

PROFILES OF LOCAL ACTION GROUPS - Northern Ireland



LAG NAME:	ARDS AND NORTH DOWN RURAL PARTNERSHIP		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 9147 3788 E: info@ruralpartnersand.co.uk W: www.ruralpartnersand.co.uk		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	David Kirkpatrick	LAG MANAGER:	Marguerite Osborne
TOTAL BUDGET	£3.85 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£220,500
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	<p><u>Key themes of interest:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coastal erosion; Coastal tourism; Broadband <p><u>Other areas of interest:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farming models of good practice; farm diversification; health and social care; pilgrimage trails; arts and literature based tourism trails; walking trails; cycling trails community-led rescue services; motor cycle tourism; community development of heritage sSites; Christian Heritage; greenway development along old railway lines; fishing; extension of the Mourne Coastal Route; loughs – Strangford Lough, Loch Lomond & Lough Allen; Ards & Cooley Peninsula; energy 		
DESCRIPTION OF LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Ards and North Down Borough Council area		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas outside the main towns of Bangor, Comber, Donaghadee, Holywood and Newtownards		
<p>Ards and North Down Rural Partnership covers the Ards and North Down Council area which is formed by the merger of the former Borough Councils of North Down and Ards.</p> <p>The Council covers an approximate area of 228 sq miles of north east County Down and is made up of a mix of urban and rural communities. At the time of the 2011 census the population was 156,672. The area serves a rural population of 30,790, equating to approximately 20% of the total population.</p> <p>Wholesale and retail, health and education account for a large proportion of the economic activity. Total number of farms is 683 and total area farmed is 32,627 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			



LAG NAME:	CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS LOCAL ACTION GROUP LTD		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 7034 7016 E: rdp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk W: www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/work/rural-development		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Patsy Bradley	LAG MANAGER:	Suzanne Irwin
TOTAL BUDGET:	£9.6 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£525,000
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	International Appalachian Trail, Rivers Project, Islands Project, Biker Tourism		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Area		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas within the Borough (<u>excluding</u> the towns of Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Limavady, Portrush, Portstewart)		
<p>The Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council encompasses the areas previously covered by Ballymoney, Coleraine and Limavady Borough Councils along with Moyle District Council. This is the area covered by the Causeway Coast and Glens LAG. The area stretches from Lough Foyle along the North Antrim Coast to the Glens of Antrim and south as far as the Sperrin mountains. The area is of mixed character, comprising both urban and primarily rural areas.</p> <p>Causeway Coast and Glens covers an approximate area of over 693 sq miles and at the time of the 2011 census the population was 140,877. 53% of the overall population is defined as rural, accounting for 75,480 of the overall population.</p> <p>Agriculture, Tourism, Retail and Education account for a large proportion of the economic activity of the area. The total number of farms in the area is 2,453 accounting for just under 144,000 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			

LAG NAME:	DERRY AND STRABANE RURAL PARTNERSHIP		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 7125 3253 (ext 6917) E: rural.development@derrystrabane.com W: www.derrystrabane.com/rural		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	James McColgan	LAG MANAGER:	Deirdre Harte
BUDGET:	£7.54 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£432,600
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	International Appalachian Trail as well as other projects still to be confirmed (e.g. blueways)		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Derry City and Strabane District Council Area		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas outwith Strabane town and city of Derry (including Culmore, Newbuildings, Strathfoyle, Nixon's Corner, Drumahoe and Coshquin)		
<p>Derry and Strabane Rural Partnership covers Derry City and Strabane District Council which covers the most north westerly corner of Northern Ireland and its border with Donegal, stretching from the shores of Lough Foyle in the north through to Castlederg in the south. Outside of the City of Derry itself, the area is predominantly rural, and includes many of the most deprived parts of Northern Ireland, particularly in respect of income and employment deprivation.</p> <p>Derry and Strabane cover an approximate area in excess of 482 sq miles and at the time of the 2011 census the population was 147,720. 30% of the overall population is defined as rural, accounting for 43,679 of the overall population.</p> <p>Health and social work, wholesale and retail, education and manufacturing account for a large proportion of the economic activity of the area. The total number of farms in the area is 1637, accounting for over 96,000 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			



