

LEADER in the Peak District Rural Action Zone

Delivering the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) 2007-13 locally Derbyshire and Staffordshire working in partnership



What is it?

The Peak District Rural Action Zone (RAZ) has been awarded RDPE funding provided by the EU and Defra totalling £1.9m until 2013. The funding, awarded by the east midlands development agency and Advantage West Midlands is to be delivered via the “LEADER” method, a bottom-up approach to rural development and delivery.

The initiative is designed to deliver RDPE measures aimed at enhancing rural productivity and improving the quality of life in the Peak District with a particular focus on grant assistance to projects from very small rural businesses and social enterprises too small for the main RDPE programme. Implementation will be overseen by the Peak District RAZ Local Action Group and the initiative managed by the Derby & Derbyshire Economic Partnership.

What is funding available for?

Grants from £3,500+ will be available and the first round will focus on:

- Improving the economic viability of **land-based businesses** through support for **diversification projects** into non agricultural activities and **local added value initiatives** (applicants must be members of a farming household)

- Supporting new micro-enterprise activity and helping existing micro-enterprises (less than 10 employees & €2m turnover / social enterprises) to develop new projects involving the development and / or promotion of **local products** or services

Longer term, activity will include:

- Supporting sustainable **tourism development** and enhancing **rural heritage** by developing business clusters in key growth areas such as local heritage, local foods and recreation & adventure and through local community led projects
- Supporting **rural skills** development e.g. through training and mentoring programmes for farming families to encourage diversification and collaboration and environmental training on “greening your enterprise”
- Improving **access to rural services** such as pilot programmes to support rural retailers and other key services for rural communities

Proposals which integrate **environmental management** and **resource efficiency**, using new technologies/renewable energy solutions will be particularly encouraged.

Delivered by:



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



Am I in the right area?

The majority of the RAZ area is covered by LEADER with the exception of Glossopdale, Buxton and Matlock due to population restrictions.

- Rural Action Zone
- Leader Wards
- District Boundaries



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