

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

To: Leisure & Development Committee

Rural Development Programme Strategy Update

10th November 2015

For Information

Report to Committee

Linkage to Interim Corporate Plan	
Strategic Themes	Transition and Transformation Prosperity Health & Wellbeing Cohesive Community
Lead Officer	Paul Beattie – Head of Prosperity and Place Suzanne Irwin – RDP Manager
Cost: (If applicable)	N/A

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the development of the Rural Development Programme Strategy.

Background

RDP Local Action Group members have now met to develop the targets and funding amounts which will be allocated across themes in Causeway Coast and Glens. These will form the basis of the bid which will be submitted to the Department for Agriculture and Rural Development before year-end.

Notwithstanding some further items for clarification that will be returned to the Department for consideration, the following targets and funding levels will be contained within the bid.

Allocations and timelines have also been included, however, Members should note that the Board has the option of reviewing the allocation per scheme and the number of calls per scheme throughout the Programme, depending on need.

The final bid will be in place before year-end. Members are encouraged to feed back any comments or further thoughts to the Rural Development Programme manager within the next few weeks.

Rural Business Investment Scheme

Name of Indicator	Value / Target	Causeway Coast and Glens Target
Number of Jobs Created (FTE)	700	91
Number of businesses supported	300	39
Number of people completing bespoke training (necessary/directly linked to the development supported)	30	4
Number of Beneficiaries/People receiving capital grant for their business	500	65
Number of businesses supported to introduce/expand E-business	20	3
Number of businesses who have started to export as result of grant	20	3
Does the LAG Board have any other options that they wish to consider?	No additional options were considered	
<p>Retain all maximum amounts as per DARD guidelines. No revision to minimum amounts as per DARD guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New micro business Capital Grant - £30,000 • Existing micro enterprise Capital Grant - £50,000 • Existing Small Enterprise Capital Grant - £90,000 • Technical support and bespoke training - £5,000 • Marketing support web based - £10,000 • Marketing support non web based - £5,000 		

Village Renewal Scheme

Name of Indicator	Value / Target	LAG Target
Number of people benefiting from village renewal projects	5,000	650
Number of Villages supported to draw up or enhance village development plans	100	13
Number of projects supported for investments in village development	50	7
Number of derelict/vacant properties brought back into use	50	7

Actions for support	Support for village plans, technical assistance and bespoke training and capital support
Grant levels	Capital Grant - £150,000 Maximum Grant for village plans: New: £4,000 Updating: £2,000 (if older than 3 years)

Basic Services Scheme

Name of Indicator	Target	LAG Target
Number of people benefiting from improved services / infrastructure	10,000	1,300
Number of participants in bespoke training	200	0
Number of projects supported for investments in local basic services for the rural population	100	13
Actions for support	Fund a variety of capital and technical support projects	
Grant levels	Capital Grant - £180,000	
	Technical Support - £5,000	

Broadband Scheme

Rural Broadband Scheme		
Name of Indicator	Value / Target	LAG Target
Number of operations for investments in broadband infrastructure and access to broadband, including e-government services	5	1
Number of people benefiting from new or improved IT infrastructures (e.g. broadband internet)	1,200	10
Grant available (Maximum grant up to £100,000 at 75%)	Capital Grant £ To be reviewed following outcome of options provided by Council piece of work	

Prioritisation of Spend and Timelines (£7.488m for projects)

Scheme	Agreed Spend	
Rural Business Investment Scheme	£3,519,360	47%
Village Renewal Scheme	£1,000,000	13.35%
Basic Services Scheme	£2,246,400	30%
Broadband Scheme	£200,000	2.65%
Co-operation Scheme	£524,160	7%

Scheme	No of Calls	When?
Rural Business Investment Scheme	4	1 per year – 2016-2019
Village Renewal Scheme	2 1 call for plans 1 call for applications	2016-17 (plans) 2017-18
Basic Services Scheme	4	1 per year – 2016-19
Broadband Scheme	1	2017-18

Timelines for Application Calls

2016-17

Scheme	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
RBIS	FW	Call 1 Open	Assessment Phase*								FW	Call 2 Open
Village						FW	Call 1 Open	Assessment Phase*				
Services						FW	Call 1 Open	Assessment Phase*				
Broadband												

2017-18

Scheme	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
RBIS	Assessment Phase*											
Village										FW	Call 2 Open	Assess*
Services					FW	Call 2 Open	Assessment Phase*					
Broadband	FW	Call 1 Open	Assessment Phase*									

2018-19

Scheme	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
RBIS	FW	Call 3 Open	Assessment Phase*							FW	Call 4 Open	Assess
Village	Assessment Phase*											
Services		FW	Call 3 Open	Assessment Phase*							FW	Call 4 Open
Broadband												

2019-20

Scheme	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
RBIS	Assessment Phase*											
Village												
Services	Assessment Phase*											
Broadband												

FW = Funding Workshops

*This phase may take longer or be shorter, depending on the number of applications and resources available.