



Rural Development Programme for England

Local Delivery in Norfolk & Suffolk

October 2010

Local Action Groups commit £1.4 million of RDPE funding for projects in Norfolk and Suffolk.

We have supported farmers to implement irrigation efficiencies and supported them to diversify out of agriculture into new business ventures. The food sector has benefited through capital enhancements for food producers and the initiation of a new food festival. Micro and tourism enterprises have received grants to make real differences to their businesses enabling job creation and future economic stability. Communities have taken local economic issues into their own hands and set up training sessions unique to their area.

The types of projects we can fund are far reaching in scope. If you have an idea you think might be eligible for funding visit our website to find out more and to read about the projects we have funded to date www.ruralhub.info/lag

RDPE Funding helps local business to enter new market.

Claire Martinsen of Breckland Orchard

My application to the Brecks RDPE has enabled me to invest in a new screw-capping machine. This means that I will transition from a crown cap [aka a beer bottle top] to a fully re-closable bottle over the coming weeks and months. For Breckland Orchard this is a step change in product offering, enabling me to enter new markets - most notably the food service sector. It is a huge marketplace for Soft Drinks and one which had previously been impossible to enter with the cap that I had.

I have exhibited at Olympia during September with mock-up bottles. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and I have a long list of customers who want to take the product as soon as the new caps are in production. This now enables Breckland Orchard to take on established giants of the drinks world.



Overall the process was smooth to navigate. The submission form was a good discipline to go through, in terms of forward forecasting the effects of the grant investment on all aspects of the business. Stephen Howard, the Brecks Facilitator was a huge support, and provided excellent guidance along the way.



If you have a project idea and think that it may be eligible for funding, visit our website www.ruralhub.info/lag, where you will find details about how to apply.





Are you looking to get your project off the ground?



Internships are a proven way for businesses and third sector organisations to inject fresh talent into the workplace to address strategic business issues and kick start graduate careers. As part of Project Evolve, the University of East Anglia is supporting a flexible internship programme that offers organisations the opportunity to secure a recent graduate to work on a project for 4 - 12 weeks. The graduate can either work on a part-time or full-time basis.

Securing a graduate with new skills and a fresh approach through the internship programme is a cost effective way to help organisations get a new or outstanding initiative off the ground, whilst also kick starting graduate careers.

Contact Us

If you would like any further information regarding the internship programme or you would like to discuss a specific project, please contact the internship team on:

T: 01603 591574 / E: evolveinternship@uea.ac.uk

Graduate helps secure grant funding

Successful RDPE applicant, Brendan Moore, chairman of East Anglian Brewers Cooperative approached Project Evolve's internship team with an exciting opportunity for a recent graduate. He had a vision for the Cooperative to promote the concept of 'East Anglian Beer' to encourage tourism, tasting, ale trials and to raise people's enthusiasm for local beers.

Although the project had been initiated, RDPE funding deadlines were approaching fast and Brendan didn't have the time and resource within the organisation to turn this vision into a reality in the desired timeframe. Therefore, by taking on a graduate he was aiming to gain momentum on the project giving it the time and effort it would require. Brendan commented "this project was important as it was bringing a large grant of funds to support the local brewing industry and local farming."

Through the internship programme, Brendan secured history and politics graduate Louis Welcomme for a 10 week strategic business/marketing role at the Co-operative. Louis was tasked with scoping and writing a business case based on the need for establishing a new company called 'Barley to Beer'. The new company's objective was to build three micro-malting visitor centres on three farms in Norfolk and Suffolk in order to promote the people, processes, ingredients and history of brewing and barley growing in East Anglia.

Louis said of his internship experience "Working at the East Anglian Brewers Co-operative was a fantastic experience and provided me with some graduate level strategic marketing, administrative, financial and business experience."

Further information on the Evolve Internship can be found on their website: www.uea.ac.uk/nbs/evolve.



RDPE Facilitators in Norfolk & Suffolk

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www.ruralhub.info/lag



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