AGENDA ITEM 16C

**COTSWOLDS LEADER PROGRAMME UPDATE**

**Summary:** To present an update on the progress of the LEADER Programme

**Recommendation: That the update report be noted.**

**Officer Ref:** James Webb, LEADER Programme Manager (01451) 862033

1. **Programme Timing**

* All projects must be approved and contracted by 30 July 2019
* All grant payments must have been made by 31 December 2020

1. **Remaining LAG Meetings**

* Wed 27th February 2019
* Wed 27th March 2019
* Wed 15 May 2019
* Wed 3 July 2019

1. **Programme performance**

The programme has supported 39 projects (closed & contracted) with a total value of £1,181,679, which represents 67.4% of the allocation. A further £570K remains to be allocated. To achieve this we have 9 full applications on desk being processed and another 3 full applications in development.

1. **Are we are on track, are we going to deliver, will we over achieve or under supply?**

The target is to be £1.4million contracted by end of March 2019 and fully contracted by the end of July 2019. On current projections, this is achievable. It is likely that we will open a short window for new Expressions of Interest in early March – to mitigate for any unexpected withdraws/ rejections. Because of the limited time available, applications with strong outputs that can be readily converted will be prioritised such as farming and forestry equipment.

In terms of spend, 27 out of our 39 projects have successfully completed their project and claimed their grant. This equates to almost £700K. As the table below illustrates, completed projects are weighted towards farming, which typically do not create jobs. Over the course of this year, we will see some of our larger Priority 2 projects complete and these will result in significant job creation.

**Supporting Paper(s):**

**Appendix ‘A’ - Targets vs Actuals**

**Appendix ‘B’ - Map**

Closed Projects: completed projects with grant paid in full

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|  | **Priority 1 – Support to increase farm productivity** |
|  | £10,059 towards a Cluster Flush system for a dairy farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £5,206 towards a Mobile Sheep Handling system for a sheep farm in Worcestershire. |
|  | £49,958 grant towards a Robotic Milking system for a dairy farm in Wiltshire. |
|  | £20,414 towards a Cluster Flush and EID Rumination Collars for a dairy farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £26,061 towards a Trailing Shoe Slurry System for a dairy farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £17,435 towards a Trailing Shoe and Rumination collars for a dairy farm in Wiltshire. |
|  | £20,048 towards a Cluster Flush system and Cow Mattresses for a dairy farm in Wiltshire. |
|  | £6,247 towards a Fertiliser Spreader with GPS for a farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £9,798 towards a Cluster Flush for a dairy farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £29,757 towards a Weaving Drill for an arable farm in Oxfordshire. |
|  | £23,371 towards an ice-cream and butter production facility on a dairy farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £40,838 towards a System Cameleon Drill for an organic arable farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £6,991 towards a fixed Cattle Handling System for a farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £31,025 towards a Weaving Drill and steering system for an arable farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £37,720 towards a Horsch Sprinter 6ST Drill for an arable farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £12,800 towards a Kverneland Drill for an arable farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | **Priority 2 – Support for micro and small businesses and farm diversification** |
|  | £40,000 towards the construction of 10 new high quality office units: Westend Office Suites. |
|  | £13,011 towards the fit out of a business unit and associated equipment: Saltpig. |
|  | £48,849 towards the construction of a new farm shop and café: Vegetable Matters. |
|  | £47,973 towards building work to double the retail space at Wotton Farm Shop. |
|  | £10,462 towards new equipment and electric supply: Capreolus Distillery. |
|  | **Priority 3 – Support for rural tourism** |
|  | £29,292 towards improved access and two wooden holiday homes: Longhills Farm Kennels. |
|  | £16,075 towards a Roundhouse and associated facilities for a tourism provider in Wiltshire. |
|  | **Priority 6 – Support for increasing forestry productivity** |
|  | £10,000 towards a firewood processor and Log Deck: Little Owl Logs |
|  | £49,737 towards a large firewood processor for a business in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £38,112 towards Forestry equipment and a Firewood processor for an Estate in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £48,642 towards storage for woodchip and a Firewood processer for a business in Oxfordshire. |

Contracted Projects: projects that haven’t yet claimed or \*claim received and being processed

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|  | **Priority 1 – Support to increase farm productivity** |
|  | £5,098 towards a Mobile Sheep Handling system for a sheep farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £21,540 towards a Horsch Sprinter 4ST Drill for an arable farm in Oxfordshire. |
|  | £37,800 towards a Horsch direct drill for an arable farm in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £29,800 towards a Sky Easy drill for an arable farm in Oxfordshire. |
|  | **Priority 2 – Support for micro and small businesses and farm diversification** |
|  | £17,891 towards specialist particle analysing equipment for a business in Gloucestershire |
|  | £99,982 towards a Food & Farming Education Centre in Oxfordshire: Cotswold Seeds. |
|  | £99,995 towards converting an old building to create new offices for a business in Wiltshire. |
|  | £38,440 towards a log drying kiln and tipper delivery truck for a business in Gloucestershire. |
|  | £37,824 towards a new equestrian training barn for a business in Gloucestershire. |
|  | **Priority 3 – Support for rural tourism** |
|  | £49,993 towards the construction of 5 residential holiday units in Gloucestershire. |
|  | **Priority 4 – Support for rural services** |
|  | £39,026 towards Bledington Community Shop in Oxfordshire. |
|  | **Priority 6 – Support for increasing forestry productivity** |
|  | £5,588 towards a charcoal retort for a forestry contracting business in Gloucestershire. |