

UKSPF and REPF grants

Economic Growth Team, Rushcliffe Borough Council



Grants

- For projects starting in April 2024 – all funding spent by March 2025
- Launched on 10 November and closes on 19 January
- 3 grant pots:
 - UKSPF – capital and revenue
 - REPF – capital only and for rural businesses
 - High street – opens in April 2024
- Team and Business Support Advisors here to help

UKSPF grant

- Call for projects opened on 10 November for projects starting in April 2024
- £1k to £40k grants available
- Match requirement 60/40 (40% grant)
- Themes:
 - Tourism and visitor economy
 - Low carbon and energy efficiency
 - Supporting Growing businesses

UKSPF example projects

THEME	Example projects
Tourism and visitor economy •Promotion of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding to support the establishment of a new open air market • Funding to support the expansion/enhancement of tourism businesses (including hospitality and leisure) within town/village centres to attract new visitors and increase employment opportunities • Funding to support the diversification of a high street business to attract new customers and increase dwell time.
Low carbon and energy efficiency Increasing private sector investment in growth enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium sized businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for net zero initiatives for local business including the introduction of new technology to improve energy efficiency of the business premises, vehicles etc • Funding to support a business to develop new low carbon products and services to grow their business and support other businesses
Supporting growing businesses Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality and leisure sector facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding to enable a business to invest, innovate, scale and grow, this can include capital investment to acquire, build or upgrade physical assets, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A one-time purchase of a fixed asset • Acquisition of land and or buildings • Building and construction costs

Rural businesses

- Call for projects opened on 10 November for projects starting in April 2024
- £5k to £40k grants available – CAPITAL ONLY
- Match requirement 60/40 (40% grant)
- Rural – all of Rushcliffe excluding West Bridgford
- Eligible projects must fit into one of the following themes:
 1. Small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas including funding for net zero infrastructure for rural businesses and diversification of farm businesses outside of agriculture
 2. Funding for growing the local social economy and supporting innovation.
 3. Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as: local attractions, trails, tourism products more generally

REPF example projects

	Example Projects
Small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas including funding for net zero infrastructure for rural businesses and diversification of farm businesses outside of agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation and expansion of rural leisure and tourism businesses. For example creating event venues or farm tourism facilities such as accommodation, wedding venues and leisure facilities • Purchase of equipment for food processing for non-farmer-owned businesses. For example purchasing new process and packaging machinery such as brewing equipment and onsite vending machines
Funding for growing the local social economy and supporting innovation.	<p>Creation of multi functional rural business hubs providing shared workspace and networking opportunities for rural businesses. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ co-working spaces ○ business infrastructure such as broadband and electric vehicle (EV) charging points
Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as: local attractions, trails, tourism products more generally	<p>Development of local visitor trails and infrastructure to support this, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information boards and visitor centres • Development of local tourist attractions.

Outputs and outcomes

Outputs

Number of Tourism, Culture or heritage assets created or improved

Number and m2 of commercial buildings developed or improved

Number of people reached

Number of local events or activities supported

Amount of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed

Number of decarbonisation plans developed

Outcomes

Jobs created

Jobs safeguarded

Increased footfall

Increased visitor numbers

Reduced vacancy rates

Increase in visitor spending

Increased amount of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed

Number of businesses adopting new to the firm technologies or processes

Number of premises with improved digital connectivity

Number of businesses introducing new products to the firm

Number of new to market products

Number of businesses with improved productivity

Greenhouse gas reduction

Eligibility

- Funded activity must take place solely in the Borough of Rushcliffe.
- Businesses must be able to spend their grant allocation by **no later than 31 March 2025**.
- Funding will not be available before 2 April 2024.
- Funding must not be used to replace existing funding sources. Funding must enable activity to take place that would not otherwise happen, or to increase the scope, scale or intensity of activity.
- Projects will not be eligible for **capital grants** in this funding round if they were successful in 2023/24. Businesses may be eligible as long as funding is sought for a different project
- Projects which have already received funding from one of the following DEFRA schemes **are not** eligible for **REPF**:
 - [The Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme](#)
 - [The Farming Investment Fund](#)
 - [The Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Improvement Grant Fund](#)

Assessment

Successful applications will need to demonstrate:

- Alignment with a particular theme.
- Ability to deliver specific outputs and outcomes
- Need - How will this grant funding facilitate the delivery of activity that wouldn't have been possible otherwise?
- Deliverability - How will the work be delivered, reliably, accountably and within the required timeframe?
- Match funding - including evidence / confirmation that this is secured.
- Compliant procurement (purchases over £2500 must seek 3 quotes)
- Subsidy control compliance (more detail in the application form)
- Relevant permissions are in place e.g. planning, building control, listed building consent, landowner/landlord consent.
- That the applicant has consulted and worked with other stakeholders as required

High street grant

- Opens in April 2024
- First come first served
- Funding of between £1k to £5k
- 70/30 match funding – grant is 70%
- Eligible projects:
 - Shop front/premises improvements,
 - digital
 - low carbon/energy efficiency

Timeline

- Applications accepted: 10 November 2023 – 19 January 2024 (17:00)
- All applicants need to discuss with RBC officer ahead of application being submitted
- Successful applicants notified: 6 March 2024
- Project ready to begin: 2 April 2024
- Project complete (all spending, delivery and reporting): 31 March 2025
- April 2024 – launch of high street grant pot