director for Cumbria, Cities and Local Growth Unit
Historic England	Charles Smith	Head of Investment (North)
Inspira	Julia Winder	Area Operations Manager
National Lottery Community Fund	Duncan Nicholson	Regional Head of Funding
National Lottery Heritage Fund	Louise Sutherland	Head of Engagement (North)
One Public Estate	Debbie Stevens	OPE Lead
Westmorland and Furness Council	Alison Hatcher	Assistant Chief Executive