

# NEW LEAF TRIANGLE



## PROSPECTUS

2018



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# WELCOME TO NEW LEAF TRIANGLE

New Leaf Triangle is a Community Interest Company (cic) - not for profit, that provides a fun, supportive, stress-free, natural learning environment to help individuals of all ages to 'grow' and cope with life's challenges.

## OUR MISSION:

*To use the natural environment and animals, to help children, young people and adults to learn and combat personal challenges through fun motivational activities.*

At New Leaf we use positive approaches including building on individuals' strengths and creating positive relationships and emotions, all of which promote happiness, wellbeing and self-belief.

We can meet the needs of children, young people and adults with autism, behaviours that challenge, learning difficulties, ADHD, social emotional and behavioural difficulties, and a wide range of mental health conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder and dementia.

Placements can be flexible and we do not require that individuals attend for a minimum number of weeks, although this is usually best practise to achieve best outcomes.

## PROVIDING

- ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
- FUNCTIONAL ENGLISH & MATHS QUALIFICATIONS
- HORSE CARE, ANIMAL CARE & RIDING COURSES
- THERAPEUTIC RIDING & ANIMAL INTERACTION
- BRITISH HORSE SOCIETY CHANGING LIVES THROUGH HORSES PROGRAMME
- HORSE BOY AND MOVEMENT METHOD
- PLAY SCHEMES AND WEEKEND FAMILY CAMPS
- FOREST SCHOOL
- ARCHERY SESSIONS & COURSES
- FAMILY SESSIONS & RESPITE





Two log cabins—one with a medieval theme!



## New Leaf Triangle Main Site

New Leaf Triangle's main site is situated on 2 1/2 acres of land in the Leicestershire countryside. Our facilities include a steel barn with 4 internal stables, which provide a natural sensory room, small animal area as well as stabling for horses. There are two additional wooden stables providing accommodation for the goats and a hay store. The site also has two small log cabins, for refreshments and completing course work, and a toilet with a gas shower. There is a 40 x 20 metre ménage with a rubber surface and a covered area designated for air rifle shooting and archery. There are two horse paddocks and a play paddock that contain a trampoline, large basket swing and a large wooden play castle. In the summer, we have three tipis that are used for summer camps.

Natural Sensory room within the main barn



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Meeting a wider range of need

New facilities to deliver courses with a vocational focus, developing employability and social skills



## New Additional Site for 2018

A new site has been developed for 2018. The 5 1/2 acre site has a wooden American barn containing 6 stables, a feed/store room, a 20 x 40 metre rubber and sand ménage, a small log cabin for making hot drinks and completing coursework, as well as a toilet. The site enables New Leaf to expand the range of provision to meet the needs of a wider range of children and young people at any one time, as the demand for services has grown. It will provide the facilities to deliver the British Horse Society Changing Lives Programme.



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## ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

*Our prime focus is engagement and the development of communication, interaction, confidence, self-esteem, independence and the development of positive relationships with staff, other learners and animals.*

We offer a programme of education that can be delivered to suit learners of any age who need an alternative curriculum. Outdoor practical activities, including horse based and animal interaction, and forest activities are used to engage and assist learners in gaining English, maths, science and life skills.

Innovative methods of engaging learners are employed. For example we may have an 'animal school' where we teach the animals with the help of the child. In this way the child learns from the content of the lesson whilst listening to and helping with the lesson being delivered to the animals. For others, learning includes developing skills in animal care and horse care, which can be used to facilitate skills and knowledge in English, maths and science.

Therapeutic ground work and riding may be used to engage learners, to develop communication, self-esteem, self-belief, confidence, increase their independence and develop balance, coordination and core strength. This work can be very powerful and some of our children with autism have increased their verbal communication significantly through these sessions.

### A DIFFERENT APPROACH

Alternative education for children and young people who are currently not in education.

### FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS

A part time flexible alternative programme to enhance your school's curriculum.

