



**The Yorkshire Dales**  
**LEADER**  
**PROGRAMME**  
2014 - 2020

**The Yorkshire Dales LEADER  
Review  
2016 to 2018**



## Yorkshire Dales LEADER Statement from the Chair – December 2018

I am delighted to introduce the Yorkshire Dales LEADER Review 2016 -2018.

The Yorkshire Dales LEADER area is characterised by iconic scenery and a rich cultural heritage that has at its heart three very special landscapes – the Yorkshire Dales National Park, Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – surrounded by a wider hinterland of Dales and distinctive rural market towns.

I'm pleased to say that the Yorkshire Dales LEADER programme has proved to be extremely successful in the two years it has been open. It has funded some fantastic projects and has successfully managed to apply for and allocate additional project funding from National Government.

Much of the credit for this success is down to the Executive Group for the time and commitment that they have all given so freely in attending our meetings and to the Programme staff for the exemplary work they have done supporting the project applicants through the complex application process.

North Yorkshire County Council, our Accountable Body, has done a tremendous job in supporting both myself as Chair and the Executive Group in providing succinct reports on the financial management of the programme.

I'd like to say thank you to the Accountable Body and the Executive in ensuring that the LEADER funding has been allocated and spent on projects that will make a lasting impact on the Yorkshire Dales and heralding such a successful end to the Programme.

Last but not least, in fact the essential factor that has made my role as Chair painless, is an extra special thank you to Helen, Rima and Norma for their expertise, enthusiasm, tenacity and, most of all their sense of humour. Thank you ladies.

**Rita Lawson**  
Chair

**Yorkshire Dales LEADER Executive Group**  
**December 2018**

### The LEADER Staff Team

Rima Berry: LEADER Programme Co-ordinator, hosted by Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

Helen Patchett: LEADER Programme Manager, North Yorkshire County Council

Norma Hood: LEADER Programme Support Officer, North Yorkshire County Council

Pam Preston: LEADER Finance Administrator, North Yorkshire County Council

## The LEADER Approach

The LEADER support (grant) is awarded by a local partnership, the Local Action Group (LAG). The Yorkshire Dales LAG is one of seventy nine partnerships in England which successfully applied to deliver grants through the rural development programme known as LEADER.

## How does LEADER work?

Each LAG decides which projects they will fund in their local area. All projects must support one of the 6 Defra Priorities for LEADER. These are to:

- Support micro and small businesses and farm diversification.
- Boost rural tourism.
- Increase farm productivity.
- Increase forestry productivity.
- Provide rural services.
- Provide cultural and heritage activities.

Consultation and research to produce a Local Development Strategy has shown what the key investment priorities are. In the Yorkshire Dales LEADER area, we support actions that fall within three broad areas of activity:

1. Capitalising on the distinctive environment and cultural landscape.
2. Developing a diverse rural economy.
3. Creating sustainable communities.

The LAG partnership has been awarded £2.72 million for rural projects benefiting the area and the communities.

Appendix 1 shows the rural projects supported from our launch in February 2016 to closing in April 2018.

The term LEADER is the French acronym for “Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Économie Rurale” meaning Links Between Activities Developing the Rural Economy.



LEADER is a method to support rural development initiated at the local community level in order to improve the quality of life and prosperity through locally driven initiatives and projects.

LEADER funding is being made available through the Rural Development Programme for England, which is jointly funded by Defra and the European Union. It is administered by the Rural Payments Agency.



## The Yorkshire Dales Local Action Group 2014 – 2020

The LEADER process requires the establishment of a Local Action Group (LAG) partnership, made up of public, private and voluntary sector representatives. It is open to anyone who lives, works or has an interest in the eligible rural area. Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust is the lead partner and hosts the LEADER Programme Co-ordinator.

North Yorkshire County Council is the Accountable Body for the LAG. The only funds the County Council directly manages relate to the Running costs and Animation of the programme (which is fully funded out of the budget allocated). Grant payment to projects is done by the Rural Payments Agency.

