

## **Emsworth & District U3A**

### **Collaboration between neighbouring U3As in the setting up of shared Interest Groups and reciprocal acceptance of neighbouring U3As members into each others Interest Groups.**

#### **Situations where Collaboration might be beneficial:**

1. Where Emsworth & District U3A members wish to join a neighbouring U3A interest group that is not currently available at Emsworth & District U3A or where an established group has folded , or existing group is full or where a larger group would benefit both U3As
2. Where members of a neighbouring U3A wish to join an Emsworth & District U3A interest Group where such a group does not exist in the neighbouring U3A, their own group is full or where a larger group would benefit both U3As (cost and activity).
3. Where neighbouring U3As wish to set up a new Interest Group but there is insufficient membership in each U3A or there is advantage in sharing a leader, venue and costs.

#### **Guidelines / Policy**

Before agreeing to collaborate, the committees of participating U3As would need to satisfy and agree to the following:

- The group leader and existing members of participating U3A Interest Group are happy to open their group to members of another U3A.
- If there are no restrictions on the numbers in the group (e.g. capacity of the meeting place or group leader to cope with a larger group).
- The new member is willing to contribute/share in the running of the group, e.g. researching topics, leading discussions, etc.
- The group is self-supporting and costs associated with the group are spread equally between all group members (regardless of the numbers from each U3A)
- Members from the other U3As must be paid-up members of that U3A.
- Members of Emsworth & District U3A seeking to join a group organised by a neighbouring U3A should initially contact the Interest group leader. If the conditions above are met and the group leader agrees, then this information should be passed to the Groups Coordinators and Committees of both U3As.
- Members of Emsworth & District U3A and a neighbouring U3A seeking to establish a new shared group should discuss it with their Groups Coordinators and Committees before entering any sharing / partnering agreement.
- The host U3A for an Interest Group shall be entitled to retain at least 50% of the maximum numbers of any group for their own members. Where 50% is likely to be exceeded or not enough members found, then the partner U3A shall be informed.
- If members of Emsworth & District U3A wish to join any group which has members of both Emsworth & District U3A and a neighbouring U3A(s) is full then consideration shall be given to the establishment of an additional group.
- {Note: the member who takes overall responsibility for an Interest Group is named the 'Convener' at Havant U3A and the 'Leader' at Emsworth & District U3A}