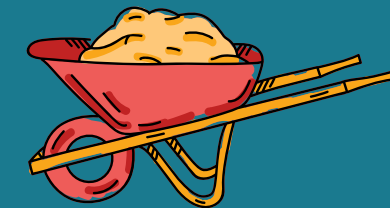
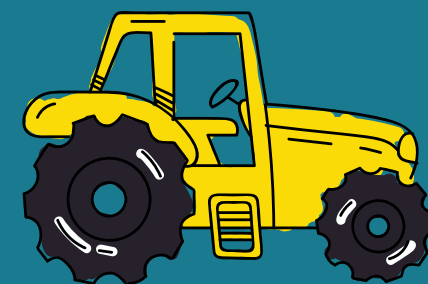


Funded by
UK Government



Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF)

South Oxfordshire District Council Scheme review



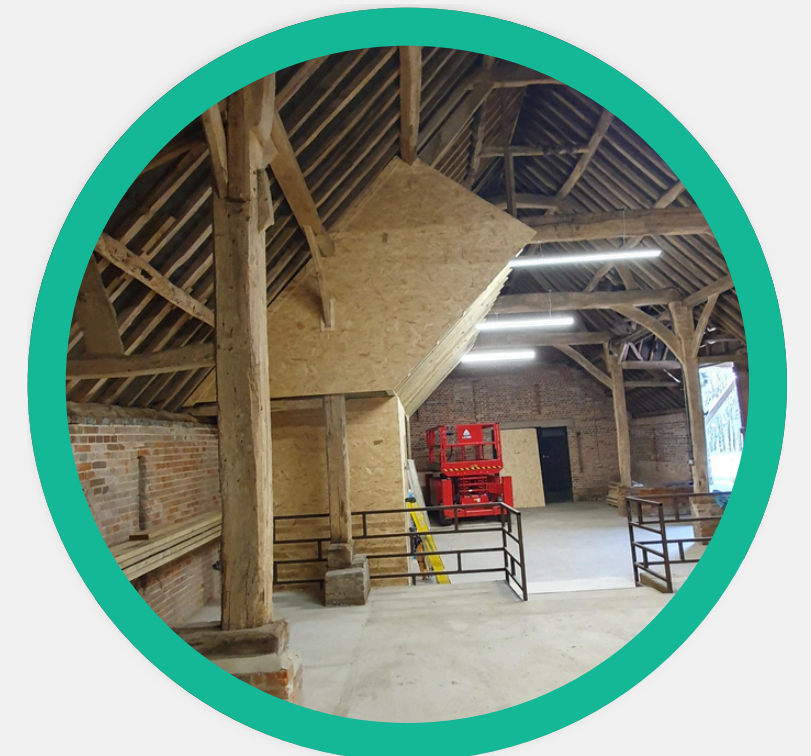
RURAL ENGLAND PROSPERITY FUND

REPF MISSION

The fund set out to support new and existing rural businesses to develop new produces and facilities that would benefit the local economy. This included farm businesses looking to diversity income streams. It also provided support for new and improved community infrastructure.

STRUCTURE

Projects had to take place in a rural area, or in a market or 'hub' town, and funding could only be used on capital expenditure. The scheme opened in 3 rounds, round 1 in 2023/24, round 2 in 2024/25 and round 3 in 2025/26



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

BUDGETS AND THEMES

CAPITAL GRANTS FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT IN MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES

2023/24 - £91,655

2024/25 - £274,965

CAPITAL GRANTS TO GROWING THE LOCAL SOCIAL ECONOMY AND SUPPORTING INNOVATION

2023/24 - £45,828

2024/25 - £137,483

CAPITAL GRANTS FOR INVESTMENT IN CAPACITY BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FOR LOCAL CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

2024/24 - £45,828

2024/25 - £137,483

2025/26 - £219,934

Theme 1: Healthy: Improved health and wellbeing

Theme 2: Inclusive: Bringing communities together and tackling homelessness

Theme 3: Thriving places: Development of the visitor economy

Theme 4. Support for business: Advice and support for businesses

2023/2026: REPF IN NUMBERS



SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS

REPF delivered over £380,000 of grant funding directly to micro & small businesses based in our District. This was used to fund everything from new veterinary equipment to new websites to increase local business opportunities.

