



# How grants can help your forestry business

Free, specialist support is now available to forestry businesses from the Forestry Commission England to help them access Rural Development Programme (RDPE) funding.



**MAKING  
WOODLANDS  
WORK**

[forestry.gov.uk/other-rdpe](https://forestry.gov.uk/other-rdpe)

# Do you want to expand your forestry business?

Forestry businesses can apply for funding via a number of different RDPE grant schemes – Growth Programme, LEADER, Countryside Productivity and Countryside Stewardship. These grants typically cover up to 40% of the total costs for a project that enhances the potential of woodland or adds value to a forestry product. Money is available for a variety of activities including woodland harvesting, extraction and small-scale processing kit, as well as for creating alternative products and developing new forest technologies.

## Access free, specialist advice

The Forestry Commission is running a series of local events – including application masterclasses and ‘pie and pint’ evenings – for forestry contractors and owner-producers to provide a detailed overview of the grants available and practical advice on how to apply. For further information, including a full list of these events, see: [forestry.gov.uk/other-rdpe](https://www.forestry.gov.uk/other-rdpe)

## Develop your business plan

Further one-to-one support from the Forestry Advisory Consortium England (FACE) is also available in some cases to help forestry businesses identify the right technical solution and grant. Last year more than 60 businesses were given free business planning, financial forecasting and legal advice, helping them with the paperwork to create a ready to go application.

## To register your interest in receiving support, contact your local area office using the details below:

### EAST ENGLAND

[corinne.meakins@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:corinne.meakins@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
0300 067 4583

### EAST MIDLANDS

[david.bole@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:david.bole@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
07712 750 549

### SOUTH EAST

[matthew.woodcock@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.woodcock@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
0300 067 4422

### SOUTH WEST

[mark.prior@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mark.prior@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
0300 067 5845

### NORTH WEST

[penny.oliver@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:penny.oliver@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
0300 067 4186

### WEST MIDLANDS

[donna.tavernor@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:donna.tavernor@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
0300 067 4249

### YORKSHIRE & NORTH EAST

[jim.smith@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jim.smith@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)  
0300 067 4925

Forestry Commission England works to enable the forestry sector, land owners and land managers to protect, improve and expand England's woodlands.

[www.forestry.gov.uk/england](https://www.forestry.gov.uk/england)

