

**Rural Community Led Local Development (RCLLD) Fund  
Local Action Group (LAG) Meeting  
Conference Video Call via Microsoft Teams  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 1.00pm to 3pm**

**Present:**

Eleanor Morris	Aberdeenshire Council	(Public)
Gina Ford	Fintray Community Council	(Private) (Chair)
David Hekelaar	Formartine Community Councils	(Private)
John Loder	Formartine Partnership	(Private) (Vice Chair)
Bill Slee	Marr Area Partnership	(Private)
Gerald Banks	National Farmers' Union Scotland	(Private)
Duncan Leece	Banffshire Partnership	(Private)

**Officers in Attendance:**

Moira Beverley	Investments and Projects Executive
Martin Brebner	Team Manager

**Apologies:**

Amanda Roe	Aberdeenshire Council	(Public)
Aileen Longino	Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action	(Private) (Vice Chair)
Mike Duncan	Federation of Small Businesses	(Private)
Lorna Paterson	National Farmers' Union Scotland	(Private)
Dawn Tuckwood	NHS Grampian	(Public)
David Fyffe	Scottish Land & Estates	(Private)
David Jackson	Visit Scotland	(Public)

**1 Welcome & Apologies**

1.1 The Chair welcomed those present and apologies were noted as above.

**2 Declarations of Interest (DOI)**

2.1 No declarations on interest were made.

**3 Minute of LAG Meeting – 17 December 2024**

3.1 The LAG approved the minute. This was proposed by Bill Slee and seconded by Duncan Leece.

3.2

#### **4 Minute of LAG Meeting – 29 January 2025**

4.1 The LAG approved the minute. This was proposed by Bill Slee and seconded by Duncan Leece.

#### **5 Paper 1 – Outstanding Items from previous LAG minute**

5.1 Moira Beverley reported back to the LAG on Paper 1.

5.2 Eleanor Morris will set up a meeting, and invite Moira Beverley, to take forward how other groups operate as SCIOs.

#### **6 Paper 2 – Nominations of Chair (x 1) and Vice Chairs (x 2)**

6.1 John Loder was proposed as Chair. This was seconded by Gerald Banks and agreed unanimously by those in attendance.

6.2 The positions of Vice Chair will be postponed until a future meeting to allow all members to attend.

6.3 Moira Beverley and / or Martin Brebner will look into representation for the south of Aberdeenshire and from relevant Area Manager.

#### **7 Paper 3 – LAG Focus for 2025.26**

7.1 Moira Beverley reported back to the LAG on Paper 3.

7.2 Moira Beverley will collate and share data from the evaluations on various projects with the LAG in due course.

7.3 The LAG agreed to continue to support the themes of Low Carbon Energy Reduction and Active Travel with the awarded Capital funding for 2025.26

7.4 Community Building Energy Retrofit revenue funds will not be taken forward in the upcoming year. Community Path Development will be reviewed in due course. Tackling poverty will be considered.

- 7.5 Moira Beverley will reach out to Youthlink Scotland for advice on potential rural youth support.
- 7.6 Moira Beverley will look into and collate information on relevant funding / current funding landscape.

## **8 AOCB**

- 8.1 The group thanked Gina Ford for all her contributions to the LAG.
- 8.2 The group thanked the officers for their work on the programme over the last year.

## **9 Date of next meeting**

- 9.1 The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd June 2025.

Minute Taker

Catriona Nicolson

APPROVED