

## Joint Interest Group Policy

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of creating a 'joint' interest group is so that members of more than one u3a can attend without having to take out multiple u3a memberships. It also creates an opportunity for members of u3as within a local area to form a 'joint' interest group where there are insufficient numbers in their own u3a to make it viable.

It is vital that if an interest group is going to be 'joint', then a policy must be put in place to ensure that the group can be managed properly by all the u3as that are involved in the joint venture. This is to ensure that the 'joint' interest group is managed jointly.

If this 'joint' management does not take place, then the interest group cannot be 'joint' and will come under the control of the u3a to which the interest group leader belongs. Members attending from other u3as will have to join the group leader's u3a to continue attending.

It is in the best interest of all the 'joint' group members that the interest group is 'jointly' managed.

### 2. Conditions

The following policy conditions must be adopted by the committees of all the u3as involved.

- The 'joint' interest group leader must be a member of all the u3as involved.
- The 'joint' interest group can only be advertised and listed by the u3as of which the leader is a member.
- Members of the 'joint' group need only be a member of one of the u3as involved.
- If the 'joint' group leader cancels or does not renew their membership of one of the u3as involved then other members of that u3a become visitors

and will have to go through the process of joining the leaders u3a in order to continue membership of that interest group.

- If a waiting list exists to join a 'joint' interest group, the listed names can only join in date order of application.
- If a 'joint' group closes, then any assets of the group must be divided equally between the u3as involved.
- When a 'joint' group leader is submitting their annual financial return to their treasurer, any monies that are recorded must be divided by the number of u3as involved with a note of explanation for the auditor.

**Last updated: 15/08/2023**

**Approved by the Committee: 07/09/2023**

**Next review date: 07/09/2028**