### SUPPORTING SCHOOLS

Support for children and young people to reintegrate into education or school after exclusion or non attendance.

### LEARNING TO LEARN

Therapeutic sessions for children and young adults with autism or mental health conditions, helping them to learn in a way that is best for them.







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## LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

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Children also benefit from use of sensory play equipment such as the trampoline, basket swing, hammock seat or natural sensory room to help with sensory integration or anxiety.

Sport activities such as football, basketball, archery, short tennis and badminton, as well as art, craft and musical activities are incorporated and used as vehicles for delivering academic learning as well as developing the 'softer' skills including sharing, turn taking and team work.

This programme can be used to reintegrate individuals into education. Following the sessions New Leaf Triangle staff will support students to slowly reintegrate back into an educational establishment if this is the long term aim.





## BUILDING CONFIDENCE & SELF ESTEEM

Our animals play a very important role in creating the right environment for our students to learn in and they can create some amazing interactions.

Some of our students from last year have transitioned to courses at Brooksby Melton College and to new schools. Others have made exceptional progress in communication, engagement and independent working, contributing to their learning successes and to achievement of their long term goals.

A parent of a child who spent a few months in alternative education at New Leaf following a breakdown of his placement at his school said, *"He now attends xx primary school which is a mainstream school. He has jumped up 4 reading stages since Sept and he achieved the head teachers maths award. It makes me emotional to think of the struggle he has had over the last few years and where he is now. Thank you so much for everything."*



## DEVELOPING LIFE SKILLS

Support for individuals to develop new skills personal to their own needs to help them cope in the 'real world'.



## Vocational Qualifications and Functional English and Maths Entry Level 2 & 3

*Learning that can be accredited through qualifications with City and Guilds & National Proficiency Tests Council*

The vocational courses are for learners aged 14 to 19. Younger learners can benefit from the courses but without accreditation. The courses are appropriate for key stage 4 to work towards a Level 1 qualification and for young people aged 16 to 18 to progress into sustainable employment and possible apprenticeship or for Post 16 students who are working at this level. There are no requirements for prior learning.

The course is assessed mainly through practical tasks but there are also some knowledge questions which can be answered through informal oral questioning or in a written format. Units can be mixed and matched from different learning areas including units in Animal Care and/or Horse Care as well as the generic Preparing for Work and Personal and Social Development options. The horse care and animal courses cover practical tasks such as skipping out a stable, grooming, catching and leading a horse, recognising food types, cleaning out, catching and restraining small animals.

As part of the course, each student compiles a portfolio of evidence which includes a range of photos, videos and witness statements. The programme is set out in a way that allows achievement, however small, to be recognised. It can be achieved as an 'Award', 'Certificate' or 'Diploma'. The course is delivered in units which have credit values of 1 or 2 credits and guided learning hours (GLH) of 10-20 hours per credit. An Award can be gained with 6 credits (60 GLH), a Certificate with 22 credits (220 GLH) and a Diploma with 37 credits (370 GLH).

The Functional English and Maths Qualifications are delivered in context and assessed through short written tasks, rather than under exam conditions.

## PREPARING FOR EMPLOYMENT

Personal and employability skills to enable individuals to get a job including accredited qualifications.







# ANIMAL CARE Level 1

## HORSE CARE & RIDING Level 1

*City & Guilds National Proficiency Tests Council (NPTC )*  
*Qualifications delivered by experienced, skilled Tutors*

### WORKING WITH ANIMALS

Providing the skills and self-confidence needed for jobs with horses or other animals.



