



## Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020

Derry and Strabane Rural Partnership is responsible for delivering LEADER funding throughout the Derry City and Strabane District Council area under the 2014 – 2020 NI Rural Development Programme (RDP).

### Rural Basic Services Scheme (Call 3 – Small Grants)

The Rural Basic Services Scheme is opening for its **third call** which will deliver capital funding to support innovative ways of delivering services in rural areas. **This call is for Small Grants only (£10,000 to £50,000)**. This could be funding for equipment or small-scale capital works such as refurbishment. Eligible applicants for the scheme include the community/voluntary sector, strategic public bodies, local council or as a partnership. Projects must:

- Be part of a cluster with at least two other partners/groups;
- Meet the overall priority of 'Health & Wellbeing'; and
- Include at least one absent or difficult to access service.

### Rural Broadband Scheme (Expression of Interest)

The Rural Broadband Scheme is opening for Expressions of Interest to identify potential interest in small-scale community Broadband pilot projects. Funding of up to £100,000 per project may be available for community-led solutions to broadband enable 'not spots' in rural areas where there is no broadband access. The scheme is NOT aimed at individuals – the solution must be for the broader community (e.g. residential and businesses). Eligible costs include infrastructure or equipment to install new or upgrade existing.

This Expression of Interest process is being progressed pending further details of the proposed Government Broadband funding of £150 million for Northern Ireland. It may not therefore progress if the £150m provides a solution for rural 'not spots' – as any areas that participate in a RDP pilot could be excluded from this larger pot of £150 million which may give higher speeds.

Eligible applicants for the scheme include the community/voluntary sector, local council or a partnership of community/council/private (where Council is applicant).

**For both schemes, to be eligible to make an application, all potential applicants MUST ATTEND one of the following mandatory pre application workshops AND complete an Expression of Interest form.**

Date / Time	Venue
<b>Thursday 21st June 2018</b> at 7.00pm	<b>Glenelly House, Main Street, Plumbridge</b>
<b>Friday 22nd June 2018</b> at 10.00am	<b>Strabane Council Offices, Derry Road, Strabane</b>
<b>Monday 25th June 2018</b> at 2.00pm	<b>St Columb's Park House, Limavady Road, Derry</b>
<b>Tuesday 26th June 2018</b> at 7.00pm	<b>Derg Valley Care, Parkview Road, Castlederg</b>

**PLEASE NOTE:** The person attending the workshop on behalf of their organisation must be an authorised signatory (i.e. authorised to sign a letter of offer if approved) or have delegated authority. Other members of the organisation can also attend but not in place of the authorised signatory.

To book a place at one of the workshops and receive a copy of the Expression of Interest form please email [rural.development@derrystrabane.com](mailto:rural.development@derrystrabane.com) or phone Derry City and Strabane District Council on 02871 253253 x 6917. Further information is also available at [www.derrystrabane.com/rural](http://www.derrystrabane.com/rural)

**Attendance at a workshop or submission of an Expression of Interest does not constitute an offer of funding. The application process will be competitive and not every application will be funded.**



Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**

[www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)



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