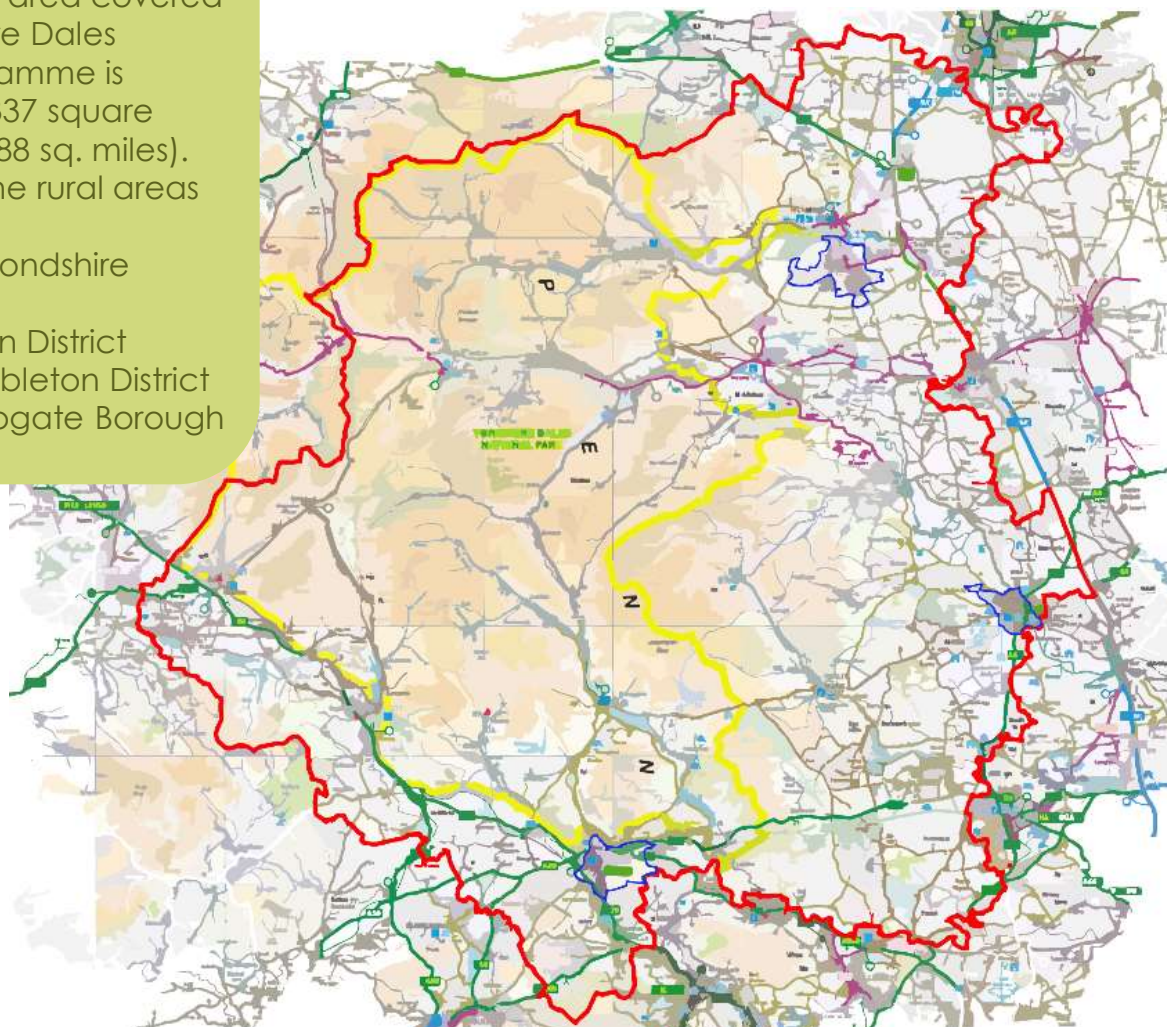
The LAG nominates an Executive Group and it is the LAG Executive who make the decisions on how the funding should be delivered, based upon guidance from North Yorkshire County Council, Defra and the Rural Payments Agency.

The LAG Executive consists of up to sixteen representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors. It is a requirement of the programme that no LAG Executive can be made up of 49% from one sector and that any vote on project approvals cannot have more than 49% of votes from one sector.

### The LEADER area

The total rural area covered by the Yorkshire Dales LEADER Programme is 333,674 Ha (3337 square kilometres, 1,288 sq. miles). This includes the rural areas of:

- 100% Richmondshire District
- 100% Craven District
- Part of Hambleton District
- Part of Harrogate Borough



## LEADER Programme Delivery

The full Local Development Strategy is available for download on our Yorkshire Dales LEADER website, [www.yorkshiredalesleader.co.uk](http://www.yorkshiredalesleader.co.uk)

We have 6 key aims in our Local Development Strategy.

- Strengthen the tourism industry building on the cultural, heritage and natural assets and the Dales identity
- Improve the sustainability for upland land management in the Dales
- Support the development of the local bioenergy and renewable energy supply chains
- Support entrepreneurship and enable business growth
- Encourage the participation of young people and women in rural enterprise
- Sustain and enhance rural services

We were not able to fund all of the actions that would meet these aims through the LEADER approach.

Full guidance on what could be funded is located within the National LEADER Applicant Handbook, (available for download on our website).



The Cheese Experience ©: A Swincoe

## The Invitations to Apply

The invitations to apply were published on our LEADER website and advertised widely. As the programme progressed these were revised and approved as required at formal meetings of the LAG.

In total the LAG publicised 4 rounds of invitations to apply for LEADER support, finishing with a rolling programme until all available grant was allocated.

### Round One

Ref Number	Invitation name	Open date	Closing date	Min Grant	Max Grant
<b>SP1_01</b>	Yorkshire Dales Tourism Development Scheme	01/02/16	09/03/16	£5,000	£35,000
	Yorkshire Dales Tourism Development Scheme (2) Re-opened	-	25/07/16 Revised by LAG and closed early	£5,000	£35,000
<b>SP4/5_01</b>	Yorkshire Dales Enterprise Scheme (farm diversification)	01/02/16	09/03/16	£10,000	£35,000
	Yorkshire Dales Enterprise Scheme (farm diversification) (2) Re-opened	-	25/07/16	£10,000	£35,000
<b>SP4/5_02</b>	Yorkshire Dales Enterprise Scheme (Micro and Small Enterprise)	01/02/16	09/03/16	£10,000	£35,000
	Yorkshire Dales Enterprise Scheme (Micro and Small Enterprise) (2) Re-opened	-	25/07/16 Revised by LAG and closed early	£10,000	£35,000

## Round Two

Ref Number	Invitation name	Open date	Closing date	Min Grant	Max Grant
<b>SP1_02</b>	Yorkshire Dales Capital Tourism Grant	16/05/16	25/07/16	£2,500	£35,000
<b>SP2_01</b>	Upland Farm Capital Grant Scheme	16/05/16	25/07/16	£2,500	£35,000
<b>SP3_01</b>	Forestry Capital Grant Scheme	16/05/16	25/07/16	£2,500	£35,000
<b>SP4/5_03</b>	Micro and Small Enterprise Capital Grant Scheme	12/05/16	25/07/16	£2,500	£35,000
<b>SP6_01</b>	Integrated Rural Mobility	16/05/16	25/07/16	£5,000	£90,000

