



Grants and advice

Emma Powlett

A consortium of experienced independent consultants who specialise in supporting rural businesses



Change is good...


- Fall out of leaving the EU means that going to one single source for grant funding has changed...
- There is help and support out there – just need to find it...
- Looking at farm diversification grant opportunities – not the agri environmental kind–
 - although receiving ‘public funding for public goods’ will support tourism opportunities:
 - to beautify the countryside,
 - create public access
 - support local food producers to add value.



The Farm Resilience Programme

- The [Future Farming Resilience Fund](#) provides **FREE** business support to farmers and land managers in the first few years of adapting to agricultural transition. If you currently receive direct payments, you can receive this support. It is designed to help you make the right business choices for the future.

- [Advisers offer:](#)
 - one-to-one consultations
 - farm visits
 - reports with recommendations
 - access to workshops, webinars and tours
 - networking opportunities so you can get help from other farmers.



The Forestry Commission Woodland Business Advisors

- A free service provided by the Forestry Commission for business advisors to provide a review of your holding.
- They will identify woodland creation and management opportunities on your land.
- Opportunities may include reviewing areas of under managed woodland and sale of thinned wood and carbon credits.
- Contact your local FC office ([Santon Downham](#))



Defra's Farming Investment Fund

- ▢ “Provides grants for eligible beneficiaries to invest in their businesses to improve productivity, profitability, and enhance environmental sustainability.”
- ▢ To incentivise and support the purchase of equipment, technology and infrastructure to support environmentally sustainable farming and land management.
- ▢ 2 strands: higher and lower value investments:
 - Farming Equipment and Technology Fund
 - Farming Transformation Fund
 - **Water management:** reservoirs; irrigation systems; improvement of water application systems
 - **Improving farming productivity:** robotics
 - **Adding value:** potatoes to chips; on farm butchery and vines to wines
- Grant rate at 40%
- Min /max thresholds
- Short timeline to make an initial expression of interest/stage 1 application.
- ▢ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/farming-investment-fund>

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Farming Innovation Programme

- Part of Defra's investment in innovation, research and development.
- Defra is partnering with UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) to [fund projects](#) that benefit farmers, growers and foresters in England.
- All funding will be awarded through competitions. This means applications for each competition will be judged, and only the successful ones will be funded.
- The programme's aims are to:
 - help farmers, growers and foresters increase productivity, sustainability and resilience.
 - reduce the environmental impact of agriculture and horticulture.
 - apply agricultural research to provide real benefits for farmers, growers and foresters.
 - use science to develop solutions for the practical challenges in agriculture and horticulture.
- To get funding, you must work in collaboration with a team.
- Grant varies from research starters: £28k to feasibility studies: £200-500k to working on developing a new product: £3-5 million.

Rural England Prosperity Fund

- ▮ Complementary to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which is owned by Dept of Levelling Up, Communities and Housing.
- ▮ **REPF** will be run by Local Authorities between April 2023 and March 2025
- ▮ Funds have been allocated to Local Authorities who will each run their own scheme.
- ▮ Aims to help to improve productivity and strengthen the rural economy and rural communities.
- ▮ Two key priorities:
 - Supporting Local Business
 - Community and Place
- ▮ Capital grants only to fund:
 - Support new and existing **rural businesses** to develop new products and facilities that will be of wider benefit to the local economy. This includes farm businesses looking to diversify income streams.
 - Support new and improved **community infrastructure**, providing essential community services and assets for local people and businesses to benefit the local economy.



REPF Example Projects

Supporting rural businesses

- Farm diversification - Development of a new enterprise- glamping site, adventure sports, pets, leisure and recreation activities
- Developing buildings – holiday lets, weddings, residential, workshops, office space
- Adding value to farm produce – farm shop, direct/ online selling or farmers' markets

Supporting rural communities

Modernizing a cricket club/football club facilities and pavilion: outputs to include increased use and income raised for the club and job creation (bar staff etc).

