

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010

**Subject:** Business Boost for West Cross Garage

**Details for press release:**

West Cross Garage is at the heart of a village community. Having been established in Braunton for the last 50 years and in the present ownership for the last 12, West Cross Garage has served the community and surrounding areas as a true village garage.

Proprietor Ben Byrom having been brought up in a grocers shop believes in giving old fashioned service even in the 21st century.

Servicing of both modern, classic cars and light commercial vehicles are the main stay of their work along with MOT preparation and repairs.

However, there are exciting times around the corner for West Cross Garage, as they have been awarded a Business Growth Grant of £7500, which will assist towards the cost of building a new MOT Bay facility.

**Ben Byrom (proprietor) says "The grant will enable my business to move forward and expand. I will soon be offering a more complete service to customers old and new and at the same time reducing my existing impact on the environment. Without this grant, my expansion plans would have taken a lot longer, having an impact on my business."**

Since October 2009, the Leader 4 Torridge and North Devon, Business Growth Grant Scheme has awarded £234,000 to 41 businesses across North Devon and Torridge.

Lisa Cetinkaya, Leader 4, said "This is a very competitive scheme given the level of demand. Businesses need to provide strong evidence of market research and business planning to demonstrate they can grow with the aid of the grant."

Leader 4 Torridge & North Devon has allocated £500,000 to the grant pot, to help local small businesses to grow and support the North Devon economy.

Businesses can apply for grants between £1,000 and £7,500 towards 50% of costs, for a project that will grow their business to develop a new product or service; improved premises; new staff and new equipment. Applicants must be micro businesses (under 10 employees) with a trading address in Torridge or North Devon districts (excluding the six central Barnstaple wards)

Further information on Business Growth Scheme – [www.leader4.org](http://www.leader4.org) or 01237 426423

Ends