

SHETLAND SHEEP SOCIETY AREA REPRESENTATIVES

An area representative should have a clear understanding of the Shetland Sheep Society and its role in preserving breed characteristics. The person appointed should preferably be an experienced sheep breeder, have a sound knowledge of good husbandry, represent the Society in their area, promote the Shetland Breed regionally, be proactive and act as the first port of call for members and enquirers in their area.

Role and Responsibilities of Area Representatives

1. To keep an up to date list of members in their area including contact details.
2. To communicate with members in their area to establish the need or desire for local events.
3. To organise or assist in organising appropriate local meetings, social gatherings and events, especially farm visits and mini workshops (examples of topics are listed below).
4. To inform neighbouring area representatives of any such events so that members from adjoining areas can be notified of them and have the opportunity of attending.
5. To make contact with new members soon after joining and offer such help and advice as may be required, or information of how to source such help or advice.
6. To be available on the telephone to deal with requests for advice on any matter relating to Shetland sheep.
7. To refer all requests for sale or purchase of stock for their area (including those from new members) to the "Sheep for Sale or Wanted" officer, inform the enquirer of any upcoming regional sales, and in addition advise local members (and any neighbouring area representative where relevant) of such requests if appropriate. .
8. To put forward members' views to Committee via the area representative coordinator.
9. To provide the area representative coordinator with an end of year report detailing the events which took place in their area during the period starting from the previous November, such report to include date of event, subject (where relevant), location, attendance (numbers and presence of mentor) and feedback from attendees, and to be forwarded no later than the middle of October each year.

Term of Office: The appointment will be for a term of three years commencing on a 1st November, renewable for another three year term.

Discussion and Demonstration Topics

Examples of subjects which could be handled at farm visits/mini workshops (flocks visited to be chosen accordingly and people with appropriate knowledge to be invited):

- Breed Standard
- Conformation and fleece (points system regarding importance of individual elements)
- Choosing a ram
- Husbandry including flock health
- Handling Systems
- Colours and markings
- Organic system: pros and cons, and husbandry
- Selection for shows, halter training and how to show
- Fleeces and skins: what to do with them
- Use of wool: spinning or getting it spun; woven and knitted products.

Shetland Sheep Society October 2012 (amended by Committee 8/11/15)