

Brexit deadline looms for Moray LEADER

FINAL APPLICATION DATE: January 2019

Moray LEADER is investing in Moray's future by funding projects that will strengthen the local economy and build capacity in our local communities. Moray LEADER will usually fund up to 70% of total project costs. Because of Brexit, we need to commit our entire budget by 29 March 2019 – and that means we won't be accepting any project applications after January 2019.

A strong LEADER application can take 2–3 months to develop, so if you have an idea for a project suitable for LEADER funding, you should start thinking about your application NOW!

We are particularly keen to receive applications that relate to one or more of the following strategic objectives:

- ▶ **Increase participation in local labour markets through social enterprises, social entrepreneurship and third sector development**
We're looking for applications from enterprising third sector organisations including community groups and social enterprises with ideas for projects that will support people of working age to get into formal work and/or skills development.
- ▶ **Build stronger local supply chains for Moray food, including fish, farm and game products**
Local food is the key here, and we are interested in projects involving production, processing, retail, marketing, events and anything else that builds the strength of Moray's local food and drink sector. We are particularly interested in projects that involve co-operation and collaboration.
- ▶ **Develop collaborative projects which target the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged households in rural communities, particularly to enhance mobility and access to affordable services**
We can support projects that make it easier for people who may be disadvantaged or vulnerable to access the services they need. That could mean supporting people to get to those services – or bringing those services to people in their communities.
- ▶ **Help Moray move towards a low carbon economy through increased energy efficiency and renewable energy production by means of domestic, business, community and collaborative action**
There probably isn't time to fund a new wind turbine development but we can support a wide range of initiatives that will contribute to a reduction in energy consumption and carbon emissions, including energy efficiency and tackling fuel poverty.
- ▶ **Support small business formation and business sustainability and survival (including market development) relating to the indigenous base where those businesses either export goods and services outwith the region or substitute for imports into the region**
We can support projects developed by existing small businesses (including social enterprises) or start-ups where they are aiming to sell goods or services to new markets outwith Moray or provide a local replacement for goods and services that are currently being imported.

To find out more about Moray LEADER or to discuss your potential project, please visit morayleader.org.uk, email info@morayleader.org.uk, or call **01343 818570**.