The Level 1 Award, Certificate and Diploma in Work-based Animal Care and Horse Care and Riding are programmes of work-based training and assessment leading to nationally recognised qualifications. They aim to:

- meet the needs of learners who work or want to work in the animal care and equine sector
- allow learners to learn, develop and practice the skills and qualities for employment and/or career progression in the animal care equine sector

The courses are delivered in units which have credit values of 1 –4 credits and guided learning hours (GLH) of 10-20 hours per credit. An Award can be gained with 6 credits (90 GLH), a Certificate with 22 credits (162 GLH) and a Diploma with 37 credits (342 GLH). Units include both practical aspects and theory such as; maintain the safety of self and others in the workplace, maintain good working relations, assist with the care of horse/animals, feeding grooming, washing, maintain the cleanliness and bio security of the working environment, provide controlled exercise opportunities for animals, leading and controlling a horse for inspection, mounting and dismounting a horse and riding in an enclosed area.

### STIMULATING & INSPIRING

Developing skills and independence in a wide range of environments, and creating future opportunities.





## LEARNING FROM ANIMALS

Learners have the opportunity to relax in a therapeutic sensory environment with the aid of horses, goats and a variety of small animals.



## THERAPEUTIC HORSE RIDING & ANIMAL INTERACTION

*This approach benefits learners of any age who need a therapeutic environment and experiences in order to overcome their own difficulties. It can be used to slowly reintegrate individuals into education or to support them to venture out of the house.*

The sessions help learners to gain an understanding of themselves, their own body language, the energy that they are portraying and how that affects their family and others around them. The sessions develop self-esteem, confidence, communication, empathy, problem solving ability, ability to work with others and to cope in what they may perceive as fearful situations.

Learners can work with a range of animals including rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, chickens and dogs as well as goats and horses. They may progress to training the animal through reward-based, positive reinforcement methods. It can progress to teaching tricks or completing agility courses.

Communication, interaction, fun and relaxation are important during these sessions. Following the sessions, the New Leaf Triangle team can assist in reintegrating learners back into an educational establishment, if required. Sessions are individualised and tailored to the needs of the learner. Learners can attend with staff from another provider, family members or be supported by New Leaf Triangle staff.







# BHS CHANGING LIVES THROUGH HORSES PROGRAMME

*New Leaf Triangle now offers the British Horse Society (BHS) 'Changing Lives Through Horses Programme'.*

## CHANGING LIVES

Helping young people develop vital life skills and reconnect with society.



Changing Lives was developed by the BHS, with other professionals, to meet the needs of disengaged young people aged 14 to 16 and those with mental health conditions. However, it can also be used with young people with autism and learning difficulties and has been used with children as young as nine as well as with post 16 students. New Leaf Triangle staff have received training to become coaches on the programme.

Using horses as the inspiration for change, the programme provides an alternative learning environment to mainstream education. The skills developed through the programme meet the requirements of ongoing education and training, employers and participants.

The British Horse Society is committed to ensuring the programme changes as many lives as possible, and is working in partnership with a variety of organisations, like New Leaf Triangle, to provide an array of educational and career pathways to support continued development in an environment that celebrates positive change.

The course includes basic horse care and riding and has six generic learning strands going through it: communication, confidence, teamwork, relationships, responsibility and personal achievement. The learning is broken down into 'Achieve Awards'—10 for Stable Management and 6 for Riding. The achievement of each is recognised by a BHS certificate, so can be highly motivating. In addition there are further awards that can be achieved, for example, for wildlife conservation work or making horse jumps. The course is run in small groups to ensure it is affordable and we are flexible over the number of hours spent on the course each week, so it can be completed in different timescales to suit individual needs. It can also be delivered on a one to one basis if required.

To learn more about the Changing Lives programme visit:





## A FAMILY-CENTRIC APPROACH

Encouraging parents and siblings to become empowered as consultants in the learning process.



## HORSE BOY AND MOVEMENT METHOD

*New Leaf Triangle offers this innovative, cutting edge autism approach in both our therapeutic provision and our general services to families.*

Horse Boy Method sets up an environment to reduce sensory triggers, and takes an empathetic approach that allows the child to lead, so as not to activate the fear centres of the brain, which shut down communication and learning in the brain.

