South Oxfordshire District Council's Rural England Prosperity Funding Plan

South Oxfordshire District Council has secured funding through the government's Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF - part of the Levelling Up Agenda). The fund aims to address specific challenges in rural areas, providing capital funding to support rural businesses and communities. We'll be using the funds to help achieve the aims we set out in our <u>Corporate Plan</u> for the district.

Below you can find out more about how this funding will be used in South Oxfordshire:

Capital grants for small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas



Capital grants for small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas. Including:

- Capital funding for net zero infrastructure for businesses
- Diversification of farm businesses outside of agriculture (where this involves conversion of farm buildings)
- · Creation and expansion of rural leisure and tourism businesses
- Purchase of equipment for food processing
- Funding for resilience infrastructure and nature based solutions that protect local businesses and community areas from natural hazards

£275,620.12 until March 2025

Capital grants for growing the local social economy and supporting innovation

Capital grants for growing the local social economy and supporting innovation, including:

- Creation of multi-functional rural business hubs
- Business infrastructure such as broadband or EV charging points
- Establishment of rural community businesses for example: community-owned shops
- Equipment to support the promotion of local food and drink products

£138,310.25 until March 2025

Capital grants for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups

Capital grants for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups, including:

- Net zero infrastructure for rural communities and to support rural tourism activity
- Community Energy schemes
- Kitchens in community hubs (capable of supporting food and drink entrepreneurs to get accreditation for food production)
- Resilience infrastructure and nature-based solutions that protect local businesses and community areas from natural hazards

£138,310.25 until March 2025