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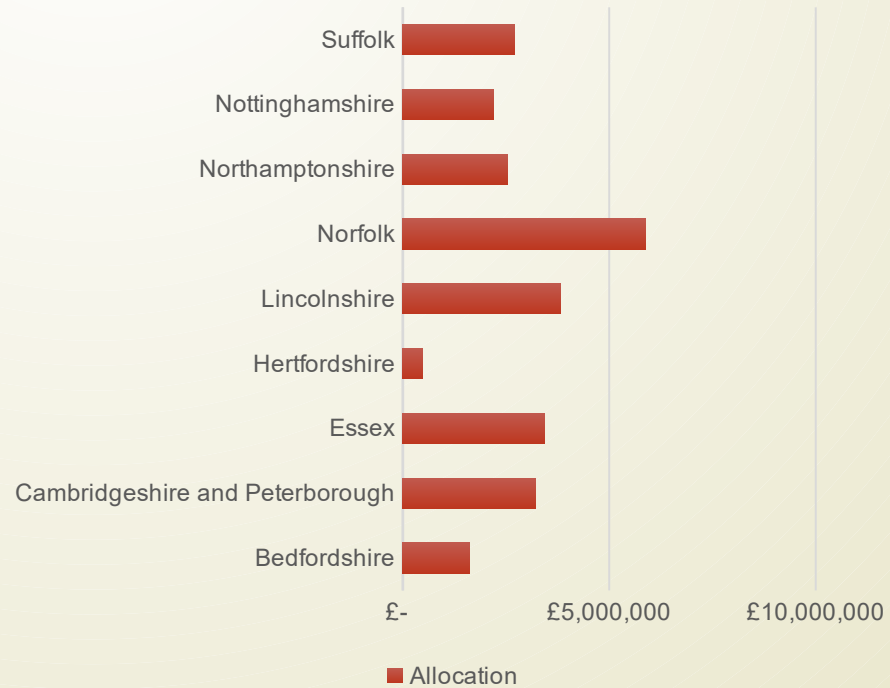
REPF Allocations for CLA East Region

- In total £110 million across England
- In CLA East region: £ 25.8 million
- Distributed across 31 Local (unitary) authorities.
- Allocations determined on rurality: 89% of rural population are in the eligible authorities.

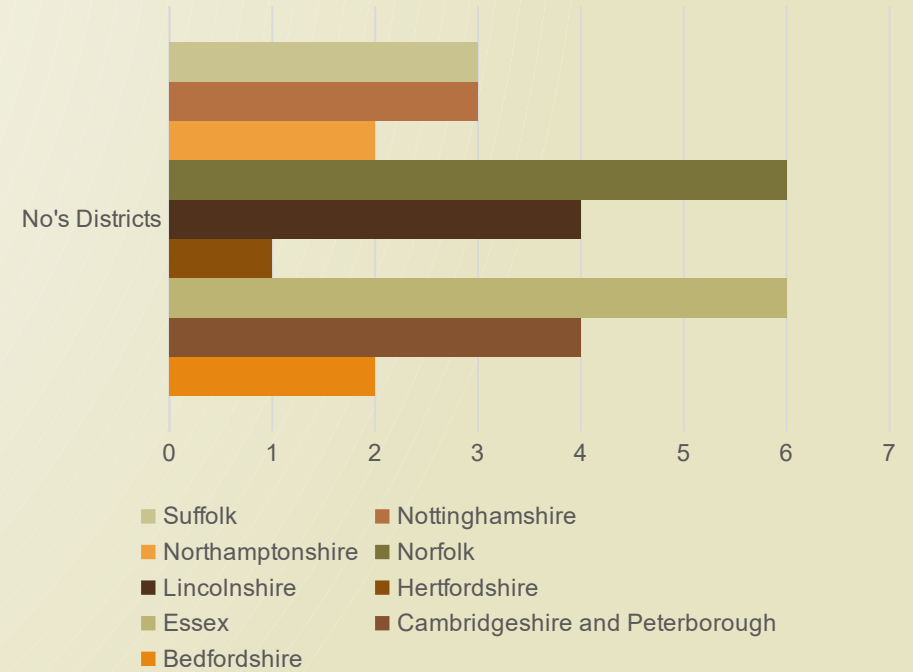
County	Allocation	%	No's Districts
Bedfordshire	£ 1,614,206	6	2
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	£ 3,215,148	12	4
Essex	£ 3,431,344	13	6
Hertfordshire	£ 472,841	2	1
Lincolnshire	£ 3,821,410	15	4
Norfolk	£ 5,881,443	23	6
Northamptonshire	£ 2,529,765	10	2
Nottinghamshire	£ 2,201,861	9	3
Suffolk	£ 2,705,240	10	3
Total	£ 25,873,258	100	31