7
FARM DIVERSIFICATION PROJECTS



37
JOBS SAFEGUARDED



SUPPORT FOR HOSPITALITY

REPF supported six local hospitality businesses to improve or expand their facilities. Projects included the creation of a new equestrian activity centre in Shotover Country Park, a new café at Cholsey and Wallingford Railway, and upgrades to outdoor seating areas.



6

GRANTS AWARDED

6

JOBS SAFEGUARDED



4

TOURISM ASSETS SUPPORTED



DECARBONISATION PROJECTS

REPF supported decarbonisation projects ranging from fitting LED theatre lights at the Corn Exchange in Wallingford, to installing solar panels, EV/PHEV charging points and E-bike charging points at Thomley Hall Centre in Worminghall.

10

GRANTS AWARDED

12

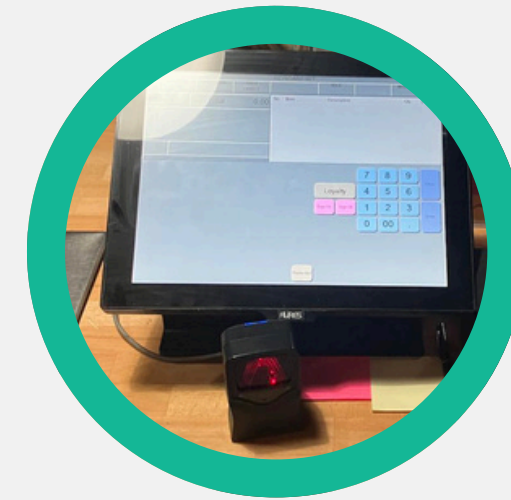
NEW EV CHARGE POINTS



LOCAL FOOD PROJECTS

REPF has supported local food enterprises by funding new fruit-pressing equipment, upgrades to community and farm shops, equipment for a community kitchen, and car park improvements that now allow public transport to serve a farm shop.

6
LOCAL FOOD PROJECTS



4
FARM DIVERSIFICATION PROJECTS



VIBRANT HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

REPF has supported communities through grants that have delivered improvements to several village halls, a new active travel route, funding for a pre-school, new facilities at Thomley Hall, and new equipment for local sports clubs.



13

COMMUNITY PROJECTS



29

JOBS SAFEGUARDED



FULL LIST OF REPF PROJECTS SUPPORTED

2023/2024

- *Aston Rowant Cricket Club, Net Zero Sports Pavilion, awarded £45,000*
- *Thomley Hall Centre Ltd, Eco-Friendly Water Feature, awarded £61,000*
- *Stanley & Pickford, Farm shop upgrades, awarded £30,000*
- *Thomley Hall Centre Ltd, Eco-Woodland Outdoor Adventure, awarded £45,000*

2024/2025

- *Thomley Hall Centre Ltd, Installation of Solar Panels with Battery Storage; 6 EV/PHEV Charging Points, and 6 E-Bike Charging Points, awarded £28,875*
- *Tiddington Cricket Club, Fitting Solar panels, awarded £7,000*
- *Brightwell-cum-Sotwell Community Village Stores, replacement freezers, awarded £2,784*
- *Wallingford Sports Trust, Audio Visual Installation, awarded £8,730*
- *Wallingford Sports Trust, Cycle racks and portable sports floodlights, awarded £7,970*
- *Whitchurch Pre School, Replacement building for pre-school, awarded £75,000*
- *Corn Exchange Wallingford Ltd, QR Ticket code scanners for ushers, awarded £2,740*
- *Garsington Parish Council, new footpath Pettiwell, awarded £7,000*
- *Kidmore End & Sonning Common PCC, Create new church entrance & install solar panels, awarded £50,000*
- *Wallingford 1155, equipment for fundraising and volunteer events, awarded £9,786*
- *Cholsey and Wallingford Railway, The Old Carriage Café, awarded £9,866*
- *Corn Exchange Wallingford Ltd, LED Theatre Lights, awarded £8,937*
- *Thame Players Theatre Company, Solar Panels for Lower Energy Consumption, awarded £23,000*