## Round Three

Ref Number	Invitation name	Open date	Closing date	Min Grant	Max Grant
<b>SP1_03</b>	Yorkshire Dales Tourism, Heritage and Culture Capital Grant	08/12/16	none	£5,000	£100,000
<b>SP2_02</b>	Dales Farm Capital Grant Scheme	17/11/16	12/06/17	£2,500	£75,000
<b>SP3_02</b>	Forestry Capital Grant Scheme	17/11/16	12/06/17	£2,500	£75,000
<b>SP4/5_04</b>	Micro, Small Enterprise and Farm Diversification Capital Grant	08/12/16	none	£5,000	£150,000
<b>SP6_02</b>	Sustain and Enhance Rural Services Capital Grant	08/12/16	none	£5,000	£100,000



## Round Four

Ref Number	Invitation name	Open date	Closing date	Min Grant	Max Grant
<b>SP2_03</b>	Dales Farm Capital Grant Scheme	15/07/2017	Open till all grant allocated	£2,500	£75,000
<b>SP3_03</b>	Forestry Capital Grant Scheme	15/07/2017	Open till all grant allocated	£2,500	£75,000

## Number of Enquiries 2016

These are recorded in order to inform where targeted publicity is required.

Across all years the highest amount of enquiries relate to the Micro/small Enterprise priority (including farm diversification). The second highest is the Farm Productivity priority. This was followed by Tourism and Culture, with Rural Services and Forestry Productivity receiving the lowest amount of enquiries.

To a large extent the number of enquiries per sector was shaped by the LEADER fund process and guidance:

- Reaching micro/small Enterprise sector was straightforward with a broad capital grant.
- Under the Farm Productivity priority English LEADER Groups were issued a list of eligible equipment; the suppliers of that equipment became a publicity “partner”, making it very easy to engage with the agricultural sector.
- Tourism and Culture Priority. For simplicity this priority was not separated; a majority of enquiries related to the setting up of new visitor accommodation through barn conversions or extensions. This type of permanent accommodation provision was excluded by the LAG.
- Under the Rural Services priority capital support was less in demand than “seed-corn” revenue support. LEADER was unable to support revenue funding nationally.
- Although a list of eligible equipment was nationally applied to the Forestry Productivity priority, the Yorkshire Dales LEADER area has limited micro businesses in this sector and a more strategic approach than was possible under LEADER was required.

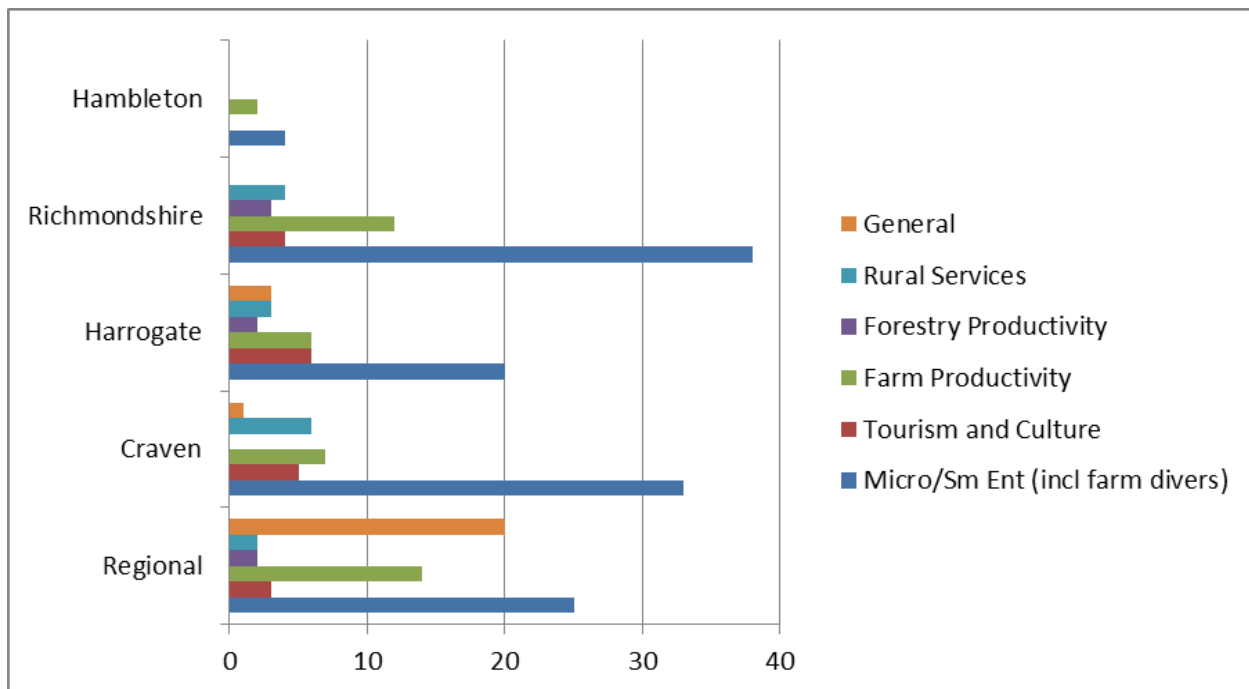
General enquiries refer to projects which could not be assigned a specific sector. Regional enquiries are those from individual stakeholders outside of the LEADER area or those operating over all Local Authority districts.



