Grants for Business Development
Rural Development Programme for England

This grant scheme is targeted towards farmers looking to diversify into non-agricultural activity and small rural businesses. The grant can fund up to 40% of a project that enables a rural business to grow and create more jobs. The normal minimum claim is £35,000. In order to meet this threshold, projects must have a total cost in excess of £87,500.

The RDPE business development scheme aims to support projects that enable businesses to grow, create jobs, improve productivity through innovation, access new markets and export goods. The grant can help pay for the construction or improvement of buildings and purchasing of new equipment and machinery. The maximum grant claim is £170,000.

Project Examples:
- A rural furniture business investing in two new machines that creates two new jobs
- A farm establishing a metal fabrication business as a diversification

Key Dates:
- 25th January 2017, RDPE growth programme first published
- 31st May 2018, Expression of interest deadline
- 31st December 2020, Successful applicants must have finished and paid for the project

Our local teams have considerable experience working with businesses to develop ideas and successfully make applications to the RDPE. If you would like to utilise this opportunity to develop your business, please discuss your idea with a member of the Strutt and Parker team.