

3rd February 2011

Our Ref: R260

Freedom of Information Request – ERDF & RDPE Grants Awarded

Thank you for your request dated 12th January 2011, made under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Your request to SEEDA is:

This information is requested to identify grants that have been funded under ERDF and RDPE schemes to applicants.

- 1. A list of all grants awarded up till January 2011 since the scheme started in relation to RDPE funding. Providing date, applicants and amounts, details of project.*
- 2. A list of all grants awarded During the whole scheme in relation to ERDF funding. Providing date, applicants and amounts, details of project.*

Information Requested

I can confirm that the information you have requested is either publicly available or is held by SEEDA. By way of context I should say that, as you may be aware, the government has decided that all Regional Development Agencies will close by April 2012, and SEEDA is currently working on the transfer or closure of functions and programmes. The government has indicated that responsibility for the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) will transfer to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) respectively, most likely by the 1st July 2011. In the meantime the two programmes remain open with Regional Development Agencies continuing to appraise applications and to monitor the projects which have been awarded funding.

1. Information relating to Rounds 1 and 2 of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) can be found at:

www.seeda.co.uk/what-we-do/european-investment/erdf/existing-erdf-projects

Published information includes project name, project description, lead delivery partner and amount of grant awarded. Please note that all grants made under Round 1 were awarded at project selection committees held in November 2008 and all grants made under Round 2 were awarded in July 2009.

The project selection committee for applications submitted under Round 3 took place in July 2010. Details of all the awards made under this round are not yet publicly available as, in some cases, contractual negotiations are still underway. However, I can let you have details of those Round 3 projects where funding agreements have

been issued; the list is at Annex 1. Once all negotiations have been completed a final list of grants awarded in Round 3 will be made publicly available via our website.

2. Turning to the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE), please find attached as Annex 2 a spreadsheet that provides details of all grants under the Rural Development Programme for England in the South East region from the start of the programme in 2008 to date.

In line with guidance provided by the Information Commissioner's Office we consider that personal data regarding sole traders who are not operating as a limited company will be subject to the Data Protection Act 1998 and is therefore exempt from disclosure under Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act. We have therefore redacted all personal data from the information and all redactions are clearly marked within the material disclosed to you.

Please note that in some cases an incomplete project description is provided. Please accept our apologies for this; we have included all information that is available to us without going through each individual set of files, which would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours work as detailed in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. If there are particular RDPE projects for which you require further information please contact us and we will endeavour to provide this to you, unless the information requested is subject to a Freedom of Information Act exemption.

Disclosure Log

This information will also be made available on SEEDA's Freedom of Information Disclosure Log on the SEEDA website:

http://www.seeda.co.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information/foi_disclosure_log

Personal details and other information that could identify requesters are redacted (removed) from the disclosure log version.