

Being a Member of the Steering Group

Background

The decision making body for Big Local is the Steering Group that guides the overall direction of the programme in Withernsea. The group is accountable to members of the Big Local Partnership, a wider group of local people who have expressed an interest to be involved. The vision for Big Local is that it is a genuinely local, resident-led programme; working with voluntary and community groups, local authorities, councillors and others; providing residents with support, skills and opportunities to make a difference to where they live. The Big Local Steering Group oversees Big Local in Withernsea to ensure it meets the FOUR Big Local outcomes and honours Big Local's SIX Key Features (see below).

THE 4 BIG LOCAL OUTCOMES	THE SIX BIG LOCAL FEATURES
1. Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them	1. Continuous, inclusive, thoughtful involvement of local people
2. People will have increased skills and confidence so that they can continue to identify and respond to local needs in the future	2. Accountable local partnership
3. The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises	3. Maximising long-term, inclusive benefit
4. People will feel that their area is an even better place to live	4. Building capacity and sharing learning
	5. Flexible and realistic planning
	6. Additional to public money

What is the Big Local Steering Group?

The Steering Group is a group of volunteers who together are responsible for the overall direction of Big Local in Withernsea. The Group tries to reflect the range and diversity of Withernsea people to ensure that they relate to, and connect with the wishes of the local population.

The majority of people on the Steering Group are Withernsea residents who reflect the views of different types of people living in the area. The residents are joined on the Steering Group by representatives of four key partner organisations with whom Big Local shares common objectives. These are East Riding of Yorkshire Council; SHoRes; Withernsea Town Council and Withernsea High School. A diverse group of people with different perspectives, experiences and strengths all working to achieve the vision for Withernsea is helping to build a strong, successful Partnership.

What does the Steering Group Do?

The Steering Group guides the overall direction of Big Local in Withernsea. This means the Group has responsibility for:

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- using the shared vision (a common statement of what people from the area think would make the area an even better place to live) and creating a detailed plan (known as a Big Local plan) of how the shared vision is going to be achieved
- making sure the Big Local plan is carried out and that Big Local money is used in the best way possible.

What sort of qualities do you need to be a Resident Member?

Anyone who lives in Withernsea can be a Resident Steering Group member. There are no age restrictions and previous experience is unnecessary as support and training will be made available. The Steering Group member will not personally gain materially or financially from their role and should be able to:

- Strive to act always in the best interests of the Withernsea community declaring any conflict of personal or professional interest
- Attend and actively participate in regular Steering Group meetings (typically one a month)
- Help out and support Big Local activities
- Listen and be accountable to local people, ensuring that local concerns are addressed and that solutions have local support
- Provide information and advice about day-to-day quality of life in the area
- Actively encourage people in the area to play their part in supporting Big Local and its activities
- Be committed to equal opportunities and inclusion
- Accept that there will be conflict and disagreements and be committed to address these in a constructive way.
- Reflect on achievements made and learn lessons for the future
- Recognise that change won't happen overnight - it's a long haul!

The Recruitment Process

As a result of vacancies occurring on the Steering Group, it has been resolved to start a recruitment process to enable more residents of the Big Local area to get involved. Potential applicants will be asked to complete a simple application form and attend a short interview with a delegated panel of Steering Group members.

You can request an application form by e mailing: info@withernseabiglocal.co.uk

