

Action for Market Towns – Q&A



What is Action for Market Towns?

Action for Market Towns (AMT) is a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to promoting the vitality and viability of small towns across the UK. Membership is open to those with an interest in market towns and includes community partnerships, councils, commercial organisations and government bodies.

Why are we needed?

Market towns are important! They act as employment and service centres for over a quarter of the UK's population and have been working examples of sustainable development for over 1,000 years.

While the issues facing each town are unique, common challenges include:

- loss of services and employment due to centralisation;
- difficulty accessing markets due to lack of transport, skilled labour and ICT infrastructure;
- growth of out-of-town shopping;
- migration of young people;
- dependence on primary industries.

What do we do?

Action for Market Towns provides support and assistance to market towns in addressing their particular challenges. We also provide a focus for national and regional action.

Key member services include:

- Information and advice through the AMT website, email bulletins and publications;
- Opportunities to share best practice through regional and national networks;
- Provision of training and events on key issues;
- Access to goods and services at low cost, e.g. insurance;
- Assistance in accessing funding;
- National convention.

We also act as a "champion" for market towns, representing and promoting their interests to government and the media.

Where can I get more information?

Please visit www.towns.org.uk or contact us on 0845 6446 202.

We are always keen to hear from anyone with an interest in market towns, particularly prospective members!

The National Network for Local Action

Action for Market Towns Associate Membership



Criterion:

- Not-for-profit organisations such as Civic Societies, Rural Community Councils, Chambers of Commerce, Housing Associations etc.
- Education Institutions e.g. universities
- Individuals with an interest in market towns and who support the objectives of AMT

Features:

- Participate in AMT's national and regional networks of market towns
- Detailed information on key issues affecting market towns
- Access to AMT events and seminars including National Convention
- Organisation featured on **www.towns.org.uk** - AMT's public website
- Representation to Government and others

Benefits:

- Free subscription to AMT Newsletter, Case Studies, Discussion Papers and email Bulletin
- Access to amtweb – AMT's private website for Members
- Eligible to join AMT members' insurance scheme
- 25% discount on fees for exhibition stand space, delegate pack inserts etc.
- Consultation on Policy issues
- Opportunity for involvement in working groups

Fees:

£90 + VAT payable annually on the 1st April each year. Members joining mid-year will be invoiced pro-rata.

What to do next:

Complete the application form and return to AMT. You will be invoiced for the appropriate amount. Send no money now.

All membership applications are at the discretion of the Trustees.

The National Network for Local Action

Action for Market Towns Corporate Membership



Criterion:

- Open to commercial and other organisations that support AMT's objectives

Features:

- Participate in AMT's national and regional networks of market towns
- Influence the market town agenda in your region or sector
- Detailed information on key issues affecting market towns
- Representation to Government and others
- Access to AMT events and seminars including National Convention
- Promotion of involvement with market towns to media and key stakeholders
- Organisation featured on **www.towns.org.uk** - AMT's public website

Benefits:

- Free subscription to AMT Newsletter, Case Studies, Discussion Papers and email Bulletin
- Free access to Market Town Directory
- Substantial discount on AMT seminars and events
- 25% discount on fees for exhibition stand space, delegate pack inserts etc.
- Access to amtweb – AMT's private website for Members
- Voting rights at AGM
- Eligible for Board Membership

Fees:

£480 + VAT payable annually on the 1st April. Members joining mid-year will be invoiced pro-rata.

What to do next:

Complete the application form and return to AMT. You will be invoiced for the appropriate amount. Send no money now.

All membership applications are at the discretion of the Trustees.

