

How To Apply for LEADER

Step 1: Expression of Interest

2014/2020



Expression of Interest (EoI)

Completing and submitting the EOI.

The submission of an EoI is the first step in applying for LEADER funding.

It is your opportunity to present your initial ideas/needs to the Local Action Group.

At this stage, there is no requirement for a full project plan to be in place.

The EoI is submitted through the Scottish Rural Network [website](#)

You must answer all the questions on the form (with the required fields). Once you have completed all the relevant sections you can press submit.

The form will then be sent to the relevant Local Action Group for consideration.

Applicants submitting an EoI for a cooperation project (more than one Local Action Group area) must submit the EoI to your Local Action Group, listing the other LAG areas that you anticipate the project covering.

Assessing the EOI

Your EoI will be assessed for:

- fit with the relevant Local Development Strategy
- suitability for LEADER funding
- level of funding requested

Contact with the LAG

Local Action Group staff will contact you soon to discuss your need/idea. Follow up work may include a meeting and/or a request for clarification/further information. They will then advise you whether or not the proposal should proceed to full application.

Next Steps

If the LAG staff **do not agree to your proposal proceeding**, you will be provided with feedback on why the EoI was rejected alongside suggestions for future submission or alternative potential funding options.

If your **proposal proceeds** to application the LAG team will be on hand to work with you to develop your idea. You will be asked to provide further details to enable the Local Action Group to set you up on the online grant management system (LARCS). (Spring 2016) Until then as an interim measure, a hard copy application form and guidance will be made available. (from September 2015).

Note: the acceptance of your EoI at this stage is not a guarantee of future funding. The Local Action Group has absolute discretion in the determination of an application for LEADER funding.

