

Apply for your share of funding pot

Rural businesses and community groups are being urged to apply for their share of a funding pot, which is designed to boost the economy in North East Derbyshire.

The Bolsover and North East Derbyshire LEADER Approach has £2.4 million up for grabs, to help existing businesses diversify, start-up new ventures or to aid community organisations.

New guidelines mean public money can now be used as match funding to support applications, making it more accessible to local community groups which cover any of the following themes:

- The encouragement of tourism
- Conservation and rural heritage
- Training and information, where projects are not commercially focused

Jenny Ball, Programme Officer, said: "It can seem quite complicated when people first look at the different criteria they must meet to access this funding so, in the first instance, we would urge people to just get in touch with us and we can help them through the process, and hopefully help them get the most out of this programme."

The scheme, which draws money from the Rural Development Programme for England, covers all wards with the exception of Dronfield.

For more information contact Jenny Ball on (01246) 347217, email at info@bned-leader.co.uk or visit the website at www.bned-leader.co.uk



Rural business can get help to expand

Get a helping hand back into work

A pioneering service which has helped dozens of NE Derbyshire residents back into work has scooped top a top commendation – and now more people are being urged to find out how it could help them.

NEDDC's Holmewood Working Communities Project was short-listed in a government awards scheme as one of the best regeneration projects in the country, narrowly missing out on the top spot in March.

The accolade comes as the project has been extended into Killamarsh and Grassmoor, offering services including:

- Free and confidential support to develop a personal action plan to getting into work

- One-to-one support to help find suitable employment
- Help with writing CVs, application forms and the interview process
- Advice on how a job will affect benefits and help with tax credits

For more information contact Mark Szadura, NEDDC's Community Employment Advisor, on (01246) 217534 or 07973 343383 or email at markszadura@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

New lease of life for industrial estate

Businesses are being asked for their views on the future of a North East Derbyshire industrial estate as part of a study which will pave the way for its regeneration.

NEDDC secured external funding to research options for improvements at Callywhite Lane Industrial Estate in Dronfield - home to over 50 businesses including William Lee Ltd, one of the district's biggest employers.

Focus Consultants were appointed to start the study in April, which includes consultation with all businesses on the estate and will recommend regeneration options for the estate in the short to medium term.

Cllr Graham Baxter, Leader of the Council, said: "This site is home to many successful businesses and it is a big source of employment in the district, but it is in need of investment."

"This study has kick-started this process."

It follows the appointment of a new officer to drive forward the regeneration of Callywhite Lane – as well as Clay Cross town centre - thanks to funding from the East Midlands Development Agency last year.

Beat the pests

Pests can be a pain in the home – and in the garden – at this time of year. But did you know that North East Derbyshire District Council is on hand to help?

The authority's pest control service is available to any home or business premise in the district, not just those owned by the Council.

From bees to bed bugs, the team is equipped to deal with, or give advice on, a range of pest problems.

Nominal charges apply for services – please visit the website at [www.ne-](http://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/pests)

[derbyshire.gov.uk/pests](http://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/pests) for full details.

Please note, people claiming income-based benefits will receive a 50 per cent discount on these prices.

For more information visit the website or call (01246) 217610.



Planting for the future

More than 3,000 saplings have been planted across the district as part of this year's Free Tree scheme, which is supported by the Council.

Each year, schools, parish councils, community groups and North East Derbyshire residents are invited to apply for free saplings to plant in their community.

More than 20,000 trees have been given away since the launch of the scheme, which is jointly run by NEDDC, North East Derbyshire Woodland Project and Derbyshire County Council.

Look out for news of the next round of give-aways in Autumn edition of the NEWS.

Don't let the bugs hijack your BBQ!

Outdoor diners are being urged not to let bugs hijack their barbecue in the run up to National Food Safety Week 2009.

North East Derbyshire District council is serving up these top tips to help people keep their summer feasts free from harmful bacteria:

- Cook meat thoroughly to kill off any food

poisoning bugs. It's especially important to make sure that chicken, pork, kebabs and minced-meat products such as burgers and sausages are thoroughly cooked.

- Keep raw foods away from foods which are ready to eat, and don't handle cooked foods with utensils that have touched raw meats
- Keep meats and salads cold until it's time to cook or eat them
- Wash your hands before touching food
- Keep food covered to protect it from insects
- Light the barbeque well in advance, make sure you use enough charcoal and wait until it is glowing red (with a powdery grey surface) before starting to cook



For more information about Food Safety Week, which runs from June 15 to June 21, visit the website at www.food.gov.uk