

15g. Leader 4 Torridge and North Devon Priority Guidance

Please read this Guidance before submitting an Initial Project Outline or Expression of Interest (EOI only required for projects requesting over £25,000 grant)

Projects must meet the essential criteria listed below:-

	Essential	Desirable
Benefit the Leader 4 Torridge and North Devon Local Action Group Area	✓	
Be of benefit to groups of businesses and/or communities, rather than an individual business*	✓	
Help deliver at least one of the Programme Objectives (details overleaf)	✓	
Address the low carbon and environmental sustainability priorities of the overall programme	✓	
Have no significant negative impacts on the three goals of sustainable development 1. Social needs 2. Environmental needs 3. Economic development	✓	
Deliver sustainable benefits that will continue beyond the life of the grant funding	✓	
Be innovative by providing new opportunities for this area or new ways of doing things that others can learn from	✓	
Demonstrate a willingness to work with others	✓	
Attract contributions from other sources including funding and "in kind" support. (In kind contributions are limited to a maximum of 10%)	✓	
Have the support or involvement of communities, or be of wider value to the community	✓	
Have clearly defined outputs to measure results	✓	
Provide good value for money	✓	
Be realistic, deliverable and financially viable	✓	
Fit in with local, regional or national strategies	✓	
Learn from what has gone before	✓	
Request at least £5,000*		✓
Request no more than £100,000		✓
Request funding for no more than 3 years		✓
Have fully explored other public sector sources (including main Rural Development Programme for England)		✓
Bring organisations and people together to co-operate in tackling problems or promoting new ideas		✓
Increase skills and potential within the community		✓
Add value or a new sustainable development dimension to an existing project		✓

*The only exceptions to this are the targeted small grants schemes.

We Cannot Fund: Continuation funding for existing activities or services; Statutory services including education; Repairs or maintenance work; Work to meet statutory requirements or Health and Safety legislation, DDA etc. unless part of a construction project; Sports facilities that are not directly linked to tourism; Art works or installations that are not part of a training project; General motor vehicles (specialist vehicles may be eligible).

Overleaf is a list of Programme Objectives and the activities within them which can be funded through this programme. Please note that the detailed information here acts simply as a general guide, as the European regulations regarding match funding and legitimate project activity are complex. Specific advice will be given on submission of a Project Outline (downloadable from our website www.leader4.org or contact the Programme staff on 01237 426423).

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Activity	Description	Typical Activity Examples of project activities that are eligible	Special Notes Projects are more likely to be funded if they demonstrate that they:	Programme Grant Allocation	Match Funding Target
Objective 1. To Raise and Support Growth Aspirations of Rural Micro Businesses					
1.1 To stimulate growth in micro businesses	Helping micro businesses to grow into small businesses through innovation, sustainability and using the environment as an economic driver. This will include a Business Growth small grants fund open to individual businesses.	Developing business networks / cooperatives Implementing and testing new equipment, ideas and technologies Joint marketing or product development Growth of social enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can demonstrate business growth Get businesses to work together Use the environment as an economic driver Address environmental sustainability issues 	£220k	50% maximum from L4TND LAG Match must include private sector
1.2 To improve ICT infrastructure and usage for rural businesses	Addressing barriers to business growth and development related to poor ICT infrastructure, understanding and utilisation.	Developing ICT infrastructure for wider benefit Developing skills and providing training. Implementing and testing new equipment, ideas and technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have strong business support Get businesses to work together Offer higher level / technical skills Distribute benefit around the entire Leader 4 area 	£200k	50% maximum from L4TND LAG Match must include private sector
1.3 To develop community owned or managed workspaces	Developing new spaces for business use/community enterprise linked to income generation for community organisations.	Primarily capital funding for new build, renovation or upgrading of community owned buildings for economic activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are low carbon projects Have strong evidence of need Will contribute to the economic sustainability of their organisation 	£300k	70% maximum from L4TND LAG
1.4 To increase workforce skills levels	Supporting innovative training, mentoring and access to services to fill the identified skills gaps in the business/voluntary sectors. Includes a small grants scheme for specialist skills.	New ways of reaching hard to reach groups and sectors. Increase higher level and technological skills. Improve access to the labour market Contribute to business growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet an identified skills gap Target a priority population group or business sector Address barriers to training Promote equal opportunities 	£190k	50% maximum from L4TND LAG Match must include private sector
Objective 2. To Improve Access to Services and Employment in Deprived Rural Communities					
2.1 To improve community owned facilities for local service delivery	Improving community owned or leased buildings to increase local delivery of services. This will be through a small grants fund for 10-15 schemes.	Primarily capital funding Developing / enhancing community facilities such as community centres, village halls, community shops etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer new services Improve access to services Will contribute to the economic sustainability of their organisation Use low carbon construction techniques 	£140k	50% maximum from L4TND LAG Match can be public or private
2.2 To pilot innovative approaches to rural service delivery	Taking services to remote rural areas and strengthening the delivery capacity of the voluntary and community sector. Providing affordable access to services	Developing local groups to fill the gaps in provision Using technology to bring services into communities New ways of tackling the poor transport infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet a demonstrable need Demonstrate joint working Encourage co-operation between communities to provide the necessary critical mass Be clearly innovative 	£230k	70% maximum from L4TND LAG Match can be public or private

