

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

Now: RAF Chair - John Thompson – Chair Peak District LAF johnthom86015@gmail.com

Secretary – John Law, South Lincolnshire and Rutland LAF - johnthom86015@gmail.com

Support - Nottingham City Council – John Lee - john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Ruth Thurgood, Chair Nottingham LAF - ruth.thurgood@btinternet.com

Vice Chairs Nottingham LAF Hugh McClintock hugh.mcclintock@ntlworld.com

Katie France - 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

Now:

Beryl Bird, Hartlepool Borough Council – Formally Regional Coordinator - continuing to help out.
Beryl.Bird@hartlepool.gov.uk

Other Contacts:

NW Regional LAF

Kathy Miles –Coordinator Cumbria - katharina.miles@gmail.com

West Midlands Regional Access Forum

Shona Butter – Coordinator - shona.butter@shropshire.gov.uk