LAG NAME:	FERMANAGH & OMAGH LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) LTD		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 8225 0202 E: claudine.mcguigan@fermanaghomagham.com W: currently under construction		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Cllr Allan Rainey MBE	LAG MANAGER:	Claudine McGuigan
TOTAL BUDGET:	£8.29 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£500,000
COOPERATION INTERESTS :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Wellbeing Networking • Lough Erne and Fermanagh Lakes • Development of walking/cycling/angling/horse-riding trails; and • Development of archaeological, natural history and historical trails. 		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas outside settlement development limits of Enniskillen and Omagh		
<p>The Fermanagh and Omagh LAG encompasses the areas previously covered by Fermanagh District Council and Omagh District Council. The LAG area runs from Creggan in the east to Belcoo in the west.</p> <p>The Council area is NIs largest region in terms of landmass (covering an approximate area of 1,164 sq miles) with the smallest population of all the Councils. At the time of the 2011 census the population was 113,161. The area is predominately rural in character and 71% of the population is defined as rural accounting for 80,170 of the overall population.</p> <p>Wholesale and retail, along with manufacturing and health account for a large proportion of the economic activity. Total number of farms in the area is 4,958 and total area farmed is 204,207 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014, NISRA)</i></p>			



LAG NAME:	GROW SOUTH ANTRIM		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 9448 1311 E: grow@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk W: www.growsouthantrim.com		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Cllr Vera McWilliam	LAG MANAGER:	Emma Stubbs
TOTAL BUDGET:	£2.61million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£150,000
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	Lough Neagh and water activities, Sou-terrains or other historic trails, youth entrepreneurship, craft businesses.		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Projects based in, or with a significant impact on a rural area with less than 5,000 residents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INCLUDES – Ballyeaston, Ballynure, Ballyrobert, Burnside, Doagh, Parkgate, Straid, Templepatrick, Toome, outlying rural areas. • EXCLUDES – Antrim town, Randalstown, Crumlin, Ballyclare town, Newtownabbey urban area, including Glengormley. 		
<p>GROW South Antrim covers the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council area. It stretches from the shores of Lough Neagh in the west to the shores of Belfast Lough in the east. Its northern boundary with Ballymena leads to the Glens of Antrim and the port of Larne, while to the south it borders Belfast and Lisburn & Castlereagh.</p> <p>Antrim and Newtownabbey covers an approximate area of 274 sq miles and at the time of the 2011 census the population was 138,567. The area is of mixed character, with both rural and primarily urban context. 22% of the overall population is defined as rural, accounting for 30,984 of the overall population.</p> <p>Health and social work, wholesale and retail, manufacturing, and education account for a large proportion of the economic activity of the area. The total number of farms in the area is 874, accounting for just over 42,000 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			

LAG NAME:	LAGAN RURAL PARTNERSHIP (LRP)		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 9250 9419 E: Padraic.Murphy@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk W: www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk/business/rural-development		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Cllr Margaret Tolerton	LAG MANAGER:	Padraic Murphy
TOTAL BUDGET:	£3.23 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£200,000
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a Waterways College Project – Lagan Canal and other water based locations in NI & ROI • Motorcycle Tourism Promotion – NI & ROI • Marketing of Lough Neagh 		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council and Belfast City Council Rural Area		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	All areas eligible except Belfast City, Lisburn City and Carryduff		
<p>This LAG covers the Council areas of Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Belfast City Council. It is the only LAG that involves a partnership between two Council areas. Straddling 2 counties, the LAG covers an area in excess of 250 sq miles.</p> <p>At the time of the 2011 census, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council recorded a population of 134,841, with 31% of the population residing in rural areas (41,761). For Belfast City Council the population was 333,871; of which those residing in rural areas was 1.5% (4,756).</p> <p>Health, wholesale and retail sectors account for a large proportion of the economic activity. Total number of farms in the area is 854 and total area farmed 37,455 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014, NISRA)</i></p>			



LAG NAME:	MID AND EAST ANTRIM LOCAL ACTION GROUP		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 2563 3266 or 028 2563 3368 E: RDP@midandeastantrim.gov.uk W: www.meardp.com		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Cllr Billy Henry	LAG MANAGER:	Andrew McAlister
TOTAL BUDGET:	£4.19 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£250,000
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	International Appalachian Trail, Blueways, Community/ Industrial Heritage Trails, Greenways, Pilgrimage trails.		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council area.		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas of Mid and East Antrim (former Larne, Ballymena and Carrickfergus Council areas) plus Greenisland (for the Rural Business Investment Scheme only).		
<p>The Mid and East Antrim Borough Council encompasses the areas previously covered by Ballymena Borough Council, Larne Borough Council and Carrickfergus Borough Council. It stretches from the Bann in the west to the shores of the Irish Sea and Belfast Lough in the east. The area is of mixed character, comprising both urban and primarily rural areas.</p> <p>Mid and East Antrim covers an approximate area of 405 sq miles and at the time of the 2011 census the population was 135,338. 38% of the overall population is defined as rural, accounting for 51,215 of the overall population.</p> <p>Wholesale and retail, manufacturing, health and social work, and education account for a large proportion of the economic activity of the area. The total number of farms in the area is 1,750, accounting for just under 80,000 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			



