

Cornwall Manufacturers GROUP

Constitution

1. The name of the group is the Cornwall Manufacturers' Group
2. The objectives of the Group are
 - a. To provide a convenient means of exchange of information, experience and opinion between Members on matters affecting the interests of their companies, their employees and manufacturing industry in Cornwall.
 - b. To encourage and assist the development of manufacturing in Cornwall.
 - c. To provide a channel of communication between Members of the Group to Cornwall Council, the Cornwall Development Company, the Local Enterprise Partnership and other appropriate organisations including central government departments.
 - d. To work with other industry bodies such as EEF and WEAFF and the Devon & Cornwall Business Council as well as other Cornish sector organisations such as the Cornwall Marine Network.
 - e. To provide such services as may be required by the Group including managing training and other programmes.
 - f. To publicise the activities of the Group and the impact of manufacturing on the Cornish economy
3. Membership of the Group shall be open to manufacturing companies in Cornwall on criteria agreed by the members.

An application for membership will be considered by the officers on the basis of the criteria existing at the time of the application. Those criteria will include but not be confined to the number of employees, the turnover, the reputation of the applicant both in general and in terms of quality, and the outlook of the applicant in particular to trading outside of Cornwall. The criteria may be varied from time to time. The current criteria are-

- The company must be based or have a significant operation in Cornwall
- It must be in manufacturing or production or have a value added process for a physical product (nb this includes food processing)
- It must either have quality systems or be working towards them
- It must employ more than 10
- It must have an attitude of wanting to share as well as learn
- It must aim to sell a significant percentage of its output outside of Cornwall and ideally be involved in export markets

Any company not meeting all of the criteria shall be referred to the next members meeting for discussion and possible admission.

4. Each Member shall be represented by the Chief Executive or senior Executive of the company. An alternate can be nominated by that Executive to attend in his or her stead. For some events both executives may participate, but this is not expected to be the norm.

5. The Group shall meet at least four times a year with one of those meetings in either May or June being the Annual General Meeting. During April of each year the Secretary will seek nominations for Chair and Vice Chair for the ensuing year. Such nominations to be considered and agreed at an AGM of all members, which may also consider such other items notified in advance.
6. A Secretary/Treasurer shall be appointed by the members on such terms and conditions as they may determine at the AGM. The Secretary/treasurer will, when practically possible, attend all Group meetings and shall be responsible for the routine conduct of the Group's affairs including any sub committees or ancillary groupings and for such other matters as may be directed by the Chair or Vice Chair.
7. Each Member shall pay an annual subscription determined at the AGM, calculated to meet :-
 - a. The costs of the regular meetings
 - b. The costs of the Secretary/treasurer
 - c. General operating expenses.

No refund of subscription shall be made to members who fail to attend meetings or cease to be members during the year.
8. The Forum shall maintain a Bank Account. Cheques shall be drawn up and presented in accordance with the agreed Bank Mandate. The Secretary/Treasurer will prepare a Financial Statement as at April 30 each year.
9. A special meeting of the Group may be called at any time at the request of not less than 50% of the members; such request to be submitted in writing to the Secretary/Treasurer.
10. In the event of the Group being wound up for any reason whatsoever, the method of disposal of any assets shall be decided by a special meeting of members.