



The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas



Rural Development Programme for England 2014-2020- LEADER

Yorkshire Dales Local Action Group

Grants to support investments in Farming

Dales Farm Capital Grant Scheme 2

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| LEADER Area | Yorkshire Dales |
| Grant Reference | SP2_03 |
| | OPEN NOW UPDATED & REVISED 23/11/17 |
| Date Grant Closes | Closes to EOI: 3rd September 2018* Closes to Full Application: 3rd December 2018* |
| Amount of grant LEADER will support | 40% of eligible costs Minimum of £2,500 Maximum of £75,000 |

The Yorkshire Dales LEADER Expression of Interest Form and guidance notes are available to download from our website. www.yorkshiredalesleader.co.uk

Please read [LEADER Applicant Handbook](#), available to download from our website, as this explains how grant applications are assessed and how to meet the terms of a grant funding agreement if an application is successful.

* We reserve the right to close this Call at any stage before these dates

Please note we rigorously check the validity of all documents and quotes submitted as part of the Full Application. Submission of fraudulent information is a criminal offence and could result in prosecution.



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Background to LEADER

LEADER is part of the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) and is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). The Managing Authority for LEADER is the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

LEADER is a French acronym which roughly translates as 'Liaison among Actors in Rural Economic Development'.

The Government has allocated £138 million of rural development funding for delivery through 80 Local Action Groups (LAGs) and the LEADER Programme. A Local Action Group (LAG) is made up of people from the local community and the public and private sector. The LAG decides which projects they will fund in the area.

Defra has awarded the Yorkshire Dales LAG £2.23 million to support local priorities within the Yorkshire Dales LEADER area, as identified in the [Local Development Strategy](#).

Dales Farm Capital Grant Scheme

The vision of the Yorkshire Dales Local Development Strategy is:

"To grow a sustainable rural economy by developing diverse economic growth and creating sustainable communities, capitalising on the areas' internationally recognised distinctive environment, landscape, culture and heritage."

The Local Action Group aims;

- To support and build on a distinctive, living, working and cultural landscape that tells the ongoing story of generations of people interacting with their environment and underpins a flourishing local economy.
- To ensure farmers, landowners and other land-based businesses are managing profitable enterprises based on the sustainable use of the natural resources, landscape and cultural heritage of the Dales, providing jobs and other essential services to the local and regional economies.

The Yorkshire Dales Local Development Strategy identifies farm business as an important sector for successful rural economic growth.

The Yorkshire Dales Local Action Group (LAG) invites applications for capital investments and business development grants from new and existing micro and small farming businesses, including social enterprises located within the rural Yorkshire Dales LEADER area.

Scope of this Grant

The purpose of this grant is to support projects which require capital assistance to:



- Develop the resilience, profitability and sustainability of farming business through collaboration, added value local product, new technology and research;
- Support innovation, entrepreneurial activity and diversification in order to improve quality and profitability;

The Yorkshire Dales LEADER Local Action Group wishes to fund applications that will:

- Grow or expand an existing rural business

We will give **most priority** to those applications that:

- Create new jobs in the rural Yorkshire Dales LEADER area;
- Demonstrate collaboration between farm businesses.

Who can Apply

- ✓ Micro and small Farming businesses and holdings in the LEADER area.

What can be supported

The following are examples of the types of activity we will grant aid:

- Equipment and machinery to improve the efficiency of the use of energy, water, fertiliser and other direct inputs (*for example precision farming or new technologies, GPS linked to variable application monitors, air scrubbers & heat exchangers, Variable speed vacuum pumps, LED lighting in livestock housing, thermal screens in livestock and horticultural buildings, replacement of bell drinkers with nipple feeders in poultry systems, remote crop sensing systems, crop robotics, water filtration in pigs and poultry*)
- Equipment and machinery to reduce impacts on soils and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (*for example specialist drills to enable low or zero tillage farming*)
- Investments to improve the management of slurry and manures to reduce the reliance on artificial fertilisers ; (*for example trailing shoe slurry system including macerators as part of the application equipment, slurry separator but not associated reception pit and storage facilities, pumps or associated distribution pipework, shallow injection systems for slurry , dribble bars, GPS for use with slurry and manure application,*) and
- Investments to mechanise production and increase productivity (*such as robotic milking parlours, crop robotics.*)
- Equipment and machinery to improve the monitoring of the consumption of animal feed and water (*such as real time monitoring of pig production; collar based rumination systems*)
- Equipment to improve animal welfare (*such as gait analysis systems, calving detectors, oestrus detection in suckler cows, cluster flush systems in dairy parlours, robotic milking parlours (but not the parlour building),*



