

# Cotswolds LEADER Priority 5

## Support for cultural and heritage activity



The maximum grant that Cotswolds LAG will offer is £50,000 and the minimum £5,000.

If the grant amount is less than €200,000 then the grant rate can be up to 100% and is awarded under de minimis state aid rules.

This priority focuses on the promotion, enhancement and maintenance of cultural heritage assets and events where this promotes growth in the tourism economy and:

- creates a sense of local identity through raised awareness of their importance; and/or
- helps protect cultural heritage features against damage and degradation.

**Who can apply** - these grants could be for:

- landowners;
- rural community groups;
- local authorities (in exceptional circumstances, where for example the local authority can show that the project and the funding required is in addition to their statutory requirement to provide this kind of activity and the project will be of benefit to farmers, landowners and/or rural communities).

Please note it is assumed that the activity will not take place on an agricultural holding. Any farmers that are seeking grant support for activity under this priority should talk to Natural England in the first instance as funding may be available under Countryside Stewardship

All investments must be able to demonstrate a benefit to the wider local economy.

### What is eligible

- the costs of construction and / or restoration of buildings and other physical assets, including general costs such as architects and engineering fees;
- the costs to enhance, restore and upgrade the cultural and natural heritage of villages and rural landscapes and high nature value sites;
- the conservation of small scale built heritage;
- the costs to enhance cultural and community activities and investments to enhance venues providing cultural and heritage activity; and
- the costs of events linked to cultural activity.

## **What isn't covered**

In addition to the general list of costs which can't be claimed on pages 5 and 6 of the handbook the following costs are not eligible under this priority:

- computers, software and printers that are used for the general running of a business, such as processing orders and accounts;
- salaries associated with the on-going running of projects;
- access to broadband services;
- landscaping - unless it is part of 'making good' for an application for a major attraction or accommodation expansion. In which case, only the landscaping contractor's fees would be eligible excluding the plants, seeds, turf or trees;
- projects to solely meet statutory requirements for disabled access, fire regulations or emergency exits, unless the costs of providing access, exit and complying with regulations form part of the normal costs for a major expansion project.

**Refer to the Cotswolds LEADER Handbook for more details on eligible costs and the Application Process available at [www.cotswoldsleader.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsleader.org.uk)**

**or speak to James Webb, Programme Manager 01451 862033**

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