



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural  
Development: Europe investing in rural areas.

# RDPE Growth Programme

## Rural Tourism Infrastructure Handbook



Deadline for Expression of interest: midnight 31 January 2018

# About the RDPE Growth Programme

The RDPE Growth Programme provides funding for projects in England which create jobs and growth in the rural economy.

Under the RDPE Growth Programme, there are grants for:

- rural tourism infrastructure
- food processing
- business development

The grants are funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), which is part of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF).

This handbook is about RDPE Growth Programme grants for rural tourism infrastructure. It explains what the grants are for, who is eligible and how to apply.

To find information about the other grants, search 'RDPE Growth Programme' on GOV.UK.



Planning a project that will grow your business, create jobs or bring more money into the rural economy?

You might be able to apply for a grant to help you fund it.

You can only apply for one RDPE grant for your project, and only in one LEP area.

RDPE includes RDPE Growth Programme, LEADER, Countryside Productivity, Farming Recovery Fund and Cumbrian Countryside Access Fund.

## **Gloucestershire Rural Tourism Priorities**

These grants are for capital investments that will help grow and develop tourism in rural areas. The aim is for visitors to spend more time and money in the rural parts of the LEP area.

Priority will be given to projects that:

- create new or develop existing attractions particularly:
  - outdoor activities
  - arts and crafts,
  - local history and heritage
  - local food and drink tourism
- extend the tourism season for both the application business and the wider destination particularly for the tourism sectors shown in the priority above
- create infrastructure to develop outdoor activities particularly walking and cycling for both the Forest of Dean and Cotswold areas
- create at least one new full time equivalent skilled job in the applicant business
- develop the film and TV tourism offer in both the Forest of Dean and Cotswold areas