## 2016 (Calendar year, by district and funding priority)

A total of 274 unique enquiries were received by the Programme Coordinator.

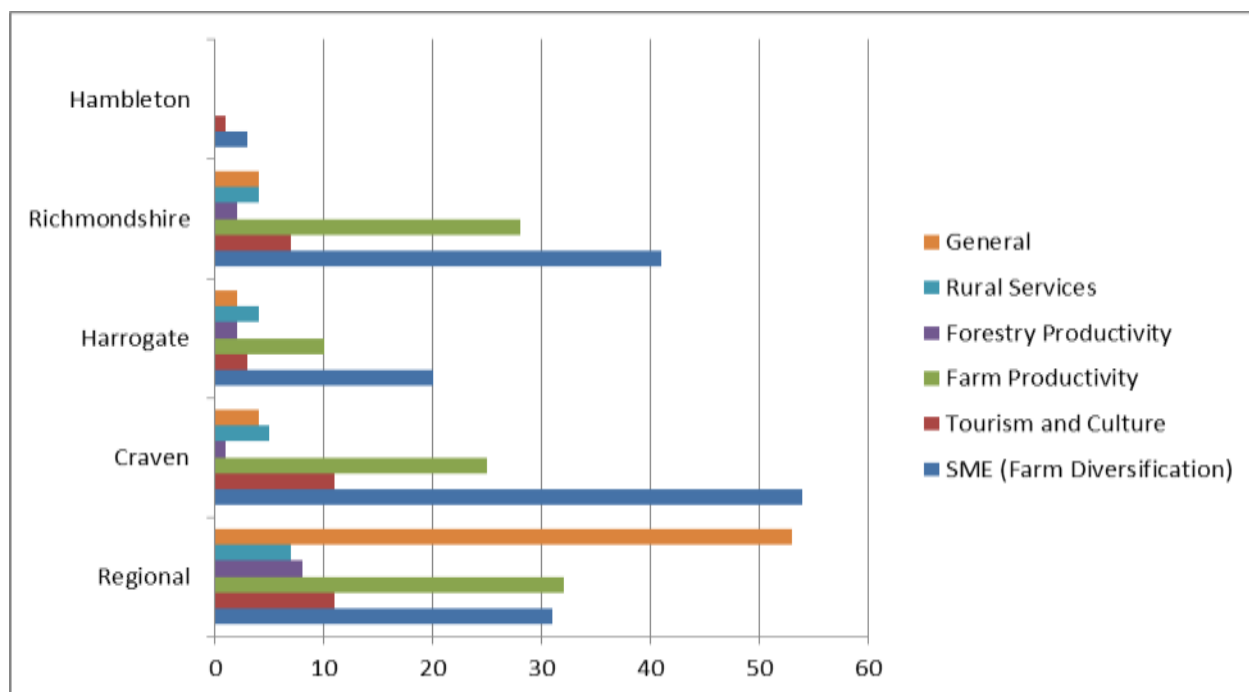
**Table 1:** Enquiries 2016 (by district and funding priority)



## 2017 (Calendar year, by district and funding priority)

A total of 373 unique enquiries were received by the Programme Coordinator.

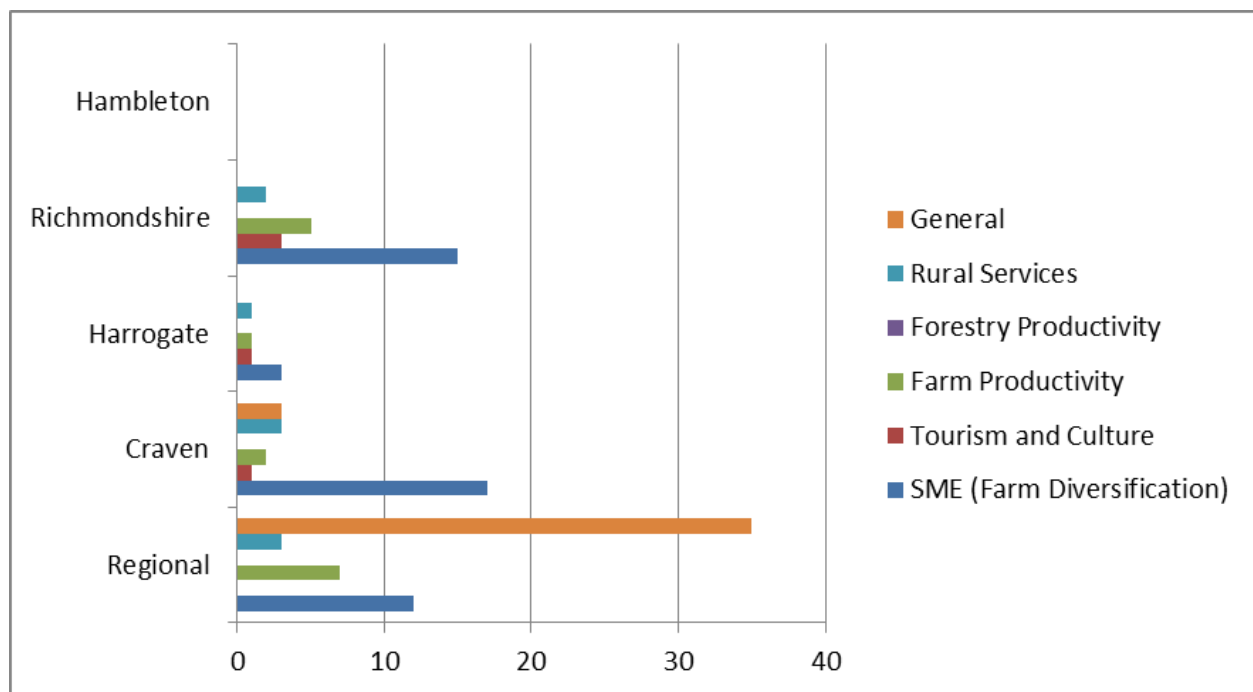
**Table 2:** Enquiries 2016 (by district and funding priority)



## 2018 (Dec 17- Apr 18 by district and funding priority)

A total of 114 unique project enquiries were received by the Programme Co-ordinator. The Programme closed at the beginning of May 2018 to further applications.

