

**Deadline for return – 21 January 2010 (Quarter 3 Performance Report)  
(30<sup>th</sup> Sept – 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2009)**

**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 (delete as appropriate)

<p><b>RED</b> = fundamental blockage to progress with milestones and/or achievement of target <b>AMBER</b> = positive movement but with risks to achievement of milestones and/or target (so cannot say with confidence that priority would be achieved) <b>GREEN</b> = on track to achieve target and Milestones</p>
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**Delivery Board Recommendations** *(Please list any decisions/actions required on the part of the Delivery Board)*

**Delivery Board are asked to:** Please note that the local target has been revised to use the Devon CC GVA/FTE worker (£th) using the RDA priority sector data for “food and drink”. This replaces the previous targets which looked at pure agricultural GVA, which is too volatile to use as a reliable indicator.

The Board as also asked to note that this Outcome, including the development of the Devon Farming and Food Board, is currently being coordinated by the Devon Rural Network (DRN). Current funding for DRN ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 and alternative arrangements for this outcome may need to be sort after this date.

Please note that under RDPE, the length of time projects are in the appraisal stage with the RDA has been longer than anticipated, however this target has still been met despite this.

**Summary Statement:**

*No more than 350 words summarising RAG status – performance overall against delivery plan, performance against National and Local indicators and detail of action taken to address underperformance (if relevant)*

Activity 1 – RDPE Project Development Worker – organised and held 5 seminars across Devon during October and November to promote the RDPE scheme to farmers and land agents, and to provide further information about the funding available under each scheme. Each seminar was well attended (at least 40 people in each), and the Regional Enterprise Gateway saw an increase in enquiries as a direct result. There are over 60 projects on the Development Workers list at various stages of development and targets will be met. One issue has been highlighted around the length of time projects are in appraisal for approval at the RDA.

Activity 2 – The Environment Agency has produced the base map of soils vulnerability to runoff in Devon and have started to develop 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. Information gather so far was presented at a South West Observatory seminar and information has been promoted through other meetings.

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 3\*\***

**Performance Indicators – National and Local**

Code	Title	+/- (see 1 below)	Year	Annual Target	Status (see 2 below)	Improve ment (see 3 below)	Actual to Date	Officer Notes
LAA 25	Devon CC GVA/FTE worker (£th)  Food and Drink RDA priority sector		2005	£16.2 (th)				This is the new baseline figure
			2008/9	£0.30 th above baseline	No Data			Local target has been revised. Data for 2008 will not be available until mid-2010
			2009/10	£0.72 th above baseline	No Data			Local target has been revised
			2010/11	£0.94 th above baseline	No data			Local target has been revised

**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 3 09/10, ends 31 December 09)**

	Description	Date	Outputs expected	Achieved/missed
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.	Achieved – 12 projects in appraisal, 9 projects approved for 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	Missed.  One presentation given as part of a South West Observatory seminar on land and food during December 2009 to agencies.
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	Achieved end November

4.	Completion of refreshed lobby pack	31.12.2009	Lobby pack distributed to all farmers through Farming and Food Board and associated networks.	Achieved
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**Key Milestones (This Quarter – Quarter 4 09/10, ends 31 March 2010)**

	Description	Date	Outputs expected
1.	East Devon land management work progressing between Environment Agency and other partners including DCC and East Devon DC	31.03.2010	Help for farmers reduce the risk of compaction of the soil to avoid or reduce flood risk, loss of soil, reduce smothering rivers with sediment and of course the public highway and people's homes.
2.	Promotion of soil map and "layers" to relevant partners	31.03.2010	Increased awareness of soil risk in Devon for agencies and policy makers, planners etc.
3.	No of projects in Devon using PDS to secure RDPE funding	31.03.2010	Further 6 projects in appraisal and further 6 approved for funding
4.			

**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
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 (please provide detail)**

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