automatic footbaths, interventions to prevent injurious pecking in poultry (eg variable intensity lighting, verandas) duck showers)

- Equipment and machinery to improve animal handling above ‘standard equipment’ (such as mobile handling systems, ,electronic weigh systems linked to EID and automatic/shedding drafting gates linked to EID readers, EID readers, foot trimming crush, side access crush, sheep turner, sheep weigher) (Please note £500 will be deducted from the eligible costs of complete static crush systems to cover the costs associated with a basic cattle crush)
- Investment in equipment, technologies or processes to develop new or higher quality agri-food products
- Investment in equipment, technologies or processes to reduce waste
- Marketing activity, excluding hard copy material, associated with the above investments;
- Construction or conversion of buildings to be used for processing activities
- Investments in the production, processing and marketing of non-timber forest products, particularly wild venison. This could include on-holding cold storage and butchery facilities
- Investments in collaborative grain processing facilities which benefit a number of farmers

Please refer to the list of eligible equipment as issued and published on our website.

Areas and activity we cannot give grant for

In addition to the lists of ineligible activity detailed in the [LEADER Handbook](#) the following will not be supported through this call:

- × A Farm Business located outside the rural Yorkshire Dales LEADER area. You can ensure the project to be funded is in the Yorkshire Dales LEADER area here <http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx> or seek advice from the Programme Co-ordinator.

Grant Funding Available

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Minimum grant offered- | £2,500 |
| Maximum grant offered- | £75,000 |
| Maximum percentage of grant towards eligible project costs – 40% | |

Applicants must provide the remainder of project costs from a private source of funding (i.e. own business funds or bank loan).

Outputs we expect to see

ALL Applicants **must** evidence how they will create sustainable employment, employment opportunities and/or economic growth and show how their project will contribute to the following:

1. Employment opportunities and Job Creation;
2. Improved profitability within the business;



3. Introduction of new/innovative methods into the business.

Before making an Application

You must ensure:

- The project meets the basic eligibility criteria as outlined in the [LEADER Applicant Handbook](#), available to download from our website www.yorkshiredalesleader.co.uk.

We **strongly recommend** you read the Applicant Handbook, as non-compliance with RDPE requirements by an approved project will result in financial penalties.

Date Grant Closes

The last date Expressions of Interest (EOI) will be accepted is 3rd September 2018

How to Apply

We have a two stage grant application.

Stage 1: EOI Form and Guidance are available to download from our website.

www.yorkshiredalesleader.co.uk

Submit the EOI to rima.berry@ydmtd.org in the prescribed electronic format.

If you require assistance, contact the Programme Co-ordinator (details below).

You will be invited to submit a Stage 2 Full Application if the EOI is eligible.

Moving to a Stage 2 Full Application

A decision on your EOI will sent within 30 working days.

If eligible a Stage 2 Full Application will be sent to you.

A decision on the Stage 2 Full Application is normally given within 60 working days.

Work must not start on any part of the project before you have received and accepted an offer of grant from the Rural Payments Agency. This includes ordering or paying a deposit on materials or equipment.

Please note we rigorously check the validity of all documents and quotes submitted as part of the Full Application. Submission of fraudulent information is a criminal offence and could result in prosecution.

For More Information Contact

Programme Co-ordinator: Rima Berry

Email: rima.berry@ydmtd.org

Tel: 015142 51002