



THIRD SECTOR
Dumfries and Galloway



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Dumfries and Galloway Local Action Group (LAG) Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest in becoming a LAG member. We hope this list answers your questions about what's involved in serving on the LAG and how the process works. The LAG network operates in all local authorities across Scotland and plays an important role in the development of our local communities. Initially the priority for the Dumfries and Galloway LAG will be to manage the Community Led Local Development Fund and ensure that projects funded through this fund are delivering on local need.

What is the Local Action Group (LAG)?

The LAG is a group of people from local communities, business and the public sector who work in partnership to try to improve life in Dumfries and Galloway. The LAG was first formed under the EU LEADER programme and its cross-sector approach and is now being re-established. The majority of LAG members will come from community organisations or from businesses (including the rural sector – farming, fishing, forestry etc.). The LAG seeks to be as representative of the local communities across Dumfries and Galloway as possible and actively tries to recruit people from seldom-heard groups.

How will the LAG try to improve life in Dumfries and Galloway?

The LAG will work with the Scottish Government and others to attract funding to Dumfries and Galloway. The LAG makes decisions on how to distribute the funding received to projects tackling local needs, including commissioning its own projects. The LAG puts forward its own views to the Scottish Government and rural networks.

How do you become a member of the LAG?

Whilst relevant public sector organisations are invited to send representatives, all other members should apply to be LAG members. It is important that the LAG has a mix of private, public, community and third sector members so that all areas of regional life are properly

represented. The application is a simple form that asks about your relevant skills, knowledge and experience. The deadline is 28 June 2023.

Who can be a LAG member?

Anyone can join the LAG regardless of experience or background. LAG membership is open to individuals or to representatives from an organisation. There is a particular emphasis on local representatives who reside in Dumfries and Galloway however where this is not the case applicants are asked to indicate their experience or interest in relation to Dumfries and Galloway. We are interested in recruiting people with specific skills and knowledge, which might include but not be limited to rural sector (farming, fisheries, forestry etc), business experience, working with communities, project development, age related experience/work, experience of disability or disadvantage including working with young people, or just local knowledge.

What does being a LAG member involve?

LAG members agree to work to improve life in Dumfries and Galloway by:

- overseeing the running of grant programmes (initially the CLLD fund)
- identifying local issues, seeking solutions and donating their knowledge and experience
- working with the Scottish Government and others to attract funding to Dumfries and Galloway

The LAG puts forward its own views to the Scottish Government and rural networks.

LAG members will be asked to attend meetings (virtual and / or physical), impartially assess and score funding applications and put forward their opinions, knowledge and experience. Training will be provided on this. The time required to be a LAG member is likely to be the equivalent of 2-8hrs/month.



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Are LAG members paid?

No, membership is currently voluntary and unpaid. Expenses can be provided for activities carried out on the LAG's behalf (e.g. travel expenses).

How long can you be a LAG member?

There is no minimum or maximum time limit to membership. We appreciate that members can have unforeseen commitments and may need to leave, however we would prefer that members initially undertake to join and contribute for at least two years.

How many people are on the LAG?

We are aiming for a minimum membership of 12, but ideally between 15-25 people.

Will being a member of the LAG exclude my organisation from applying for funding?

No, by implementing a Declaration of Interests process, membership of the LAG will not exclude your organisation from applying for funding.

Why should I or my organisation be interested?

The LAG provides an opportunity for individuals and organisations both to influence regional fund management decisions and to feed into the national community-led local development movement and to the Scottish Government rural agenda.

How do I apply?

Complete the online application form here: www.tfaforms.com/5068650

OR

If you would prefer to complete a paper application form:

please download it [here](#) or phone us on 0300 3038558 to request one, then email the completed form to CLLD@tsdg.org.uk or send it to Natalie Anderson, Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway, Monreith House, The Crichton, Glencaple Road, Dumfries, DG1 4ZZ



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If you would like to discuss LAG membership, please contact:

Norma Austin Hart, TSDG Chief Executive Officer on norma.austinhart@tsdg.org.uk or by phoning 0300 3038558

We look forward to hearing from you.