- *The Tractor Shack Ltd, Outdoor area upgrade, awarded £19,300*
- *Watlington Business Association, Build Visit Watlington Website, awarded £9,925*
- *Empowered Coaching, All-weather Counselling Room, awarded £10,000*
- *FH Nixey and Co, Roof top solar panels and batteries, awarded £24,500*
- *Henley Town Council, Installation of Solar PV system at Brunner Hall and Leichlingen Pavilion, awarded £31,773*
- *Lady Sew and Sew, Solar Panels and Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Point installation, awarded £21,089*
- *Bishops Court Farm, The Honey Barn - A Commercial and Community Kitchen, awarded £11,413*
- *Westcol Limited, Heating & Gym Studio Lighting Upgrade to Sustainable Solutions, awarded 8,353*
- *Stanley & Pickford, Bus Stop and Parking - Fridge three phase upgrades, awarded £21,000*
- *Woodhouse Farm Partners, Creating workshops for rural craftspeople, awarded £40,000*

FULL LIST OF REPF PROJECTS SUPPORTED

2025/2026

- *MP Sports Cricket Academy , Purchase of a new Electric Pitch Roller, awarded £30,000*
- *Her Land, increasing access to Her Land and enabling the launch of a new programme of workshops, awarded £9,992*
- *Rainbow Pre School, large interactive screen, awarded £4,544*
- *Baldons Village Hall, Installation of audio system, awarded £4,172*
- *Goring Heath Parish Charity, Kitchen refurbishment and installation of catering standard equipment, awarded £5,186*
- *Stanley & Pickford, Automatic Electric Doors, awarded £13,500*
- *Pony Pursuits, return of inclusive Equestrian activities in Shotover Country Park, awarded £27,206*
- *Sylva Foundation, Solar panels on building used for development of wood based skills and businesses, awarded £20,497*
- *NextSource Industries, Additional Unit & Equipment to Increase Productive Capacity, awarded £3,334*
- *Oxford Farmhouse CIC, Pressing equipment upgrade, awarded £27,289*
- *Cherry Orchard Vets, Laparoscopy (key hole surgery) equipment, awarded £30,000*
- *Buryhook Countryside Management, Environmental improvement Equipment, awarded £8,093*
- *Wallingford Sports Trust, Outdoor seating area and picnic tables, awarded £9,740*
- *Dylogic Management Services Ltd, After Cloud Exhibition stand, awarded £2,508*

CONCLUSIONS

REPF has demonstrated the value of targeted, practical capital investment in strengthening rural and community infrastructure. Projects consistently improved the quality, accessibility and inclusivity of facilities, enabling more people to participate—whether through better play and learning environments, upgraded community venues, or enhanced access routes and visitor amenities. At the same time, investments in digital systems, specialist equipment and low-carbon technologies increased organisational productivity, safeguarded and created jobs, and improved resilience to rising costs and disruption. The breadth of examples—from renewable energy and transport infrastructure to small upgrades that unlock new income or reduce waste—shows that the REPF can deliver measurable social, economic and environmental benefits. Building on this evidence, continued focus on inclusive design, long-term sustainability and locally led delivery will help maximise impact and ensure rural communities and enterprises are well placed to thrive.

WITH THANKS TO OUR ADVISORY PANEL

*Grant Hayward
Jackie Logan
Rita Atkinson
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Nathan Boyd
Paul Barrow
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Karen Tolley
Kathy Deacon*