REPF Allocations in the East

CLA East Region REPF Allocation



CLA East Region Local Authority beneficiaries



REPF Allocation to Local Authorities: £'s

Local Authority/Unitary Authority	Allocation
Bedford	£ 552,352
Central Bedfordshire	£ 1,061,854
Bedfordshire	£ 1,614,206
East Cambridgeshire	£ 652,511
Fenland	£ 436,714
Huntingdonshire	£ 957,788
South Cambridgeshire	£ 1,168,135
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	£ 3,215,148
Braintree	£ 589,191
Chelmsford	£ 400,000
Colchester	£ 532,195
Tendring	£ 659,335
Uttlesford	£ 813,487
Epping Forest	£ 437,136
Essex	£ 3,431,344
East Hertfordshire	£ 472,841
Hertfordshire	£ 472,841
North Lincolnshire	£ 789,520
East Lindsey	£ 1,791,546
South Kesteven	£ 540,460
South Holland	£ 699,884
Lincolnshire	£ 3,821,410

Local Authority/Unitary Authority	Allocation
Breckland	£ 1,041,797
Broadland	£ 569,552
Great Yarmouth	£ 400,000
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	£ 1,496,455
North Norfolk	£ 1,457,851
South Norfolk	£ 915,788
Norfolk	£ 5,881,443
North Northamptonshire	£ 1,161,812
West Northamptonshire	£ 1,367,953
Northamptonshire	£ 2,529,765
Bassetlaw District Council.	£ 714,251
Newark and Sherwood District Council.	£ 891,417
Rushcliffe Borough Council.	£ 596,193
Nottinghamshire	£ 2,201,861
East Suffolk	£ 1,129,881
West Suffolk	£ 753,701
Mid Suffolk	£ 821,658
Suffolk	£ 2,705,240
TOTAL ALLOCATION	£ 25,873,258



Farming in Protected Landscapes (FIPL)

- ▢ Funding available to support farmers and land managers to support and improve Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), National Parks and the Broads.
- ▢ The programme will fund projects that:
 - support nature recovery
 - mitigate the impacts of climate change
 - provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and its cultural heritage
 - protect or improve the quality and character of the landscape or place.
- ▢ FIPL has been developed by Defra with the support of AONBs and National Park staff from across England.
- ▢ The programme will run until March 2025.
- ▢ It will pay for projects that provide value for money and result in at least one climate, nature, people or place outcome.
- ▢ The grant rates vary depending on if you achieve commercial gain or not.



Examples of successful FIPL projects

Broads Authority and Norfolk Coast AONB

- ▮ Refurbishment of reed harvesting machinery
- ▮ Farm education & enhancing shrub habitat.
- ▮ Nest boxes and pedestrian bridge
- ▮ Permissive Path Improvements Holkham

Dedham Vale AONB and Suffolk Coasts and Heaths

- ▮ Replacing stiles with gates on public footpaths to promote easier access.
- ▮ Creating and promoting a series of farm walks across a cluster of farms, providing new access opportunities, links to the rights of way network and interpretation of farming and of the natural and historic features on the land
- ▮ Parking improvements at a key site provide safe access to popular walking routes and reduces congestion for visitors and for local residents.

Heritage Lottery Fund

HLF have launched a [10-year strategy](#) that has set out four investment principles:

- Saving heritage
- Protecting the environment
- Inclusion, access and participation
- Organizational sustainability.

The new funding programmes will range from small grants to multi-million-pound projects.

Eligibility

□ Applications are accepted from:

- not-for-profit organisations
- partnerships led by not-for-profit organisations.

□ Examples of the types of eligible organisation that can be funded:

- charities, trusts and charitable incorporated organisations.
- community and voluntary groups
- community/parish councils
- community interest companies



HLF Current Programmes Aims

- Support the sector in its continued recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and through the cost-of-living crisis, HLF are prioritising heritage projects that:
 - promote inclusion and involve a wider range of people (a mandatory outcome)
 - boost the local economy.
 - encourage skills development and job creation.
 - support wellbeing
 - create better places to live, work and visit.
 - improve the resilience of organisations working in heritage.
- **Examples:**
 - natural and designed landscapes such as parks and gardens.
 - community archaeology
 - historic buildings, monuments and environments



Remember when making a grant application...

- Read the guidance notes.
- Provide all the evidence, business plan, feasibility studies, market research, full costings and quotes – saves time and irritating the appraiser.
- The funding body wants to achieve its priorities – your project will help this happen.
- Work with them – not against them
- Be prepared – be innovative – think outside the box.
- Ask for help and guidance.
- Do it and commit!



Any Questions ?

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