



The Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020

The Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014 –2020 is part-funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and the European Union.

Derry and Strabane Rural Partnership was established in 2015 to deliver the LEADER elements (Priority 6) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme. LEADER is a European Community initiative for assisting rural communities in improving the quality of life and economic prosperity in their local area.

The Derry and Strabane Rural Partnership has been allocated a budget of £7.54m to deliver the following funding schemes:

- Rural Business Investment Scheme
- Rural Basic Services Scheme
- Rural Village Renewal Scheme
- Rural Cooperation Scheme

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Scheme: Rural Business Investment Scheme
Applicant: Ardstraw Quarries Ltd
Project: New Machinery
Grants: £176,000

Aim of project:

To invest in recycling machinery to increase segregated product range aimed at supporting business growth.

Summary of Project:

The project provided Ardstraw Quarries Ltd with the funding support to invest in state of the art machinery, including scalping and crushing machines as well as a CRF machine for manufacturing sand, and this has allowed the business to expand its product offering and create 9 new jobs.

This investment has enabled the business to improve on its existing production process by reducing the number of unsellable products, increasing sales and expanding its customer base.

Impact of Project:

Ardstraw Quarries Ltd has created nine new jobs and increased its product offering, with operations processing well in excess of 1 million tonnes of aggregate per annum.

“Thanks to the Rural Business Investment Scheme funding, we have invested in state of the art machinery that has transformed our business. This investment has allowed us to increase our capacity and up our sales by selling to new customers, as well as maintain supply of high-quality products to our existing network of customers.”

AIDAN HARLEY, DIRECTOR AT ARDSTRAW QUARRIES LTD

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