

Applying for funding – in one page

Some ground rules

- To receive funding organisations need to deliver some part of the Plain Action's objectives, and contribute to its target outputs and outcomes. *See indicative activities sheets.*
- The proposed project / activity has to be technically eligible for funding under the Rural Development Programme England regulations.
- The proposed project / activity has to benefit those living/working in the Programme area.
- Organisations need to demonstrate they can deliver and that they can cope with a variety of reporting and monitoring requirements.
- Grant rates: between 50% and 75% (more in exceptional cases) of total costs; both capital and revenue funding are available.

The afternoon sessions will explain in outline what is required and help organisations to decide if they wish to take part. The full application process and procedures will be available by 30th April, and will include details of the appraisal process.

Small grants: £500 to £10,000

- It is intended to offer three small grant schemes, addressing each of the objectives.
- Small grants will be between £500 and £10,000, with the majority between £500 and £2,500.
- Grants associated with business and employment, and skills and training, will be for individuals and organisations; community grants for organisations only.
- There will be a straightforward fast track system for small grant applications.
- Full support and advice will be provided for small grant applicants.
- There may be three different organisations managing small grants, specialising in the skills and training, business and employment, and community fields.

Main grants: £10,001 to £100,000+

- Applications will be handled by the Programme Manager to whom all enquiries should be directed.
- After initial discussion completion of a 3 page 'Expression of Interest' is required.
- If successful, the next step will be completion of a comprehensive application form; applications for over £40,000 will require a separate stand alone project proposal / business plan.
- Support from the Programme Manager or colleagues in developing proposals will be available throughout.

Commissioned work

Where appropriate applications to deliver parts of the Programme are not forthcoming Plain Action may commission work. Under this process Plain Action will design the projects / activities it requires, and then invite tenders for the work under its procurement procedures; the procedures allow for the possibility of there being a limited number or only one potential supplier.