

**Outcomes /Minutes from SSAT Rural Dimension Network Meeting**  
**31 January 2008**

**Present** - R.Hurst, D.Gregory, J.Pringle, M.Tones, T.Shilson, A.Haddon

**1. Apologies** - D.Murphy, J.Rimmer, K. Patrick, D.Henderson, C.Doyle, J.Chapman, M.Marston.

**2. Matters Arising** - None.

**3. Diploma Developments**

JH to contact Newcastle College and invite their rep to next meeting to facilitate support of Diploma delivery.

RH highlighted the need to involve more providers in the planning stage thus ensuring effective delivery of Diploma. EBP and Ginny Williams to be invited to next diploma planning meeting to enlist their help in provider engagement.

Decision made to plan for a regional launch of Land Based Diploma involving Northumberland, Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland, Hartlepool and Durham to encourage the inclusion of providers. LANTRA, One North East Rural Team to be contacted for their support and involvement.

**4. Year of Food and Farming**

Lack of funding in all areas is preventing progress.

Co - op is keen to be involved, Area managers have been given addresses of all schools with farms to encourage their involvement.(JH)

JP to investigate the possibility of inviting schools to the Houghall College Open Day event and organise suitable activities based on the Year of Food and Farming.

**5. JH outlined forthcoming events.**

**6. SSAT 2008 workshop.**

Date - Oct 08 - JH to investigate suitable dates

Programme - decision to run a Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced workshops targeted at specific groups e.g.: Head teachers of non rural dimension schools to be targeted to explain advantages of having access to a rural dimension. Community groups to be invited.

7. A.Haddon suggested that the NVQ Sustainability qualification be mapped into the Diploma Qualification. JH/JP to include this qualification at next Diploma Meeting.

Sustainable Schools Research Partnership - feedback session on 31<sup>st</sup> March at Government Office, Newcastle. Request made that JH attend this session as the group representative.

**8. Date of next meeting** - May 8<sup>th</sup> 2008 at Fyndoune Community College at 2.30pm.