



ALT Members and Special Interest Groups Policy

This document summarizes ALT's policy for establishing and supporting Members Groups and Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

Members Groups

Members Groups bring together Members from across a particular geographical area. ALT has Members Groups in all parts of the UK and they form an important and permanent part of our Member network:

- Active Members Groups: M25, East Midlands, West Midlands, White Rose, North West England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland, South, North East
- Members Groups to be established: East of England

Members Group governance

Members Groups are governed as follows:

1. Group Officers run each Members Group as a Steering Committee;
2. Group Officers act as point of contact with ALT;
3. Group Officers represent their Members Group in the ALT Assembly;
4. Members Groups are open to all ALT Members;
5. ALT Members Groups have a common naming convention, i.e., ALT North West, ALT North East, and so on; but additional elements may be incorporated where these are significant or already in use;
6. Members Groups should actively seek to include Members from different sectors;
7. Members Groups have a clearly defined remit aligned the ALT's strategy and commit not to bring ALT into disrepute;
8. Activities or events organised by Members Groups may be open to all.

Members Group core remit

All Member Groups share this common remit to which they may add specific priorities relevant to their particular context, for example:

In common with all ALT Members Groups, ALT North East will:

- support the activities of ALT Members in the North East of England in line with ALT's strategic aims
- share ALT's values of being participative, open, collaborative, innovative, inclusive and transparent
- run activities including for ALT North East events, discussions or social activities to help collaboration and networking in the North East of England area
- actively and regularly share information about its activities
- welcome and encourage new members from across the North East
- where possible support each other in relation to CMALT
- with participation from ALT Trustees and staff, represent ALT Members in policy matters in the North East of England

Special Interest Groups

ALT Special Interest (SIGs) bring together individuals or organisations within ALT around a common theme. Special Interest Groups are usually established for a limited period of time and are active as long as Members continue to pursue the special interest on which they are focused.

Special Interest Group governance

Special Interest Groups are governed as follows:

1. Special Interest Group Officers run each Special Interest Group as a Steering Committee;
2. Special Interest Group Officers are ALT Members;
3. Special Interest Group Officers act as point of contact with ALT;
4. Special Interest Group Officers have the option to attend the ALT Assembly;
5. Special Interest Groups are open to all;
6. Special Interest Groups should seek participation from different sectors;
7. Special Interest Groups have a clearly defined remit aligned with ALT's strategy, and commit not to bring ALT into disrepute;
8. Activities or events organised by Special Interest Groups are open to all;
9. Special Interest Groups are reviewed annually and inactive Groups are dissolved with the agreement of their members;
10. New Special Interest Groups can be proposed by Members of ALT at any time. Proposals for new Special Interest Groups will be shared with the ALT Assembly who will make a recommendation regarding the proposal to the Board of Trustees;
11. Please contact ALT's Membership Manager via membership@alt.ac.uk if you would like to propose a new group.

Special Interest Group remit (example)

The Learning Spaces SIG was constituted in May 2016 to establish a community of practitioners to:

- Share good practice, resources, examples and success stories;
- Brief each other on areas of new development and events;
- Discuss common issues and possible solutions;
- Identify common areas of interest for collaboration and research;
- Raise awareness of LS within the sector and help to inform the development of a strategic approach to LS;
- Collaborate with other stakeholder groups involved with LS.

Support for Members and Special Interest Groups

Most activities of Members Groups and Special Interest Groups are led by Members on a voluntary basis. ALT provides practical support for Groups, which currently includes:

- Landing page at <https://www.alt.ac.uk/groups>
- Dedicated site at <https://altc.alt.ac.uk/groups/>
- Dedicated space on #ALTC Blog
- Dedicated division with the ALT Open Access Repository
- Access to ALT's communication channels to help promote activities
- Access to ALT's online conferencing service to set up online events
- Dedicated time within event programmes including the Annual Conference
- Annually up to £500 may be approved by Trustees for the use of individual groups to support activities such as face to face events

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