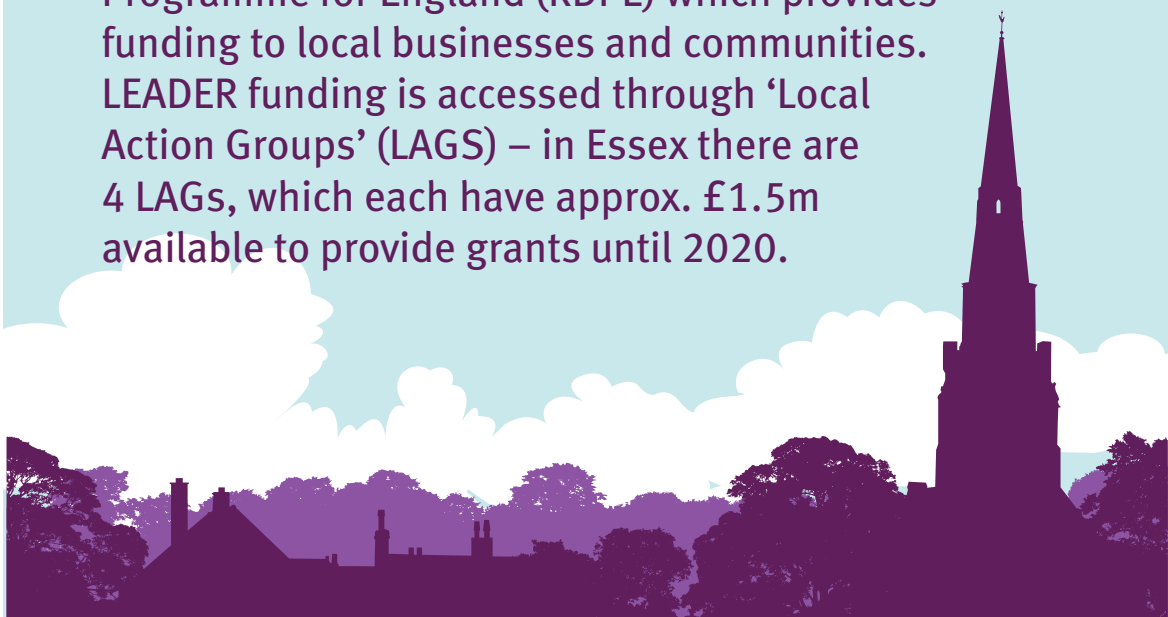


Funding for Rural Businesses and Communities in Essex



LEADER is part of the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) which provides funding to local businesses and communities. LEADER funding is accessed through 'Local Action Groups' (LAGS) – in Essex there are 4 LAGs, which each have approx. £1.5m available to provide grants until 2020.



What will LEADER Fund?

LAGs decide which projects they will fund in their area. This depends on their local priorities but all projects must support one or more of the 6 LEADER priorities. These are to:

- **support micro and small businesses and farm diversification**
- **boost rural tourism**
- **increase farm productivity**
- **increase forestry productivity**
- **provide rural services**
- **provide cultural and heritage activities**

Projects must also be able to demonstrate that they are contributing to economic growth and/or job creation and provide match funding.

How do I apply?

Are you a farmer, producer, forester, rurally-located business or community organisation working in a rural area?

Do you require funding towards a project?

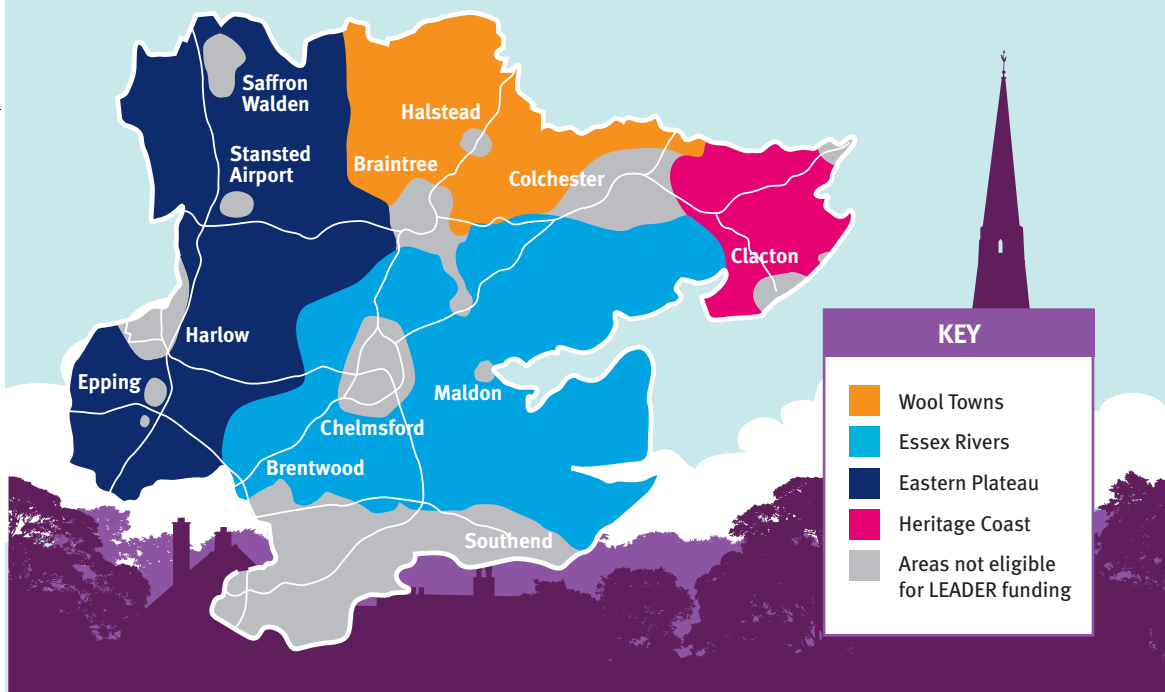
If you are interested in submitting an application then in the first instance please contact:

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01376 574335

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European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
Europe Investing in Rural Areas

