**East Midlands Regional Access Forum**

We discussed your message at our East Midlands Regional LAF Chairs meeting today, along with your RAF terms of reference, an item deferred from our previous meeting last October, and which we were interested to know about even though our general feeling is that we do not need any similar document.

By getting volunteers to act as Secretary and Chair of our ‘ad hoc’ meetings (we do not formally regard them as a ‘Regional Forum’) we have managed to keep going for the last few years, despite the phasing out of Natural England support, and have continued to meet twice a year, in Nottingham, encouraged by the excellent support we continue to get from John Lee at Nottingham City Council.

The main comment today on your message, however, was that it was very important to get somebody along to our meetings from Natural England, rather than just a brief message and apologies for absence as we again had today.

I am copying this message to John Law from South Lincolnshire and Rutland LAF who continues to act as Secretary, and to John Thomson, the new Chair of the Peak District LAF, who today kindly offered to take over from myself in chairing our next meeting, due to take place next March. I am also copying it to John Lee, to Ruth Thurgood who took over from me in January as Chair of the Nottingham LAF, and also to Katie France my fellow Vice-Chair.

Best wishes

Hugh McClintock

Vice-Chair, Nottingham LAF.

**East Midlands Regional Access Forum Contacts**

Initial contact – Former RAF Chair & Vice Chair Nottingham LAF - Hugh McClintock

[hugh.mcclintock@ntlworld.com](mailto:hugh.mcclintock@ntlworld.com)

Now: RAF Chair - John Thompson – Chair Peak District LAF [johnthom86015@gmail.com](mailto:johnthom86015@gmail.com)

Secretary – John Law, South Lincolnshire and Rutland LAF - [johnthom86015@gmail.com](mailto:johnthom86015@gmail.com)

Support - Nottingham City Council – John Lee - [john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

Ruth Thurgood, Chair Nottingham LAF - [ruth.thurgood@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.thurgood@btinternet.com)

Vice Chairs Nottingham LAF Hugh McClintock [hugh.mcclintock@ntlworld.com](mailto:hugh.mcclintock@ntlworld.com)

Katie France - [katie.s.france@outlook.com](mailto:katie.s.france@outlook.com)

**North East Regional Access Forum Contacts**

Good morning Didy,

Good to hear from you, I hope all is well.

At first when NE withdrew funding for Regional Co-ordinator (my role) and then their support altogether across the north east we (at Tees Valley) were very disappointed and wrote directly to our NE north east Regional Manager to let him know exactly how we felt. At the time he protested and said they would still work together with us on projects of shared interest.

The Regional Group is still running, at present meeting twice a year. The next meeting is this Thursday at County Hall Durham and the agenda items reflect the work we are all involved with; as you would expect this includes updates on Heritage Lottery Funded partnerships, and LNP work. I know the LAF Chairs want to compare notes about how the Combined Authorities are working and their views on access in particular. There is no funding for these meetings, colleagues are simply making do.

There is life after Natural England! As you probably are aware, there has been no request for an Annual Review and nor have they published the last National Review for 2015-16.  I’ll know more after this week’s meeting about the north east Regional LAF plans and direction, and I can keep you posted.

Best wishes

Beryl

**North East Regional Access Forum Contacts**

Initial contact failed - Marion Hume Corporate Support Officer JLAF Administrator, Northumberland National Park. [Marion.Hume@unpa.org.uk](mailto:Marion.Hume@unpa.org.uk)

Now:

Beryl Bird, Hartlepool Borough Council – Formally Regional Coordinator - continuing to help out. [Beryl.Bird@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:Beryl.Bird@hartlepool.gov.uk)

**Other Contacts:**

**NW Regional LAF**

Kathy Miles –Coordinator Cumbria - [katharina.miles@gmail.com](mailto:katharina.miles@gmail.com)

**West Midlands Regional Access Forum**

Shona Butter – Coordinator - [shona.butter@shrophire.gov.uk](mailto:shona.butter@shrophire.gov.uk)