

## BECBC Membership Policy

*Britain's Energy Coast Business Cluster (formerly West Cumbria Business Cluster) is a private sector led group of organisations, ranging in size from sole traders and SME businesses to global blue-chip corporations. The diverse and growing membership include international, specialist and highly competitive companies - many of which that offer high value jobs in the region - as well as those in the supply chain and companies key to Cumbria's rural economy.*

*The Cluster was founded in response to concerns about the impact of decommissioning of civil nuclear facilities on the supply chain and the wider economy of West Cumbria. Now firmly established, BECBC helps our member companies share knowledge and market intelligence and build links with research and development and business support organisations. BECBC actively support them to promote their individual capabilities.*

### **Who Can Be Members**

Organisations that are either based in Cumbria, working in Cumbria or looking to locate in to Cumbria, can become members of the BECBC. Organisations should be able to align themselves to at least one of the Sector Groups (see website for list).

The BECBC will keep a database of prospective, current and past members.

### **Membership Year**

The membership year is from 1 January to 31 December (renewals are posted out early January).

### **Membership Fees**

The membership fees payable are agreed by the Board annually prior to January and posted on the website. The membership fee is determined by the annual turnover as shown on the application form and website.

New members joining through the year are invoiced on a monthly pro-rata basis.

### **Membership Application**

Membership begins from the receipt of a fully completed Membership Application form and is subject to full payment being received 30 days from invoice date. Invoices are sent with the BECBC Welcome Pack.

### **Payments**

Renewal invoices are issued in January to named contacts for the coming year's fees. There are three methods for payment: BACS, cheque and Paypal.

The BECBC Board must approve changes to membership fees for organisations.

The annual fee will be based on the company applying for membership not the Parent Company.

### **Reciprocal Membership**

Reciprocal Membership must be justified and have benefits for the BECBC. The BECBC Board MUST approve reciprocal Membership with any organisation. A formal Memorandum of Agreement MUST be signed by both organisations

### **Website and Printed Member Directory**

New members are encouraged to upload their profiles onto the website and supply a profile page for the printed BECBC Member Directory.

*Updated: February 2014*

*Last approved by Board: 17 February 2014*

**www.becbusinesscluster.co.uk**

**West Cumbria Business Cluster Limited trading as Britain's Energy Coast Business Cluster**

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