



Eligible Costs

The grant can be used to meet the following costs

- Building works
- Installation of services, including ICT infrastructure and energy efficiency
- Access and car parking
- Professional fees.

There are also grants available for feasibility studies, including those for new development.

What can't the grant be used for?

Retail premises will not be eligible for assistance, however, a manufacturing activity selling its product at the premises (a pottery for example) would be eligible.

Grant aid is not available for primary agricultural or horticultural activities. Funding is not available for residential or tourist accommodation.

Who can apply for assistance?

Sole traders, partnerships, limited companies and co-operatives can all apply for grant aid. Applicants can be owner-occupiers, owners proposing to lease out the premises for eligible business purposes, or fixed term tenants.

How to apply for funding?

These are the guiding principles of the Somerset Workspace Programme. Further information can be found on the website: www.somerset-rural-renaissance.co.uk/workspace

If you believe your project maybe eligible, please contact Somerset Rural Renaissance Partnership on 01458 257419
Email: clangford@somerset.gov.uk

Before submitting an application we strongly recommend that you read the Somerset Workspace Guidance and the regulations contained within Appendix 13 of the SWRDA Guidance for the Conversion of Redundant Rural Buildings.

The final date for receipt of applications is 1st November 2008 (subject to funds still being available).

Somerset Workspace is part of the Somerset Rural Renaissance Programme.

The Somerset Rural Renaissance Partnership brings together almost 30 agencies to oversee the investment of funds to revitalise rural areas. These funds are drawn from the South West Regional Development Agency and are allocated by the Partnership to deliver projects with economic benefits.

Design by Freeline Graphics Tel: 01392 499455 - June 2008



Somerset Workspace

New uses for old buildings in rural areas



Somerset
Rural
Renaissance





Aims of the Workspace Programme

The Somerset Workspace Grants Programme has been established to help bring redundant buildings back into productive use. It aims to address local demand for workspace and to help safeguard jobs in rural communities.

New Uses for Old Buildings in Rural Areas

– with a view to developing sustainable communities with the provision of workspace that is ideally accessible by forms of transport other than the private car.



Key Areas for Development of Workspace

Applications can come from anywhere within the county except the towns of Taunton, Bridgwater and Yeovil. There are some areas within the five districts that do not benefit from major road communications and these will be considered priority locations for support.

Jobs – to support rural regeneration, diversification and growth. With a focus on helping existing businesses to maintain employment levels and to help support new enterprise.

Quality – to promote quality linked to the implementation of sustainable building practices and energy efficient measures.

Priority Sectors – The following key business sectors have been identified for specific support from this programme

- Food & Drink
- Tourism - but NOT tourism accommodation
- Aerospace / advanced engineering
- Environmental technologies
- Creative Industries
- ICT

What is a redundant building and what can the grant be used for?

To qualify for a grant, a building must be completely unused, or unusable in its current state for the purposes for which it is now needed.

What level of grant is available?

The grant can meet up to 25% of the eligible costs of the projects within these limits:

- Minimum grant £10,000
- Maximum grant approximately £136,000 (No applicant can claim more than €200,000)

The programme has limited funds available so only quality projects that can achieve good economic outputs will be considered.