When the child rides, we can create balanced rhythms that in turn rock the rider's pelvis in a way that relaxes the psoas muscle, which is thought to create the hormone oxytocin. This hormone is not just the hormone of well being and happiness, but also of communication.

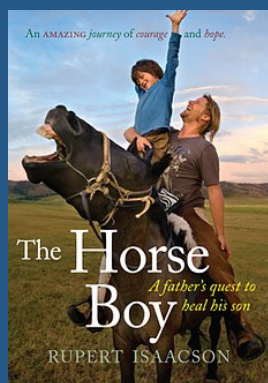
When riding with the child, we are a voice in the child's ear rather than a challenging frontal gaze, which can again trigger the child's fear centres.

We are not limited to horses but have all kinds of social animals trained to interact, and we know how to get the same effects on play equipment as on the horses (Movement Method) so that we can follow whatever interest the child has at any time and keep the neuro-plasticity going.

Here at New Leaf Triangle (level 5 centre), we offer training for both parents and therapists in Horse Boy Method and Movement Method. New Leaf Triangle director, Troy Shaw, is certified to train parents and professionals up to Horse Boy Method 2 and Movement Method 2.

For more information about Horse Boy and Movement Method, and for scheduled training dates and online courses visit:

[Horseboyworld.com](http://Horseboyworld.com)





## EXPERIENCE THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Family camps with fun outdoor activities for the whole family.

Bespoke camps for schools and other groups.



## FAMILY CAMPS, RESPITE, SPECIALIST PLAY SCHEMES SCHOOL RESIDENTIALS/TRIPS

*Great fun for all the family.*

*Our 3 tipis are available for camps May to September.*

We offer a programme of family camps with a full range of fun activities for the whole family, involving the horses and other animals. New Leaf fundraises and applies for grants to subsidise these camps for families.

Our tipis are available for hire for families, schools and other groups, with or without structured activities.

We provide games mounted on the horses including horse football, mounted games and knight's skills which include hitting a target with a lance. We can include activities with costumes where suitable for the children in the session. We can include badminton, short tennis, football, basketball, air rifle shooting and archery. There are arts and crafts, clay modelling, and musical activities for all to enjoy. Fun games, camp fires and treasure hunts are also included depending on needs and interests.

We provide specialist play schemes for children with autism, ADHD, mental health conditions and behaviours that challenge which include most of the activities above. We can also provide respite through the holidays and at the weekends.

We believe that every young person should experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of learning and personal development, whatever their age, ability or circumstances. At New Leaf Triangle we provide an outdoor environment that schools and other groups can use to deliver their own outdoor sessions or residentials with the support of our staff.



## FUN IN NATURE

Providing children and young people with a wide range of experiences.







# FOREST SCHOOL

*An inspirational process, that offers all learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment.*

## EXPLORE AND DISCOVER

Helping children and young people apply their knowledge across a range of challenges.



Forest School is a long-term process of regular sessions, rather than one-off or infrequent visits; a cycle of planning, observation, adaptation and review links each session.

Sessions take place in a woodland or natural environment to support the development of a relationship between the learner and the natural world. We use a range of learner-centred processes to create a community for well-being, development and learning.

Our primary aims are to promote the holistic development of all those involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners. The programme offers learners the opportunity to take supported risks appropriate to the environment and to themselves.

New Leaf Triangle Forest School is run by qualified level 3 Forest School practitioners who continuously maintain and develop their professional practice.

## NURTURING CREATIVITY

Using the environment and natural resources to provide inspiration, to enable ideas and to encourage motivation in our learners.







## FAMILY SESSIONS

*These sessions focus on developing communication, confidence and social skills as well as having fun. We particularly focus on engagement and fostering interaction with staff, family members and with the animals.*

New Leaf fundraises to subsidise these sessions for families and they are available at weekends from April to November, as hourly or two hourly sessions.

Many of the children that we work with have autism. Some are pre-verbal, some exhibit behaviour that challenges and some also have learning difficulties. We have a number of children with high functioning autism (previously known as Asperger's) and atypical autism and we regularly have children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). We work with a number of individuals with mental health conditions.