The National Network for Local Action

Action for Market Towns Partner Membership



Criterion:

- Open to District or County Councils and Unitary authorities that represent more than one town
- Governmental and non-governmental organisations or Professional Institutions or Commercial organisations that support AMT's objectives

Features:

- Participate in AMT's national and regional networks of market towns
- Influence the market town agenda in your area, region or sector
- Detailed information on key issues affecting market towns
- Organisation featured on **www.towns.org.uk** - AMT's public website
- Representation to Government and others

Benefits:

- Free subscription to AMT Newsletter, Case Studies, Discussion Papers and email Bulletin
- Access to amtweb – AMT's private website for Members
- Service Provider listing on **www.towns.org.uk**
- Substantial discount on AMT seminars and events including National Convention
- Opportunity to host conferences, seminars and events in association with AMT
- 25% discount on fees for exhibition stand space, delegate pack inserts etc.
- Consultation on Policy issues and opportunity for involvement in working groups

Fees:

Payable annually on the 1st April. Members joining mid-year will be invoiced pro-rata.

i Individual Organisation	£ 310 + VAT
ii Up to 4 Towns	£400 + VAT
iii Up to 9 Towns	£480 + VAT
iv Each extra Town	Add on £50 + VAT

All membership applications are at the discretion of the Trustees.

The National Network for Local Action

Town Benefits:

The tiered partner membership is strongly recommended because of the benefits it will bring to your organisation in terms of time and expenses. For example, as an individual organisation partner member you will need to disseminate the information received from Action for Market Towns to all of your towns within your county or district. But for as little as £65 extra per year, depending on the number of towns in your district, AMT will have direct contact with them and do the disseminating for you! The towns will directly receive the benefits listed below:

- Free subscription to AMT Newsletter, Case Studies, Discussion Papers and email Bulletin sent directly to the town contact
- Have access to the AMT website and online services
- Be involved in the consultation of policy issues

What to do next:

Complete the application form and return to AMT. You will be invoiced for the appropriate amount. Send no money now.

Action for Market Towns Town Membership



Criterion:

- Open to Community Partnerships, Town & Borough Councils, Town Centre Managers and other organisations that are supporting activities in a single market town

Features:

- Participate in AMT's national and regional networks of market towns
- Detailed information on key issues affecting market towns
- Organisation featured on **www.towns.org.uk** - AMT's public website
- Representation to Government and others

Benefits:

- Free subscription to AMT Newsletter, Case Studies, Discussion Papers and email Bulletin
- Access to discounted goods and services negotiated by AMT such as insurance
- Substantial discount on AMT seminars and events including National Convention
- Opportunity to host conferences, seminars and events in association with AMT
- Access to amtweb – AMT's private website for Members
- Voting rights at AGM and eligible for Board Membership
- Consultation/involvement on Policy issues

Fees:

Payable annually on the 1st April.

i	Up to 5,000 pop	£ 105 + VAT
ii	Up to 10,000 pop	£135 + VAT
iii	Up to 15,000 pop	£165 + VAT
iv	Over 15,000 pop	£195 + VAT

What to do next:

Complete the application form and return to AMT. You will be invoiced for the appropriate amount. Send no money now.

All membership applications are at the discretion of the Trustees.

The National Network for Local Action

Application Form for AMT Membership

Name of Applicant Organisation/Company: _____

Name of main contact: _____

Position: _____

Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs): _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

If you would like a hyperlink to your own website please give the email address of the person who should be contacted:

Note: Applications received during the financial year will be invoiced on a pro-rata basis.

Membership Application Type	Annual Cost	√
a. Corporate Membership	£480	
b. Associate Membership	£90	
c. Town Membership:	-	-
i Up to 5,000 pop	£105	
ii Up to 10,000 pop	£135	
iii Up to 15,000 pop	£165	
iv Over 15,000 pop	£195	
d. Partner Membership:	-	-
i Single Organisation	£310	
ii Representing up to 4 Towns **	£400	
iii Representing up to 9 Towns **	£480	

All costs subject to VAT at the prevailing rate

Please return to:

Anna McGowan
Acting Membership Coordinator
Action for Market Towns
P O Box 299
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 1UU

Fax: 01284 761816

**Action for
Market
Towns**

** Complete **only** if you are applying for **Partner Membership representing other towns** that fall under your local authority / county / district. This will enable us to send out the benefits and services to the towns directly.

Name of Town Partnership/ Organisation: _____

Name of main contact: _____

Position: _____

Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs): _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Name of Town Partnership/ Organisation: _____

Name of main contact: _____

Position: _____

Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs): _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Name of Town Partnership/ Organisation: _____

Name of main contact: _____

Position: _____

Title (e.g. Mr, Mrs): _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Photocopy this page if you require more than three towns to be included under your membership.