**Table 3:** Enquiries 2016 (by district and funding priority)



## What have we funded?

212 Expressions of Interest were received. 101 Full Applications were received.

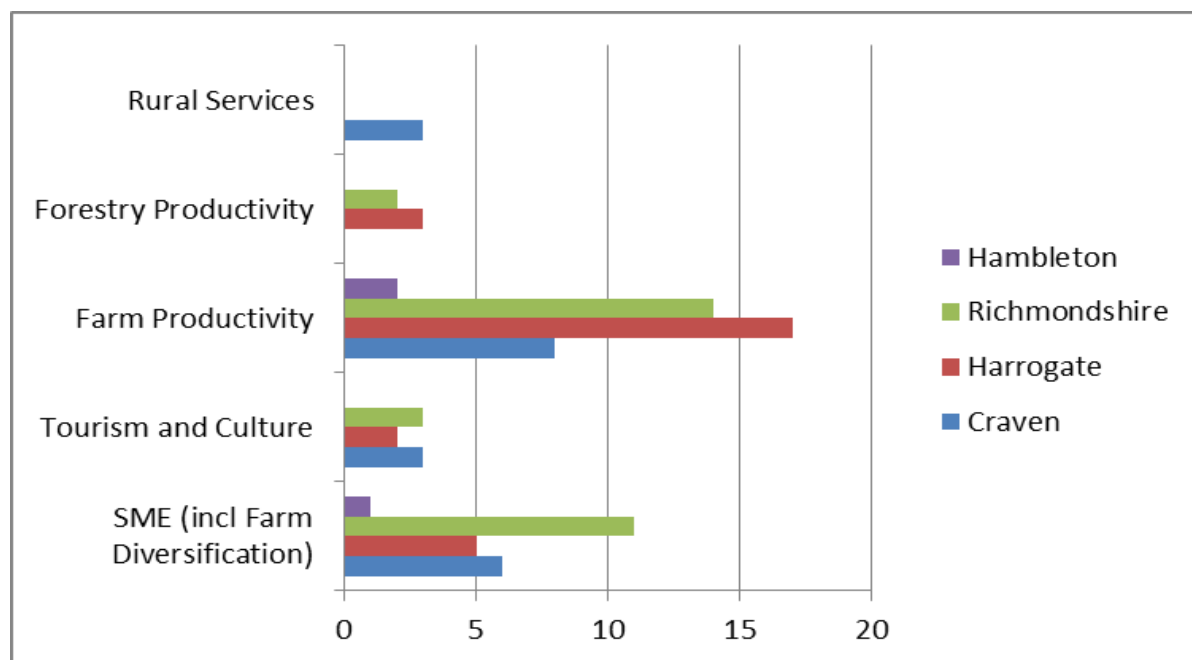
Of these:

- 1 was withdrawn after an Executive funding decision, before signing a grant funding agreement
- 6 were withdrawn before an Executive funding decision
- 14 were rejected at Eligibility checks, before an Executive funding decision (1 for ineligible activity/costs exceeding available grant offer, 6 for inconsistencies with quotes supplied and 7 for missing fundamental information from the application)

A total of 80 projects under the following Defra priority areas were seen and approved by the Executive group.

The amount of funding received per district within the LEADER area bears a good relationship to the percentage population within each district.

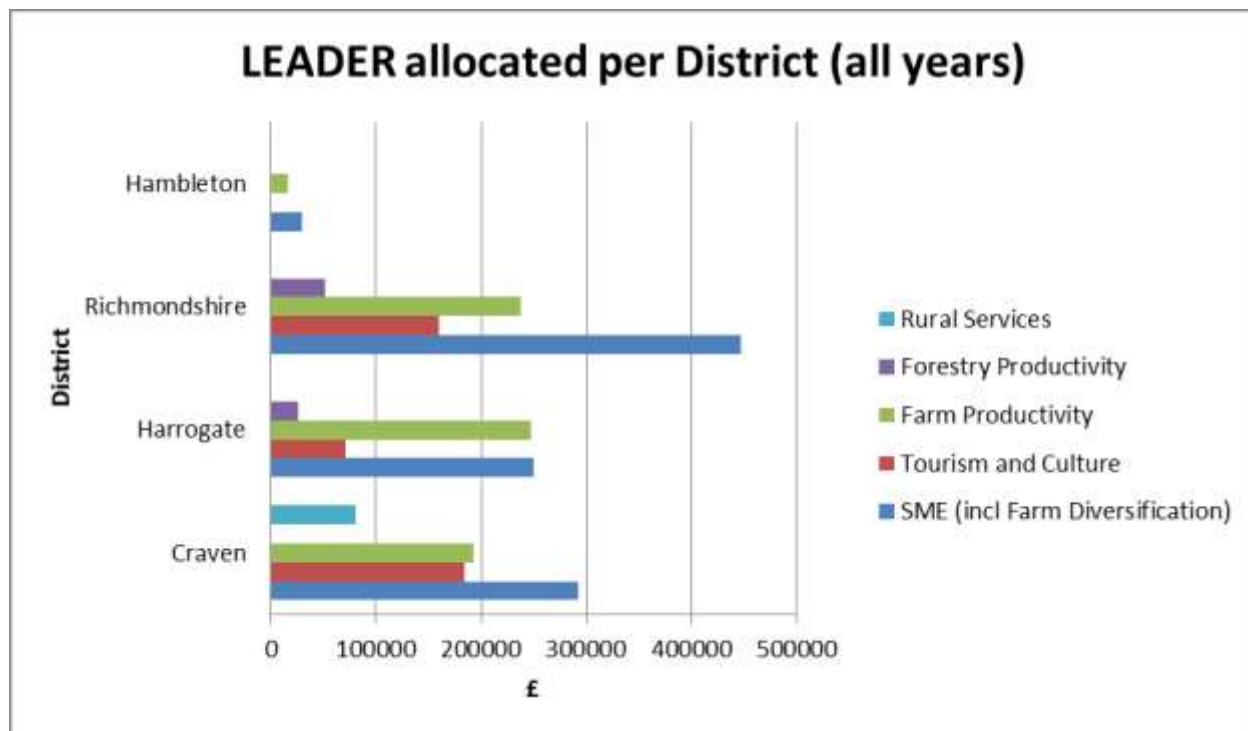
**Table 4:** Total number projects 2016-2018 (by district and funding priority)



