

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

(a) Reasons for Partnership

1.1 The Partnership is established as The North Belfast Hills Greenway Project in recognition of the need for protecting and enhancing the landscape, heritage and environment of the North Belfast Hills and Greenway.

1.2 The main reasons for partnering are:

- a) to spearhead the recognition and promotion of the landscape and heritage of the North Belfast Hills and Greenway;
- b) to assist communities in identifying what is special and distinctive about where they live;
- c) to bring the communities together to discuss and agree about what is special around where they live;
- d) To bring economic, social and environmental benefits to the communities by establishing ways people can see opportunities in their landscape resource in terms of built and cultural heritage;
- e) to act as a vehicle for initiatives that will deliver the long term sustainability of the North Belfast Hills Greenway Landscape;
- f) to provide a strategic platform and future direction for The North Belfast Greenway Project enabling the effective targeting and integration of resources;
- g) to manage The North Belfast Greenway Project and closely liaise with the Heritage Lottery Fund;

(b) The North Belfast Hills and Greenway Landscape Partnership sub committee

1.3 The North Belfast Greenway Project sub-committee will consist of representatives from the landowning, commercial, statutory, community, archaeological, educational & environmental sectors and will be headed by an independent chairperson.

- I. Members of the project sub-committee will have the authority of their respective organisations to make decisions on funding, policy and actions.
- II. The Belfast Hills Landscape Partnership sub committee will steer and prepare the submission of further applications and projects to meet the targets of the project.
- III. The project sub-committee will take responsibility for the project management, delivery and grant compliance with the 3 year plan.
- IV. The project sub-committee will prioritise key actions, source funding opportunities, set targets and monitor the performance of the project.
- V. The project sub-committee will have responsibility for ensuring the delivery of the project submission including the setting up of “working groups” as appropriate to meet the critical dates identified on the project management chart.
- VI. The project sub-committee will normally meet 8 times per year, but will under exceptional circumstances meet on a more frequent basis.

- VII. The project sub-committee will procure goods and services for the delivery of the project in line with agreed tender procedures that meet board member requirements.
- VIII. The project sub-committee will have responsibility for co-ordinating meetings, maintaining meeting records and actioning decisions.
- IX. The project sub-committee will disseminate progress, new ideas and project proposals to all key stakeholders.

(c) Partners' Commitment

1.4 The Partners are united in their pledge to maintain and enhance the unique and special heritage and environs of the North Belfast Hills. Together they will, along with other agencies and individuals as appropriate, seek to develop, promote and manage the landscape character, heritage and environment of the North Belfast Hills for the benefit of the local community.

1.5 The Partners are committed to developing and delivering the North Belfast Greenway Project. They will seek to sustain the long-term future of the North Belfast Hills and Greenways and be proactive in supporting the future needs of the North Belfast Hills and Greenways.

(d) Agreed Objectives

1.6 The Partnership's objectives shall be:

- I. to conserve the landscape and biodiversity of an important part of Northern Ireland's natural and human heritage;
- II. to encourage residents and local communities to value and protect their heritage and cultural environment;
- III. to attract the visitor to the North Belfast Hills and Greenways to experience optimum enjoyment of the landscape and to encourage the best sustainable use of public sites' facilities;
- IV. to encourage greater co-operation between public bodies on measures which contribute to the social, economic, linguistic and environmental well-being of the North Belfast Hills and Greenway;
- V. to assist with the management of this region of the North Belfast Hills and Greenways in a way which reconciles the demands and needs of the visitor, with the conservation and land management requirements of the built and natural environment;
- VI. to play a key co-ordinating role in the effective management, interpretation and appreciation of the North Belfast Hills and Greenways;
- VII. to encourage special events and educational activities as long as they do not conflict with the primary objective of conservation and quiet enjoyment of the countryside;

- VIII. to play a role in the wider recreational enjoyment of the area;
- IX. to carry out regular evaluation and audit procedures to ensure that these objective are being met.

Name of partnership organisation: _____

Address: _____

Contact name: _____

Contact telephone number: _____

Contact email: _____

Name (print)

Signature

Date

Organisation
