

Grants for Rural Tourism Infrastructure

Rural Development Programme for England

This grant scheme is designed to assist in the cost of capital expenditure on tourism infrastructure. This grant can fund up to 40% of a commercial project and 100% of a non-commercial project. The minimum grant request is set at £35,000. The standard minimum threshold requires projects to have a total cost in excess of £87,500.



The RDPE is seeking to support projects that will encourage more tourists to visit, stay longer and spend more money in rural areas. The national priority is to fund projects that create jobs, extend the tourism season, develop tourist attractions and provide wider benefits to rural economic areas. Local priorities will be more specific and are set by the local enterprise partnership area.

Farmers looking to diversify and small businesses can submit an application for commercial projects that intend to make a profit. A wide range of organisations can submit an application if the project is not expected to make a profit.

Project Examples:

- A district council investing in paths to form a network of footpaths and cycle ways
- A business building a new visitor attraction for families
- The establishment of a rural retail outlet

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 farm business, please discuss your idea with a member of the farming department.