



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 Basic Services Scheme
Applicant: Learmount Community Development Group Ltd
Project: Dementia-Friendly Hub
Grant: £20,000

Aim of Project:

To provide a Dementia-Friendly Hub in Learmount Resource Centre in Park Village for people with dementia.

Summary of Project :

Learmount Resource Centre was refurbished so that people with dementia are able to make use of outreach services and socialise in their local village in a safe space, reducing rural isolation in the area.

The refurbishment included the replacement of kitchen cupboard doors with a transparent finish so that people could see inside. Doors and walls were painted in contrasting colours to make them easier to navigate. Signage was installed throughout the building. A small herb planting area was created outside for gardening activities.

The centre is also home to outreach services including GP services, a post office, citizens' advice and luncheon club, and the refurbishment means these services are now dementia friendly.

Impact of Project:

The funding has enabled Learmount Community Development Group to provide an essential service to their local community. Approximately 10 people with dementia, and their carers, are now attending the centre on a weekly basis.

“ It’s great to come in and see people around the table talking and socialising and being able to share their stories. It also allows people at the very early stages of dementia to retain their independence when using local services such as the post office and outreach clinic. ”

CAROLINE LYNCH, MANAGER OF LEARMOUNT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP LTD

For more information:

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