

Growth Programme Rural Tourism



The grants will help fund the costs of capital expenditure on tourism infrastructure.

The aim is to support projects that will encourage more tourists to come, to stay longer and to spend more money in rural areas.

Who can apply?

If the project is commercial and intended to make a profit, only small businesses and farmers who want to diversify can apply.

If the project is not expected to make a profit, a wide range of organisations can apply.

Not sure if you are eligible?

Contact RPA; phone 03000 200 301 or email GPEnquiries@rpa.gsi.gov.uk

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 your 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
- Extend the tourism season – Attracts tourists outside the usual period of May to October
- Develop tourist attractions and infrastructure – Creates or develops tourist attractions and infrastructure to increase the range of attractions available locally, encourage tourists to stay longer and increase their spend.
- Wider benefits – The project provides benefits to the wider tourism economy in the rural area

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