**Table 5:** LEADER funding received (per district, per head of population)

District	% funding received	% LEADER Population	Variance	Funding per head of Population
Hambleton	2	2	0	16.58
Richmondshire	39	35	+4	16.68
Harrogate	26	27	-1	14.45
Craven	33	37	-4	13.33



**Table 6:** LEADER funding (£) allocated (by district and funding priority)**Table 7:** LEADER funding (£) allocated (by district and funding priority)

	Craven	Harrogate	Richmondshire	Hambleton	TOTAL
<b>SME (incl Farm Diversification)</b>	292,768	250,337	447,696	29,475	<b>1,020,277</b>
<b>Tourism and Culture</b>	184,274	70,976	159,465	-	<b>414,715</b>
<b>Farm Productivity</b>	193,076	247,598	237,413	15,944	<b>694,032</b>
<b>Forestry Productivity</b>	-	25,824	50,880	-	<b>76,704</b>
<b>Rural Services</b>	80,755	-	-	-	<b>80,755</b>
<b>TOTAL (£)</b>	<b>750,873</b>	<b>594,735</b>	<b>895,454</b>	<b>45,419</b>	<b>2,286,483</b>

## Project Case Studies



Little Seed Field Glamping Site  
©: R Berry, YDMT

### Castiles Glamping

Location: Harrogate district

Awarded: £31,070 RDPE LEADER

The project is farm diversification on land at Castiles Farm to provide alternative employment and income streams onto the farm from a new Glamping site business. The diversification of the farm will stabilise its cash flow and safeguard the existing employment on the farm during difficult trading times in the dairy sector.

The project has used a sloping block of rough pasture of limited agricultural use, to establish timber glamping pods including a shower block and WC. Grant was used as contribution towards hardcore, fencing, shower block, wood burning stoves, timber pod cabins, wiring and website.

Joanne, one of the business partners says "LEADER helped support the start-up of Little Seed Field glamping site. Without LEADER programme support the business that exists now would not have otherwise existed. LEADER helped fund the procurement of the glamping cabins, amenities and site works for this start-up business. The farm business overall has become much more viable as we have now shown how diversification and making the most of the existing assets, albeit poor quality land, can improve business outlook."

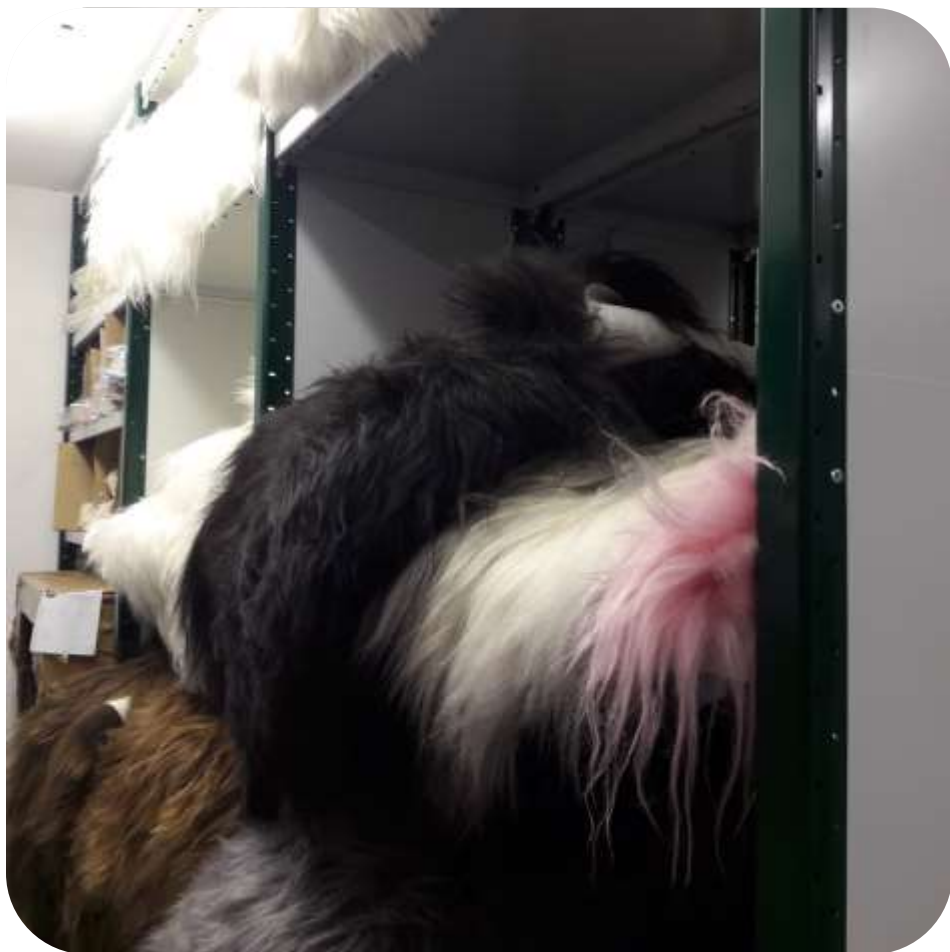
<http://www.yorkshiredalesglamping.co.uk/Glamping/Our-Cabins>

