

LDNS policy for support of training and similar events

1. Why should LDNS support training?

LDNS should continue to support training to encourage the raising of standards and competence. In supporting appropriate training events, LDNS is more generally raising awareness about the need for competent, qualified deer management over low ground Scotland.

2. What training should LDNS support?

There are several different training-type events that LDNS has provided support for to date. These cover:

- Specific training (such as DSC 1, and First Aid) resulting in an award/qualification.
- Specialist areas with no qualification (such as deer dogs, and peri-urban deer management) although a 'certificate of attendance' could be offered.
- General events (such as the SLDG *Introduction to deer management*).

In addition events have been organised that should more appropriately be described as PR, or awareness-raising, rather than training including, for example, the Gullane, Clovenfords and Deer on Your Doorstep events.

LDNS should be open to support other training on other topics if appropriate to the low ground deer management sector. Such opportunities should be considered as they arise.

3. How would future events be supported?

For specific training events these should be supported on a *per capita* basis i.e. any eligible person undertaking a supported event / course could claim a £30 grant, this could be claimed personally, or, as a collective claim administered by the course provider. The course provider could offer a discount to the individuals attending the course, (as long as the provider is confident that the candidate is eligible). This would be a fair system to continue for training courses such as DSC1, (and assessment days), and First Aid on the basis that such funding is available to ALL candidates subject to a few caveats and guarantees (see 4 below).

Classroom and/or on-site training (ie deer dogs, general introduction to deer management etc with no qualification) could also be supported on a *per capita* basis.

Such supported events as above would require a discounted course fee to be paid by the eligible individual. LDNS *per capita* support would effectively reduce or negate this course fee. The schedule of candidates and the fee that they paid is part of the return made by the collective grant claimant.

Where agreed, the *per capita* contribution or actual cost of event, whichever is the lowest, from LDNS could be retained by the organiser to meet costs (trainer fees and expenses), overheads (hall and gratis refreshments) or other agreed costs where advised in advance.

General PR events would continue to be funded centrally to cover costs including hire of hall/venue, speakers, speakers' expenses, refreshments, and where there would be no cost levied from attendees.

4. Who should funding support be available to?

The offer of funding support should be equitable and directed to the eligible candidates, and therefore should be available to all course providers (including BDS, BASC, SGA, SACS, LDGs etc.) organising training, and to individual training providers on application (provided they are members of LDNS), and on completion and approval of a funding request form. This will include detail of who has delivered the training.

Training would only be supported where it is being delivered by a properly certified and accredited training provider with appropriate insurance. In some cases, and 'where appropriate', there may be no formal qualification eg *dogs for deer*.

Supported places at training events would only be available to those resident in Scotland engaged mainly in low ground deer management in Scotland, or others anticipating that they will be engaged in low ground deer management after qualification. (This would require a 'tick box' on the course application programme.)

It should be made clear that LDNS, (and its sponsors), would be indemnified against any claim resulting from any aspect of any training event where individual participants are supported by LDNS funding, with a 'tick box' to confirm this.

Where the training requires use of a range, then that range must be properly certified, and managed for the event by an appointed competent Range Conducting Officer. Confirmation of this will be required on the funding application form.

All firearms legislation and regulations must be adhered to. For instance, anyone wishing to handle a firearm must have a FAC conditioned appropriately for such use. If they do not have a FAC, and want to borrow a rifle, the training provider must ensure that they comply with Section 11A of the Firearms Act 1968 – for example the person lending a rifle must be either the owner or occupier of the land, or be authorised in writing by that person, and the person borrowing must be 17 or older.

It is essential that support is directed to the candidate. Training providers must ensure that candidates are eligible and that the course is eligible for support.

The course provider must submit an application form and a schedule of candidates (below). The eligibility of candidates for the grant must be proven.

LDNS – Request for Training Funding Support

LDNS recognises the value of training in the sector to raise standards and competence, and to encourage proper, qualified and skilled deer management. LDNS funding support can cover training days/events towards DSC1, the training elements of First Aid, and the training elements of other courses such as food hygiene, habitat impact assessment etc, However, LDNS cannot support or subsidise costs of individual registration or of assessment for training. Applications therefore require these elements to be broken out where applicable.

1.	What type of event are you organising?
2.	Date(s)
3.	Venue(s)
4.	<p>Organiser/ Organisation which is <u>claiming the grant</u>, (Individual / lowland deer group / other organisation)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Name of Course provider.....:</p> <p>E mail:.....</p> <p>Tel:.....</p> <p>Signature:.....</p>
5.	For how many attendees?
6.	<p>Costs</p> <p><u>Costs of training (excluding all costs for registration and assessment)</u></p> <p><u>Cost of venue</u></p> <p><u>Expenses (give breakdown on separate sheet)</u></p> <p><u>In kind costs (e.g. organiser's time)</u></p> <p>Note: a condition of funding is that a short, written report and photograph must be submitted by e mail after the event for evidence of activity to our sponsors or possible inclusion in the LDNS Newsletter</p>

7.	Total event costs (including any registration and assessment)
8.	Amount of funding sought
9.	Charge to participants <u>Charge per participant for training if applicable?</u> <u>Charge per participant for registration / assessment if applicable?</u>
10.	Training contractor and insurance information <u>Name of contractor/s or organisation/s delivering training</u> <u>Insurance/public liability details</u> State details of insurance for event. If insurance cover is that of contractor or the venue this should be indicated: LDNS or its agents, if granting funding towards this event, shall <i>not</i> at <i>any</i> time or in <i>any circumstances</i> be held <i>responsible</i> or <i>liable</i> in relation to <i>any</i> matter or any claim whatsoever arising from it.
11.	Other information Is the attendance of a qualified first aider required? Yes / No Does any activity take place on a range? If yes, give details of range and Range Control Officers, and the date of expiry of their authority.
12	Bank Account details. Sort Code..... Account Code..... Name of Account If the name of the account is different to the course providers name an explanation of interest will be required; such a “Trading as” “on behalf of”.

