

GRANT FUNDING BOOST FOR RURAL BUSINESSES

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR ENGLAND: RURAL PETERBOROUGH AND RUTLAND LEADER PROGRAMME

Rural businesses and communities are to be handed more than £1million in funding thanks to a new grants programme launched by Rutland County Council and economic development company Opportunity Peterborough.

The joint venture is designed to grow the local economies in both areas by providing grant funding and support to develop existing organisations and help new enterprises start-up.

The announcement follows a successful bid by the Council and economic development company Opportunity Peterborough to secure £1.32 million of LEADER funding earlier this year. The LEADER project aims to improve the competitiveness and diversification of the farming and forestry industry, whilst supporting small businesses, creating growth and boosting productivity in rural communities.

From today, farmers, growers, rural businesses and community groups can apply for grant funding towards projects that support the development of the rural economy. The funding will also be available to boost rural tourism, by supporting cultural and heritage activities in the rural community.

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



The funding is managed by a Local Action Group comprising voluntary members drawn from farming, forestry, tourism and community backgrounds.

For more details about the rural Peterborough and Rutland LEADER project, please visit:
www.leaderfunding.co.uk

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