Growth Programme Food Processing



Grants are available to help rural businesses grow and create more jobs within Food and drink businesses that process agricultural and horticultural products.

Grant funding can help pay for:

- constructing or improving buildings
- buying new equipment and machinery

Who can apply?

These grants are for food and drink businesses that process Annex I agricultural and horticultural products. Examples include meat, milk, grain and root vegetables. Fisheries projects are not eligible.

Not sure if you are eligible? Contact RPA; phone 03000 200 301 or email <u>GPEnquiries@rpa.gsi.gov.uk</u>

You can find more information and EOI for on GOV.UK – search 'RDPE Growth Programme EOI'

How Much money can you apply for?

- Normally the grant amounts are a minimum of £35,000, although this does vary across some LEP areas.
 Make sure you check the minimum and maximums for you LEP area.
- When you apply for a grant, you're competing with other applicants in your LEP area. All applications are assessed for best fit with both national and local priorities and which projects provide best value for tax payers' money.

National priorities for funding

Projects are more likely to get a grant if they meet at least 2 of the National priorities

- Create Jobs creates 1 FTE for every £30,000 of grant funding
- Grow your business Increase the turnover and profitability of a business
- Benefit the supply chain Provides direct benefits to farmers and growers who supply the raw materials, particularly local farmers and growers.
- Access new markets Helps you sell more products locally, nationally and through exports
- Improve productivity through innovation – Introduces new techniques, equipment or processes to a business to make it more productive.
- Create joint ventures and partnerships – Creates new and useful links between businesses- for example between processors and growers.

Expressions of interest for the scheme can be submitted until 31 May 2018 with all projects complete and grants claimed by 31 December 2020.