

Isle of Wight RDPE – LEADER

“Making a difference”

David Langford

Country Land and Business Association

&

Graham Biss

Natural Enterprise



What is LEADER?

- A “bottom up” delivery mechanism
- Community led approach to delivery of RDPE funding in rural areas
- In England targeted on rural areas
- Implementation by a Local Action Group and in accordance with the Local Development Strategy





IW Local Action Group

- Members:
 - Independent Chair (rural business)
 - NFU
 - CLA
 - IW Rural Community Council
 - IW Chamber of Commerce
 - IW Council (Accountable Body)
 - Natural Enterprise
 - AONB
- Observers:
 - English Heritage
 - Natural England
 - SEEDA
 - Forestry Commission

Our Vision

To enhance the vitality of the Island's rural community by supporting agriculture, rural businesses and local people to be more sustainable both economically and environmentally





Island Objectives

- Increasing the economic value of farming and land management
- Supporting the wider rural economy
- Increasing the vitality of the rural settlements
- Promoting the Island's rural heritage



Progress to date

(30th September 2010)

	Isle of Wight
Projects approved	65
Value of contracts awarded	£1,009,946
Total investment to date	£1.9M and increasing



Progress to date

(30th September 2010)

	Isle of Wight
Jobs created or safeguarded:	37
Businesses directly supported	145
New farming and community ventures	25



Projects supported to date

A wide range of projects to include:

- Arable Farm – Asparagus grader
- Island Farmers Market – Promotion and development
- Mixed Beef/Sheep Farm - Farm shop
- Food and Craft Association – Marquee and trailer
- Forestry Business – range of additional equipment
- Rural Business - Recycling farm waste
- Grain Co-operative – Office and laboratory
- Dairy Farm - Café/Educational centre
- Community Group – Children's play area

Successful Projects

Agriculture – Roller flour mill

LEADER priority: *Adding value to primary agricultural products*

- Integrated with other farming operations
- Meeting market demand
- Expansion of product range
- Outlet for Island produce
- Support for other island businesses



Successful Projects

Forestry – Biomass store and equipment

LEADER Priority - *adding value to woodlands*

- Natural extension to existing operations
- Taking low value wood and adding value
- Meet growing market demand
- Improved quality of woodchips
- Helped to stimulate the marketplace
- Collaborative approach





LEADER Projects

Rural Business – Café and education centre

LEADER Priority - *Farm Diversification*

- Created rural employment
- Supporting rural education
- Successfully converted a semi-redundant farm building
- Created 10.7 FTE jobs
- Supported an existing farm shop



LEADER Projects

Community – Sustainable community building energy project

LEADER Priority – Support for wider local community

- Key community sport and health facility
- Reduce carbon emissions by 20 tonnes per annum
- Reduce energy costs by £6,000 per annum
- Educating the community in the use of sustainable resources
- Combination of funding sources



Successful Projects

Rural Business – Design and production of wooden products

LEADER Priority – *Support for rural businesses*

- Start up business
- Use of off cuts and waste wood
- Few wooden products available locally
- Improve the range and quality of products
- Collaboration with other businesses



Redhill Farm Designs

- Design and manufacturer of bespoke wooden signs and chopping boards on the Isle of Wight using local wood.
- The business uses wood which is, in the main, off cuts and scraps from a small timber yard which along with a tree carver form a complementary business group.
- Started - Summer 2009
- Leader grant - Spring 2010

Garlic Chopping Board



In lasting memory of
the thirty-six passengers
and crew who died
in the loss of flying boat
CS-THB "Porto Santo" on
9th November 1958





STUDIO

½ mile →

OPEN



What will success look like?

- Increased business confidence of farmers, foresters & growers
- Increased rural GVA
- Increased engagement of rural communities
- Increased appreciation of the Island's rural heritage
- Enhanced environmental practice
- New ideas in operation



In real terms

LEADER aims to:

- Create and sustain more than 100 jobs
- Support over 60 business to grow
- Support more than 50 new businesses, social enterprise or community ventures
- Assist 45 businesses or organisations to reduce their consumption of energy, water or other finite resources
- Make an impact on the lives of more than 27,500 people, by helping to improve rural services
- An overall investment in excess £6M

Isle of Wight RDPE – LEADER

“Making a difference”

David Langford

Country Land and Business Association

&

Graham Biss

Natural Enterprise