## Project Case Studies

### Glencroft Countrywear Warehouse Racking

Location:  
Craven district

Awarded:  
£5,452 RDPE LEADER



Warehouse Racking  
©: R Berry, YDMT

LEADER supported this retail and trade business to purchase warehouse racking to improve the storage and processing facilities in the sheepskin and knitwear factory warehouse.

The previous system of recycled boxes and second hand tables was replaced with adjustable racking that is fit for purpose, using less space for the same amount of product. It allows the products to be kept in better condition by allowing airflow and easy cleaning. It also facilitates faster packing, picking, processing and stock control. An unexpected side effect of the new racking has been to let more light into the warehouse. The business intends to continue to expand and employ new staff in future months.

<https://www.glencroftcountrywear.co.uk/>



## Project Case Studies

### Innovative Goat Curd Packaging

Location: Richmondshire district

Awarded: £11,000 RDPE LEADER



Goat curd packaging  
©: R Berry, YDMT

The Ribblesdale Cheese Company in Hawes is an award winning artisan cheese maker specialising in goat's cheese.

Traditionally, artisan cheese makers produce cheese destined for the cutting counter. With the rise in popularity and ease of buying, the grab and go way of packaging small cheeses seems to be the way the cheese sector is heading. A way for the company to tap into this market was to purchase a gas flushing tray sealing machine to pack small portions.

They received a grant towards a second-hand vacuum packing machine which has enabled the company to launch a new range of flavoured goat curd pots.

Iona Hill, owner and cheesemaker at The Ribblesdale Cheese Company, said: "We are very grateful to the LEADER project for helping us fund a new machine that lets us make gas flushed pots of flavoured goat curd. It is a very new thing to the market and we would not be able to do this without their help. We are very excited with the new product and are getting positive feedback from our customers."

<https://ribblesdalecheese.com/>

## Project Case Studies

### Heritage Timber Construction Training Centre

Location: Hambleton district

Awarded: £29,500 RDPE LEADER



Heritage Timber Construction Centre ©: R Berry, YDMT

This project seeks to address a local, and national, requirement for a training centre in heritage timber construction in order to maintain a number of key traditional skillsets.

LEADER funding was used in order to bring a vernacular building on the business site, the piggeries, into a useable condition to open as new Heritage Timber Construction Training Centre.

The project aims to take on one Full Time Equivalent employee as a result of this investment.

<http://www.heritagecraftalliance.co.uk/>

## Key Achievements 2016 to 2018

### LEADER Outputs

Outputs are the benefits that the projects achieve over their lifetime. The LEADER Programme has set outputs to report upon and achieve. As our projects submit their final claims, the outputs are captured and compiled.

For example, the following are just a few of the outputs recorded across the Programme:

**Number of Jobs Created:** Jobs created are where new, permanent and paid jobs are created.

**Wage Bill (increase or decrease):** The increase (or decrease) of a wage bill to a business receiving grant funding to a project. This will have a direct relation to jobs created if there is an increase to the wage bill. The wage bill is more than just the cost of the salaries themselves and wherever possible should include other costs such as employer pensions and national insurance contributions.

**Number of New techniques:** A new technique equates to a new piece of technology or process that is introduced to the business.

**Number of businesses directly benefitting:** The total number of businesses benefitting economically from the end result of the project.

**Additional Number of day visitors :** The increase in day visitors achieved as a result of the project activity

### Projected Outputs Forecast from Feb 2016 – Dec 2018

Outputs	Forecast
Nb Jobs created (in FTE*)	62.56
Change in Wage bill (£)	974,706
Number of New Techniques	63
Numbers of Businesses benefitting	60
Additional day visitors	44,050
Additional overnight stay	38,377

\*FTE – Full time equivalent  
(source: DORA database, Oct 2018)



## Appendix 1: Yorkshire Dales LEADER Executive Group – Projects approved 2016

Executive Group Date	Ref No.	LEADER Project Title	RDPE Measure	Amount Awarded (£)
<b>13/07/2016</b>	103551	Discover Upper Nidderdale	7.5/7.6	25,707.68
<b>04/10/2016</b>	103736	Skirbeck Holiday Cottage	6.4	34,995.75
	104079	Improving Productivity of Hill Sheep Flock	4.1	3492
	104120	Crimple Head Farm	4.1	2930
	103935	Forcett Quarry Biomass Processing 2	8.4	35,000
	104057	Grant for Capital Items, Croft Farm	4.1	2592
<b>16/11/2016</b>	103938	The Cheese Experience	7.5	33,099
	103878	Proposed Dairy Cubicle Shed and Parlour	4.1	22,700
	104033	Peaks and Pods	6.4	33,149
	104119	High Moor Farm	4.1	30,100
	104113	Old Home Farm Woodland Eco-Cabins	6.4	35,000
	104115	Castiles Farm Glamping Business	6.4	31,070
	103989	Woodhouse Biomass	8.6	15,994
	103999	Small Woodland Management	8.6	14,395
<b>07/12/2016</b>	103990	Yorkshire Dales Dog Hydrotherapy Centre	6.4	26,430.96
	102557	Artisan Cheese Production in Upper Nidderdale	4.2	12,320
	104104	Heritage Timber Construction Training Centre and Virtual Learning Environment	6.4	33,440

