



Cairngorms Trust – Letter to Applicants and other interested parties.
06/10/16

CAIRNGORMS LEADER PROGRAMME

Scottish Government has notified all Local Action Groups that it will examine any implications of the UK Treasury's Autumn Statement in order to consider the extent to which it is able to continue to make long term commitments on the LEADER programme. As such, the Cairngorms LAG (operating as the Cairngorms Trust) is unlikely to be able to offer any new letters of offer from November 2016 onwards until the national position is clarified.

We hope to be able to resume issue of letters of offer in early 2017, if not before, and would encourage those businesses, community groups and other organisations who have made applications or submitted expressions of interest to continue to work with the Cairngorms LEADER team.

Our LEADER team will continue to work with all applicants who continue to engage with the process. The LAG will meet as planned on 23 November to consider applications and to make decisions "in principle", with any letter of offer issued as soon as the national situation is clarified. We will also continue with our plans to meet in February 2017 when we would also expect to consider another batch of project applications.

The Cairngorms LAG welcomes your interest in the LEADER programme and we encourage you to continue to work with the LEADER team in progressing your ideas and plans. We hope that the situation will be resolved quickly and we will continue to keep everyone engaging with the LEADER programme updated on any changes in our capacity to issue letters of offer. I know that the Cairngorms National Park Authority, as the Cairngorms LAG's supporting Accountable Body, is working closely with Scottish Government officers in order to monitor progress with this matter and will inform the LAG as soon as they believe it is possible to make new offers of funding.

While we will endeavour to write again to applicants and those who have submitted expressions of interest, please also monitor our website for updates: <http://www.cairngorms-leader.org/>

For the avoidance of any doubt, those projects where letters of offer have already been agreed remain unaffected by this announcement. These projects should proceed as set out in those grant offer letters. I wish you every success with those project activities and I look forward along with my colleagues to hearing of the impacts made by your activities.

It will be difficult for us to say more on this until the national situation has been clarified. If you do have any questions on the national funding position, please contact our Accountable Body through David Cameron, our Lead Director at the Cairngorms National Park Authority: davidcameron@cairngorms.co.uk Please address any questions on development of your project proposals or expressions of interest to the LEADER team in the usual way.



"The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas".



Yours faithfully,

Roger Clegg
Chair, Cairngorms Local Action Group
(Operating as The Cairngorms Trust)



“The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas”.