

# South Pennines Leader programme 2008 - 2013: Local Action Group Self Evaluation

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At the end of 2012 members of the Local Action Group gave their views on a number of key questions about strategic vision, outputs and outcomes, legacy, organisation, finance, strengths and weaknesses and achievements. The results presented a very interesting range of views which seemed to have a broad consensus as follows;

## Strategic Vision

- The programme has contributed significantly to the strategic vision, but there remains much more we can do over the longer term with further resources.
- The vision and aims need review to make them current and sustainable into the future.

## Outputs and Outcomes

- We need to report on our outputs and outcomes using various media to celebrate our legacy.
- We need to ensure we report on the wider economic outcomes of the programme.

## Legacy

- Our legacy is raising the profile of the South Pennines and delivering a wide range of connected projects.
- Our embedding of the Leader ethos across the area is patchy and needs more work.

## Organisation

- We have delivered a bottom-up process with the community grants, but less so with the commissioned projects.
- We need to improve our communication with communities.
- We have been fair and transparent in our process, but we could review the whole process and make it better.
- We have been a value-for-money organisation.

## Finance

- We have managed the programme with financial efficiency.
- We need to look carefully at our split across measures when we review our future vision.
- We need to ensure that we are fair and transparent in our use of commissioned work.
- There is concern over the complexity of financial procedures, but we have helped communities as far as we are able to deal with the system. It would be good to see less complexity from Defra for a future programme.

## Strengths

- Good strong focused knowledgeable LAG.
- Clear procedures and leadership.

## Weaknesses

- Lack of sustained capacity to support the activity in the programme from the public sector.
- Lack of recognition for Leader in the South Pennines amongst the general public.

## Greatest achievements

- Success of commissioned projects
- Quality, number and range of projects to a wide range of groups
- On time and on budget
- Joining South Pennine communities and working together – creating a sense of place.