LAG NAME:	MID ULSTER RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 8676 4714 E: rdp@midulstercouncil.org W: http://www.midulsterrdp.org/Home		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Austin Kelly	LAG MANAGER:	Eamon Gallogly
TOTAL BUDGET:	£10.16 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£600,000
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	Lough Neagh infrastructure development, biker tourism through development of themed trails, development of archaeology, natural history and historical tours, development of heritage sites, better use of broadband.		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Mid Ulster District Council area		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas of Mid Ulster District Council		
<p>The Mid Ulster LAG covers those areas previously covered by Cookstown District Council, Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council and Magherafelt District Council. Straddling two counties it covers a significant geographical land mass of Northern Ireland within both an urban and primarily rural context. The LAG area runs from Swatragh in the north to Fivemiletown at its southern tip.</p> <p>Mid Ulster covers an approximate area of 764 sq miles and at the time of the 2011 census the population was 138,590. 68% of the population is defined as rural accounting for 96,195 of the overall population.</p> <p>Manufacturing, agriculture, construction and retail account for a large proportion of the economic activity. Total number of farms is 4,128 and total area farmed is 142,404 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			

LAG NAME:	MOURNE, GULLION AND LECALÉ RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 0300 013 2233 ext 2503 E: Kevin.mcgarry@downdc.gov.uk W: www.mournegullionlecale.com		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Nicholas McCrickard	LAG MANAGER:	Kevin McGarry
TOTAL BUDGET:	£11.19 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£260,500
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	To be confirmed		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas outside the main city of Newry and Downpatrick		
<p>Mourne, Gullion and Lecale Rural Development Partnership encompasses Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC). NMDDC covers the southeast of Northern Ireland, including southern County Armagh and large parts of County Down. It incorporates all of the Mourne Mountains Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and has an extensive coastline stretching from Strangford Lough to Carlingford Lough and border counties Louth and Monaghan in the Republic of Ireland.</p> <p>The Council area of Newry Mourne and Down covers an approximate area of 598 sq miles and at the time of the 2011 census the population was 171,533. 60% of the population is defined as rural accounting for 104,464 of the overall population.</p> <p>Health, retail and manufacturing account for a large proportion of the economic activity. Total number of farms is 3,735 and total area farmed is 114,695 hectares.</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			



LAG NAME:	SOAR (ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE, CRAIGAVON)		
CONTACT DETAILS:	T: 028 3831 2588 E: elaine.cullen@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk W: www.soarni.org		
LAG CHAIRPERSON:	Cllr Joe Nelson	LAG MANAGER:	Elaine Cullen
TOTAL BUDGET:	£8.02 million	COOPERATION BUDGET:	£460,600
COOPERATION INTERESTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of tourism and economic opportunities through development of Waterways including Lough Neagh, Blackwater Canal, Lagan Canal, Newry & Portadown Canal. 2. Development of Food Incubation Centres to help support the development of our agri-food sector 3. Creation of new digital and creative hub to help stimulate innovation and competitiveness of our indigenous businesses 4. Development of motorcycle tourism to help develop this sector and attract out of state visitors 5. Development of greenways, railway development and halts between Portadown and Armagh 		
DESCRIPTION OF THE LAG AREA:			
AREA COVERED:	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Council area		
ELIGIBLE AREA:	Rural areas outside settlement development limits of Armagh, Banbridge, Lurgan, Portadown and Craigavon Urban areas (including Dromore)		
<p>The SOAR (ABC) LAG covers those areas previously covered by Armagh City and District Council, Banbridge District Council, Craigavon Borough Council.</p> <p>The area itself is one of great size and variety, covering 554 sq. miles within whose boundaries contains, to the west the historic Armagh Cathedral City and to the North the scenic south of Lough Neagh with the Mourne foothills providing a backdrop to Bronte Country.</p> <p>The rural character of the Orchard County, the Upper Bann, Lagan Valley, and Lough Neagh shoreline all add to the rural tapestry of the area. At the 2011 census the total population of the area was 199,693. 46% of the population is defined as rural accounting for 93,509 of the overall population.</p> <p>Health, retail and manufacturing account for a large proportion of the economic activity. Total number of farms is 3,166 and total area farmed is 104,400 hectares</p> <p><i>(Sources: Census 2011-2014)</i></p>			