

Local Area Agreement 2008-2011

20 July 2010

Priority	A Growing Economy
Outcome	Increase the productivity of, and improve conditions for farming and food sector (LAA25).
Lead Contact:	Heather Hillman
RAG Status:	Amber
Review:	Quarter 1 Programme review 2010-11

Recommendations

Delivery Board Recommendations :

Note the next steps for using the soils vulnerability map is now established.

Note that it is imperative to spend as much RDPE funding as possible before March 2011 (within the guidelines).

Delivery Board are asked to :

Direct parties interested in the state of Devon's soil to the LAA25 project and/or to the Environment Agency.

Summary Statement

Quarter 1 Summary Statement:

Activity 1 – RDPE Project Development Worker – This activity is still going well and has assisted a total of 20 applicants to get funding through the RDPE to date. The officer is assisting the RDA to simplify the process and improve the business plan template for applicants. This activity will shortly be the subject of a further bid to the SWRDA for funding to continue the post until 2013, although funding for RDPE post March 2011 is now in doubt due to government cuts to DEFRA and the demise of the SWRDA by March 2012. The situation will be clearer following the comprehensive spending review in the autumn of 2010.

Activity 2 – The Environment Agency – Implementing the Water Framework Directive (getting waterbodies to good ecological status) which has started across Devon includes making use of the soils vulnerability map produced as a result of the LAA25 programme.

Activity 3 – The Agri-Food Board – The RDPE development worker admin support will be arranging the meetings in future, however we have held a meeting to discuss what else the group should do other than act as the RDPE PDS advisory group, and will be producing a paper to take back to the next meeting on 6 September 2010.

Key to Performance Status:

Status	No Data	Milestone Missed	Red	Amber	Green	Completed
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Projects

Land Based Industries - LAGS in Devon / Joined up delivery across all axes, DR & SDF (DES73) Green

Date	Milestone/Outputs Expected	Achieved/Review
14/06/2010	Further 4 projects approved bringing the total to 24.	Exceeded. v 20 Applications approved - approx 1.6 million v 13 applications in appraisal v 5 applications discontinued v 1 application not approved
31/03/2011	Project End	
31/03/2011		

Soil mapping to identify vulnerability to runoff (LAA-GE25) Completed

Date	Milestone/Outputs Expected	Achieved/Review
14/04/2010	4 workshops arranged to communicate map and mitigation advice to farmers in vulnerable areas	Missed. One presentation given as part of a South West Observatory seminar on land and food during December 2009 to agencies.
15/04/2010	Increased awareness of soil risk in Devon for agencies and policy makers, planners etc	Achieved. Soils vulnerability map promoted at SW Observatory seminar in December and is available on SW Observatory website
20/07/2010	4 workshops arranged to communicate map and mitigation advice to farmers in vulnerable areas	Workshops held between Natural England and Environment Agency on next steps - these were not in the end the actual workshops for farmers and landowners. See arising notes.

Soil mapping to identify vulnerability to runoff (LAA-GE25)		Completed
Date	Milestone/Outputs Expected	Achieved/Review
20/07/2010	Next steps agreed and documented with LAA25 team	<p>The next steps are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to focus effort to help landowners tackle sources of pollution that cause waterbodies to fail to reach Good Ecological Status (including using soils vulnerability map). This forms part of work over next 5 years as part of implementing actions within the Water Framework Directive priority waterbodies across Devon. More information from the Environment Agency. - to link WFD work with Catchment Sensitive Farming activity (e.g. advice workshops for landowners) which is focused in Devon currently on the Rivers Axe & Otter in Devon. The Environment Agency is working with Natural England and Defra nationally to develop the next phase of CSF, with a strong focus on WFD priority areas and other "downstream" priority areas, such as bathing waters.
31/03/2011	Project End	

Key to Performance Status:

Performance Indicators: No Data Well Below Target Below Target On Target Above Target Well Above Target

Key to change on same period in previous year:

↑ Improved Performance ↓ Worse Performance ↔ Unchanged

Key to +/- Column:

+ Higher figures are better - Lower figures are better OFF Direction cannot be determined.

Performance Indicators								
Code	Title	+/-	Instance	Annual Target	Status	Improvement	Actual to Date	Officer Notes
LAA25	Increase productivity of land based sector & improve conditions for farming & food sector	+	FY 2008-09	£16.50	Data not due	n/a	n/a	(2008 - 2009) Data for 2008 will not be available the end of 2010 (LG)
		+	FY 2009-10	£16.92	Data not due	n/a	n/a	(2009 - 2010) Data not due until mid 2011 (LG)
		+	FY 2010-11	£17.14	Data not due	n/a	n/a	(2010 - 2011) Data not due until mid 2012 (LG)

Key to Performance Status:

Risks: Review overdue (0+) Very high (20+) High (12+) Medium (8+) Low (1+)

Risks						
Code	Title	Review Date	Risk Impact	Risk Likelihood	Status	Notes
LAA 25 Risk3	High soil erosion could have serious impacts on flooding and agricultural productivity	15/04/2010	3 - Moderate	4 - Probable	High (12)	Establish direct involvement in LAA25 by the Environment Agency soils scientist/agricultural lead in SW. (Paul Sadler to action).
LAA25 Risk1	RDPE worker unsuccessful in securing project funding	14/06/2010	4 - Major	2 - Possible	Medium (8)	Retain the skilled development worker we have with a private sector background . Ensure that DCC supports the worker to secure continuation funding from RDA until 2013.
LAA25 Risk2	Emergency budget may lead to DEFRA match funding shortage	14/06/2010	5 - Catastrophic	4 - Probable	Very high (20)	