

This matter is being dealt with by:

Mandy Ramm

Reference:

T 0115 977 2685

E mandy.ramm@nottscc.gov.uk

W nottinghamshire.gov.uk



Alex Bowness
Operations Manager
East Midlands Defra RDPE Delivery Team
Apex Court, City Link
Nottingham
NG2 4LA

13 March 2014

Dear Alex,

LEADER Preparatory Funding Applications - Nottinghamshire

Please find enclosed 4 separate applications for funding to support new LAG development in:

- 1) Ashfield
- 2) Gedling
- 3) Mansfield and
- 4) Rushcliffe

Following the meeting held at Defra offices on Friday 7th March 2014, the bids have been developed to access realistic funding allocations and we have sought to link back to the work of the North Nottinghamshire LAG under its Transitional Funding award to scope out opportunities for shared back office functions. To this end, an email offering a financial commitment to each bid is appended from the Chair of the North Nottinghamshire LAG

The Bids are effectively the same, other than the sponsors and the ward coverage identified. This reflects the reality of promoting increased LEADER coverage from a relatively low baseline in a short timeframe.

However, what opportunity this process has identified is to start to crystallise thoughts on how to achieve the best fit of emerging rural resources across the County and wider D2N2 area, a greater engagement and understanding of the needs at the District level and an unexpected but very welcome level of support and enthusiasm from business and community groups in the areas identified. To this end we have a growing list of local interested parties wishing to be involved – some have even insisted in signing the bids in addition to the nominated lead.

In turn, the County Council has received formal approval under its Urgency Procedures to act as the Accountable Body for the 4 bids – with unanimous support from members of the Economic Development Committee to try and progress this funding opportunity as a foundation for future work to support rural growth in Nottinghamshire.

I trust that the Applications are considered to be in order and would ask that Mandy Ramm, Economic Development Officer, is copied into any communication to the Lead signatory on each bid in order that the Accountable Body can help with any technical queries.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Francis-Ward
Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer