Ayrshire & Arran Tourism Leadership Group

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 26 August 2014 At Ayr Room, County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr

Present

Nat Edwards (Chair) Guy Redford Ros Halley
Liz Drysdale Sharon Hodgson Jamie Darling

Linda Leckie Lesley Bloomer Laura Cree (Minutes)

Karen Yeomans David Mann Abigail Coia Graeme Maciver Julie Sloan Colin Reid

1. Apologies –

Aileen Stevenson, Charlotte Rostek, Annique Armstrong, Linda Johnston & Carolyn Elder

2. Tourism Resources Company – Tourism Review Presentation

The meeting was joined by Sandy Steven, Iain MacFarlane & James Adam for Tourism Resources Company & EKOS.

Sandy was asked to present the findings of the Tourism Review.

It was agreed that the discussion following the presentation was important therefore due to this it was agreed that some points on the TLG agenda could be pushed back to the next meeting and discussion was allowed to continue.

Key points raised during the Q&A session:

- Industry lead action plan is required
- There has been a lot of achievement by the Tourism Team and concern momentum could be lost
- Team to continue with current strands of work until the transition phase is implemented
- New service plan to be completed and progressed for the Shared Services Panel in October
- Delivery Groups were viewed by some as a good idea, however there were issues and concerns regarding the shape they would take
- It may be possible to review roles and responsibilities of the Tourism Team at a later date
- Confusion regarding VisitScotland and current/continuing marketing methods
- Concern regarding who takes ownership of overall action plan
- Reshaping of TLG in accordance with recommendations in report

NE thanked Sandy, lain and James for coming along.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 21 May 2014

No issues regarding previous minutes.

TLG Meeting Minutes - 21 May 2014

| 3. | Welcome from Chairman | |
|----|--|-----|
| | NE welcomed the new members of the Ayrshire & Arran Tourism Team, Colin Reid (Volunteer Co-ordinator) and Ayrshire Golf Scotland's Golf Tourism Officer, Jamie Darling. | |
| | Vice Chair Confirmation | |
| | NE confirmed that Linda Johnston had agreed to take on the role of Vice Chair of the TLG. NE enquired if all were in agreement. There was overwhelming support for Linda becoming vice chair. | |
| 4. | AOCB | |
| | It was reported that Moira Birtwistle is looking for volunteers to sit on a College Tourism Industry Group to help guide Ayrshire College's future tourism /hospitality curriculum offer. Any willing volunteers please contact Moira. | |
| | Reminder that the Tourism Team are taking part in Ayrshire Business Week and are hosting a Tourism Cafe as part of the Ayrshire Connections Event being held at Ayr Racecourse on Tuesday 7 October. | |
| | Due to the decision to continue on with the review discussion it was agreed that an interim meeting could possibly take place in October to cover the points that were not addressed on the agenda. Action: LC to liaise with NE / LB to discuss interim meeting | LC |
| | Dates for 2015 TLG Meetings: | |
| | Wednesday 11 February 2015 Wednesday 13 May 2015 Wednesday 12 August 2015 Wednesday 11 November 2015 | |
| | Actions: All members requested to note dates and LC will confirm venues as soon as these have been confirmed. | ALL |
| | Replacement for Jordi Tarrida, General Manager, Turnberry Hotel It was agreed that no decision would be made until the structure of the TLG going forward was decided. | |
| 5. | DATE OF NEXT MEETING | |
| | Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 19 November 2014, 2:00pm – 4:00pm at the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, Alloway | |