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2.3 To reduce barriers to training and employment for deprived communities	Addressing barriers including childcare, skills, information, and confidence in disadvantaged areas and communities. Promoting self help through community initiatives.	Engaging volunteers from deprived communities Community self help and confidence building projects Mentoring and peer support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage hard to reach groups, including young people Demonstrate commitment to equal opportunities Promote social enterprise 	£200k	70% maximum from L4TND LAG Match can be public or private
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Objective 3. To Develop the Assets & Resources of the High Quality Environment as an Economic Driver

3.1 To develop sustainable physical activities and access to the coast and countryside	Improving and making use of the natural resources in the area to bring economic rewards. Investment in activities and access, particularly sporting opportunities, to increase tourist spend and healthy recreational use.	Improvements to paths, route-ways and land management. Local tourism activities to increase access and opportunities. Encouraging sustainable access to and use of sensitive environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link up communities, businesses and land managers Add value to environmental assets Utilise high quality, low carbon materials and methods Complement and add value to tourism sector 	£540k	50% maximum from L4TND LAG Match can be public or private
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3.2 To develop sustainable heritage/ cultural activities and products	Increasing the contribution of the heritage and culture of the area to diversifying the economic base, within the context of a high quality environment	Enhancing heritage buildings, assets and understanding. Realising the potential of the creative industries sector. Research and feasibility work on new cultural opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link up communities, businesses and land managers Add value to environmental assets Contribute to the tourism sector Prioritise sustainability 	£420k	50% maximum from L4TND LAG Match can be public or private
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3.3 To develop skills, assets and resources to create employment in remote rural areas	Realise the potential of our natural assets in terms of forestry and marine products, food and drink, waste management, environmental technologies etc through projects and skills training.	Support for food, drink, marine and forestry products from production to supply chain. New technologies in the rural environment Development and application of rural and heritage skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leave an improved environment as a legacy which benefits the area for years to come Use new ideas and technologies to minimise negative environmental impacts Add value to local products and services. 	£200k	50% maximum from L4TND LAG Match can be public or private
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Objective 4. To Improve the Environmental Performance of Communities and Businesses to Create a Low Carbon Economy

4.1a To increase sustainability of communities and businesses	Providing research, information, training and audits to businesses and communities to introduce greater sustainability through recycling, waste management, energy saving and behaviour change.	Demonstrating the business and community benefit of sustainable practices. Providing training and audits in sustainability issues and good practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve partners and members from all sectors of the community Distribute activity around the entire Leader 4 area Introduce new ideas and new technology Pilot innovative approaches 	£67k	100% maximum from L4TND LAG
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4.1b To invest in community renewables	Providing top up funding and feasibility or development funds for small scale <u>community owned</u> renewable energy systems.	Feasibility and development work or installation of efficient (£/ton of co2) small scale hydro, wood, wind and energy efficient systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use new ideas and the latest technologies Are low carbon Will share knowledge (not commercially confidential) Will deliver the greatest benefits and maximum innovation 	£350k	100% maximum from L4TND LAG
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Objective 5.To Build Capacity, Leadership and Cooperation for Sustainable Community Led Regeneration

<p>5.1 To increase joint working and cooperation among businesses and communities</p>	<p>Increasing joint working and cooperation between businesses and communities to benefit from the programme. Funding ring-fenced to provide a development worker and small grants fund to facilitate joint working and develop initial project ideas.</p>	<p>Groups of businesses and communities who need facilitation and funding to start joint working on an eligible Leader 4 proposal or idea. Helping to support and move forward, proposals identified through parish plans and town regeneration strategies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get businesses and/or communities to work together • Have an innovative project or proposal to work on. • Promote equal opportunities • Encourage a culture of co-operation 	<p>£70k</p>	<p>100% maximum from L4TND LAG</p>
<p>5.2 To provide skills and knowledge to engage in regeneration projects</p>	<p>Encouraging all members of the local community to get involved with the development of the area, providing appropriate training and opening up opportunities to take part in activities.</p>	<p>Training local people to enable them to get involved in regeneration activity Encouraging and supporting local leadership Providing volunteering opportunities in regeneration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target sectors of the community not yet involved in Leader 4. • Promote equal access and opportunities • Encourage co-operation across communities. 	<p>£24k</p>	<p>100% maximum from L4TND LAG</p>

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