Our Family Sessions serve the whole family and not just the child with special needs, so activities are planned to include all family members and are tailored to individual needs and interests.

Parents are present and can choose to take part as much as they wish or can choose to sit back and relax and let us work with the children. The individuals we help currently range from age 2½ to young adults aged up to 21.



## SUPPORTING ALL THE FAMILY

A range of activities for the whole family with specialised support.



## DISCIPLINE, FOCUS & CLARITY OF MIND

Helping young people and adults to improve concentration, self-awareness and ability to focus.



## IMPROVING SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Using outdoor activities to gain physical strength, coordination and balance.



## ARCHERY SESSIONS & COURSES

*Through Archery, New Leaf Triangle offers a range of opportunities to challenge young people and adults to develop self-confidence, knowledge and skills.*

We offer a variety of activities centred around the non-traditional sporting discipline of archery, which can help to forge a path to life-long engagement in a wide range of outdoor pursuits.

Activities are tailored to the needs of the individual or group attending, with bespoke programmes available for schools, clubs and other education providers. We offer one-off sessions as well as more structured courses requiring attendance over a period of several weeks.

For children and young adults we can incorporate a fun learning approach to medieval history using first-hand practical experiences, and a real world application of knowledge.

All of our archery sessions and courses are delivered by experienced, qualified archery instructors.







## SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT HORSEBACK ARCHERY

After a successful launch in 2017 we will be running our horseback archery sessions again in 2018, on the first Saturday of every month from May to September. The sessions last approximately 4 hours and all equipment is provided. The sessions start with a comprehensive ground archery lesson before students move onto one of the New Leaf trained horses. No experience of either archery or riding is required and all activities are fully insured.

This is also available for team days and other corporate events to create a day to remember!!



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## WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY

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"This afternoon we have been to New Leaf Triangle for a family session and it was fabulous! They seem to be experts in autism and really knew what Alex was about."

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"Thank you to everyone at New Leaf Triangle for an amazing afternoon yesterday! We had such a fantastic time & I think the smile on Holly's face says it all!"

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"Thank you for the great experience we had at camp, you're all truly amazing!! Made many happy memories for the boys (and us!)."

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"Thank you for a really educational and interactive experience, we really appreciate the attention and care you provided in our session!"

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"We really do appreciate all you do for us as a family. I can't believe we have been coming a year now and how much we have all benefited from being with you."





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## WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY

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"For me this sums up our time - doing some great listening and learning with Troy. You always make our session so much fun. Thank you for all you guys do for our unique children."

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"Amazing place to go and enjoy and relax if you have a child with additional needs. Love it!"

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"Harley had a truly amazing time, this place and staff are amazing, what you have achieved is inspirational and meant so much to Harley and myself! "

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"I can't thank New Leaf Triangle enough, they have changed Lennon's life from someone who wouldn't leave the house or go to school to a happy person again ."

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"I haven't heard Hollie laugh so much and be so relaxed in a new environment for such a long time."





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## SAFEGUARDING

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All staff at New Leaf Triangle have a responsibility for the Safeguarding and wellbeing of our learners. We take our responsibility for Safeguarding young people and adults at risk very seriously. We have a Designated Safeguarding Lead and robust practices in place to ensure learner safety.

Our Safeguarding policy and our PREVENT policy can be found on the New Leaf Triangle website. All staff are trained in Safeguarding and PREVENT requirements, have enhanced DBS checks and are registered with the DBS update service.





All courses at New Leaf Triangle are overseen by **Lorraine Squires Shaw**.

## OUR DIRECTORS & STAFF

Executive Director **Lorraine Squires Shaw** is a qualified teacher (FE) and has a Degree in Autism. She is a Certified Practitioner Horse Boy Method Practitioner at level 3.