## Appendix 2: Yorkshire Dales LEADER Executive Group – Projects approved 2017

Executive Group Date	Ref No.	LEADER Project Title	Amount Awarded (£)
<b>13/07/2016</b>	104575	Castley Farm	72,318
<b>24/05/2017</b>		The Swale Trail	89382.05
<b>26/07/2017</b>	104666	Pathways to Enable Access	47988
	104970	Humberstone Bank Farm Efficiency and Animal Welfare Improvements	5801.7
	104985	Mobile Sheep Handling Facility	8827.6
	105023	Lighting and Cattle Handling	5224
	105270	Throstle Nest Farm Development	40424.88
	105408	Prospect Farm Innovation Project	3140.4
<b>19/09/2017</b>	106107	Installation of robotic milkers at Middle Biggin Farm (Vasey)	75000
	106104	Arbortech Tree Specialists Ltd – Mossie Mire Shed	7250
	104966	Cragdale Laundry Services	11479.2
	105590	Longthornes of Hebden	130387.2
	105650	Harrison Farm Egg Packing Expansion	48920
	106424	Raw Milk Cheese Production (Spence)	95352.71
<b>22/11/2017</b>	104987	H Carr & Son Squeeze Crush	4804
	105937	Dales Riverbank Tourism	79800
	106151	SW & JE Ryder Grant for mobile sheep handling system	4989.2
	106240	JAPA 305E Firewood Processor	2580
	106341	Livestock Welfare improvements at Kidstone Farm	10127.6
	106345	Mirefold Innovation Project	7244.53

## Appendix 3: Yorkshire Dales LEADER Executive Group – Projects approved 2018

Executive Group Date	Ref No.	LEADER Project Title	Amount Awarded (£)
<b>23/01/2018</b>	104795	N & R Rails Upgrading of edging machine	5,167.28
	105263	Innovative Goat Curd Packaging	11,400
	106241	Precision Farming GPS Autosteer LED Lights	8,700
	106344	Kingstone Farm	11,549.80
	106924	C H Greensit Ltd Slurry Nutrient Management	5,860
	107456	M Crabtree EID Stock Reader	2,999.60
	107489	D E Booth Robotic Milking Machine	39,419.61
	<b>06/03/2018</b>	106387	Carleton Recreation and Play Improvements
<b>05/06/2018</b>	105041	Washfold Farm	36,166
	106333	Mobile Cattle Handling System at High Farm	4,120
	106389	Caton - Sheep Handling and Autoshedding	7,539.60
	107546	Neil White Mobile Sheep Handling Pens	4,193.20
	107787	JW & JH Burton & Son new mobile sheep handling system	3,211.20
	108080	Increase in Forage Production	6,800
	108254	G & MF Turnbull & Sons Sheep System	4,718
	108256	Mobile Sheep Handling Race (Brown)	3,094
	108549	Mobile Sheep Handling Race (Barker)	4,423.20
	108779	AR & C Booth & Sons – Village Farm Efficiency Improvement	20,118.40
	108877	R & H Hird – Cattle Welfare Improvement	2,511.60
	106855	Wensleydale Glamping Pods	35,925.77
	108042	Rosebud Preserves Expansion	27,594.88
	108644	On Farm Diversification Milk Vending machine	16,087.72
	108808	Catgill Campsite New Glamping Accommodation and Associated Infrastructure	89,044.62
	109060	Howsyke – New Shoot Facilities	78,149.20



## Appendix 3: Yorkshire Dales LEADER Executive Group – Projects approved 2018 (continued)

Executive Group Date	Ref No.	LEADER Project Title	Amount Awarded (£)
	108876	Cabanes of Piercebridge	50,569.37
	104977	Cote Bridge Riverside Park	19,513.20
	106592	I Barrett & Sons Log Cabin	30,264.99
<b>17/07/2018</b>	107788	Lucy's Little Lambs – New Log Cabin	24,432.00
	109175	Whittaker's Gin – New Whisky Distillery	146,481.46
	109702	Hawes Auction Mart – New Office	11,784.59
	107632	Experience Grassington & Wharfedale	53,169.16
	109701	Richard Sexton & Co – Warehouse Racking	5,452
	109636	Hardbanks Barn Ice Cream Parlour & Coffee Shop	102,534.96
	109697	Low Newstead – Health Upgrade	57,902.21
	109204	JH & SM Mason – Classroom Extension and Improvement	61,000.14
	109700	Tractor Global Positioning Systems	10,800
	109628	SGM Engineering – Robot Welding Automation	23,600

Report compiled:  
R Berry, Yorkshire Dales LEADER Programme Coordinator,  
Dec 2018



Carleton Recreation and Play Improvements  
©: R Berry, YDMT

### Photo Credits

Front cover top  
Kettlewell : Mark Corner.  
Front cover bottom  
Peaks and Pods: R Berry

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Yorkshire Dales Leader Local Action Group



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The European Agricultural Fund  
for Rural Development:  
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