

Deadline for return – 15 October 2009 (Quarter 2 Performance Report)

Local Area Agreement 2008-2011

LAA Priority: Increase the productivity of the land based sector in Devon and improve conditions for farming and food sector businesses (LAA25)

Lead Contact: Leanne Crawford

RAG Status: Green

RED = fundamental blockage to progress with milestones and/or achievement of target
AMBER = positive movement but with risks to achievement of milestones and/or target (so cannot say with confidence that priority would be achieved)
GREEN = on track to achieve target and Milestones

Delivery Board Recommendations *(Please list any decisions/actions required on the part of the Delivery Board)*

Delivery Board are asked to:

Summary Statement:

Activity 1 – Briefing workshop was held for farm advisors in December 2008, to inform and raise awareness of the funds available through RDPE. A project development worker was employed in December 2008 and started in post February 2009. The project worker has produced a first year delivery plan and is currently working on a number of applications. 12 Applications have now been submitted to the RDA. There have been a series of seminars organised by the project worker to run during October/November 2009 to promote and explain the scheme to farmers.

Activity 2 – The Environment Agency has produced the base map of soils vulnerability to runoff in Devon and are now working towards the development of map layers providing further information on soil management. Officers are currently identifying organisations to help feed in to this work and to establish suitable ways to get this information out to landowners. In kind support has continued through staff time.

Activity 3 – The Agri-Food Board has met 6 times and has finalised the Terms of Reference for its structure and development. A Chair was elected in July. As yet no finances have been required and other organisations have hosted meetings. The Devon Rural Network will be contributing finance to refresh the Farming Lobby Pack and a consultant has been commissioned to complete this work. The group have also responded to 2 Defra consultations in June 2009, and one Natural England consultation October 2009. A working group to address the impact of BTb on farmers is being established. The Board have taken on the role as steering group for the RDPE project worker.

****Please update the data for quarter 2****

Performance Indicators – National and Local

Code	Title	+/- (see 1 below)	Year	Annual Target	Status (see 2 below)	Improvement (see 3 below)	Actual to Date	Officer Notes
LAA 25	Agriculture and forestry – gross value added		2006			↔ baseline 107.9		2009 figures not available. These are National Figures
			2007	Inflation rate	Below target	↓ 103.3	-4.4% (from previous year)	This is extremely

			2008	Inflation rate	Below target	↑ 103.3	+0.1%	difficult to measure accurately due to fluctuations in input costs, fluctuations in market prices and changes in the exchange rate
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Key to symbols (insert as appropriate):

1. + equals higher figures are better and – equals lower figures are better
2. **No Data/Well Below Target/Below Target/On Target/Above Target/Well Above Target**
3. Improved Performance ↑ Worse Performance ↓ Unchanged ↔

Key Milestones (Last Quarter – Quarter 2 09/10, ends 30 September 09)

	Description	Date	Outputs expected	Achieved/missed
1.	No of projects in Devon using PDS to secure RPDE funding	30.09.09	10 projects achieve funding	12 projects have been submitted to the RDA for processing but are still in the appraisal stage.
2.	Organise workshops for launch of soils map to stakeholders and farmers	30.09.09	4 workshops arranged to communicate map and mitigation advice to farmers in vulnerable areas	Missed. Awaiting further details
3.	Development of information 'layers' for target audiences	30.09.09	4 'layers' developed to highlight issues that may increase soil loss risk or impacts of soil loss	Missed, although work has been ongoing. Awaiting details.
4.	Identification of issues for lobbying role	29.09.09	Farming Lobbying Pack refreshed and 1 consultation response submitted to the appropriate agency	Lobbying pack is being rewritten by consultant and is in the draft stage. 3 consultation shave been submitted – 2 to Defra and 1 to Natural England.

Key Milestones (This Quarter – Quarter 3 09/10, ends 31 December 09)

	Description	Date	Outputs expected
1.	No of projects in Devon using PDS to secure RDPE funding	31.12.2009	12 projects in appraisal to reach decision (this will be dependant on the

			RDA), and 10 further projects to achieve funding.
2.	Organise workshops for launch of soils map to stakeholders and farmers	31.12.09	4 workshops arranged to communicate map and mitigation advice to farmers in vulnerable areas
3.	Development of information 'layers' for target audiences	31.12.09	4 'layers' developed to highlight issues that may increase soil loss risk or impacts of soil loss
4.	Completion of refreshed lobby pack	31.12.2009	Lobby pack distributed to all farmers through Farming and Food Board and associated networks.

Key Risks (Please update the following with reference to scoring guidelines below**)**

Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Score	Mitigation
1. RDPE development worker unsuccessful in securing funding for projects	4 Reduced funding income for Devon and loss of development capital for farmers	2	8	Continue to work closely with farmers and brokerage services to ensure maximum viability of applications for funding. Work with RDA to ensure more rapid turn around of appraisals.
2. Soils map highlights several high risk areas for Devon and could be used to target landowners	4 High soil erosion could have serious impacts on flooding and agricultural productivity	3	12	Use of map for mitigation and advise to be reiterated and purpose of map to be clearly stated to partners and users
3. Lobby pack underutilised and not used by farmers	3 The lobby pack will provide and evidence base for farmer lobbying	3	9	Lobby pack to be promoted through all available networks

Spatial Implications

District	Impact (insert √ or x or unknown)	Disaggregated Data (√ or x)	Examples of Local Delivery Outcomes
Exeter			
East Devon			
Mid Devon			
North Devon			
Torridge			
West Devon			
South Hams			
Teignbridge			

***Risks – Scoring Guidelines:**

Likelihood of risk:	Impact of risk:	Total risk score (likelihood x impact)
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1 – Very low 2 – Low 3 – Medium 4 – High 5 – Very high	1 – Insignificant 2 – Minor 3 – Moderate 4 – Serious 5 – Very serious	1 – 6 Low 8 – 12 Medium 14 – 20 High Over 20 Very high
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