Lorraine has worked in the special education sector for over 25 years, most being at an innovative, independent specialist college for young people with autism, learning difficulties, social, emotional and behavioural difficulties and mental health conditions. She has worked in many varied roles including teaching and quality roles, vice principal for 6 years and principal for 3.

Following this Lorraine worked as Head of Operations for a large charity, developing an outreach, alternative education service, and working with special schools for children. Lorraine ran her own equine livery yard for over 15 years, which included breaking and training horses, showing, breeding and riding instruction.







The delivery of horse care and riding activities at New Leaf Triangle is overseen by Troy Shaw and Carly Murray takes the lead on autism training and quality of provision



**Executive Director Troy Shaw** is a qualified British Horse Society Instructor, holding the BHS AI and the military equivalent of the Intermediate Instructor Certificate (BHS II), and is an Accredited BHS coach. He is a qualified Archery Instructor and a Horse back Archery Coach, accredited through the British Horse Archery Association. He is a Horse Boy level 5 practitioner and a Trainer in Horse Boy Method and Movement Method. Troy was a senior riding instructor in the Household Cavalry and his role was to train young horses and recruits for ceremonial duties including Trooping the Colour. He is also a qualified Forest School Leader (Level 3).

**Executive Director Carly Murray** is a qualified teacher (QTLS), with a Masters in Education (MEd) in Autism from Birmingham University. She has taught young people and children with special educational needs, in particular autism, at a specialist college and a local authority special school, has coordinated educational services for young people with complex needs as part of a national charity and been curriculum manager at a college for young people with very complex needs. She has completed training with autism experts Dave Hewett, Gina Davies and Glenys Jones and undertaken Forest School training. Carly delivers staff training at New Leaf Triangle, is involved in the oversight of the education programmes and practice around autism, as well as delivering a range of sessions.

New Leaf Triangle also has a voluntary director with a high level of skills and qualifications who takes an advisory roles:

**Alison O'Brien** is a former Principal of a residential specialist college, and Additional Inspector for Ofsted. She is the principal author of the DfE funded Autism Education Trust post 16 training and development materials. Alison currently works as a freelance Educational Consultant. She acts as an advisor for New Leaf Triangle on elements related to autism and education.

Our **Session Leaders and Volunteers** are our greatest assets. They show a high degree of commitment, dedication and loyalty to help us achieve the aims and objectives of New Leaf Triangle. Continuous professional development and training of our staff is a key component of our success. Please see their details on the website.





## OUR LOCATION AND FACILITIES

Our two sites, totalling over seven acres, are located in a beautiful, countryside location, near the market town of Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire.

We are a British Horse Society approved and licenced riding establishment (no. RE009) and licenced camp site with Melton Borough Council.

Although not secure sites, our boundaries are well-fenced to minimise the risk of students absconding. We have large car-park areas which can accommodate several vehicles.

Facilities include heated log cabins with kitchen, seating and learning areas, toilet and shower facilities, natural sensory room, barns with large internal stables, all-weather manèges, chicken coops, goat pens, play paddocks and horse paddocks.



## NEW LEAF TRIANGLE

**Executive Directors:** Lorraine Squires Shaw, Troy Shaw & Carly Murray

**Email:**

[lorraine.squiresshaw@gmail.com](mailto:lorraine.squiresshaw@gmail.com)

[troy.shaw@newleaftrianglecic.co.uk](mailto:troy.shaw@newleaftrianglecic.co.uk)

[carlymurrayteaching@gmail.com](mailto:carlymurrayteaching@gmail.com)

**Tel:** 0782 5653170 or 0771 4222109

[www.newleaftrianglecic.co.uk](http://www.newleaftrianglecic.co.uk)

**Site address:**

New Leaf Triangle, Goadby Road, Chadwell, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE14 4LP

Latitude: 52.822344 Longitude: -0.836318

**Office address:**

Stone Cottage, 6a Towns Lane, Goadby Marwood, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE14

**SUPPORTED BY:**

