

GROW South Antrim

Generating Rural Opportunities Within South Antrim

Public Information Session

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AGENDA



- Introduction to GROW South Antrim
- Geographic cover
- Support available
- Eligible activities
- Application process & timescales
- Questions

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BACKGROUND



- GROW South Antrim appointed by Antrim, Carrickfergus & Newtownabbey Borough Councils in 2008
- Deliver funding under the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013
- Funding – 50% by EAFRD, 50% by DARD
- Total budget awarded - £8,890,899

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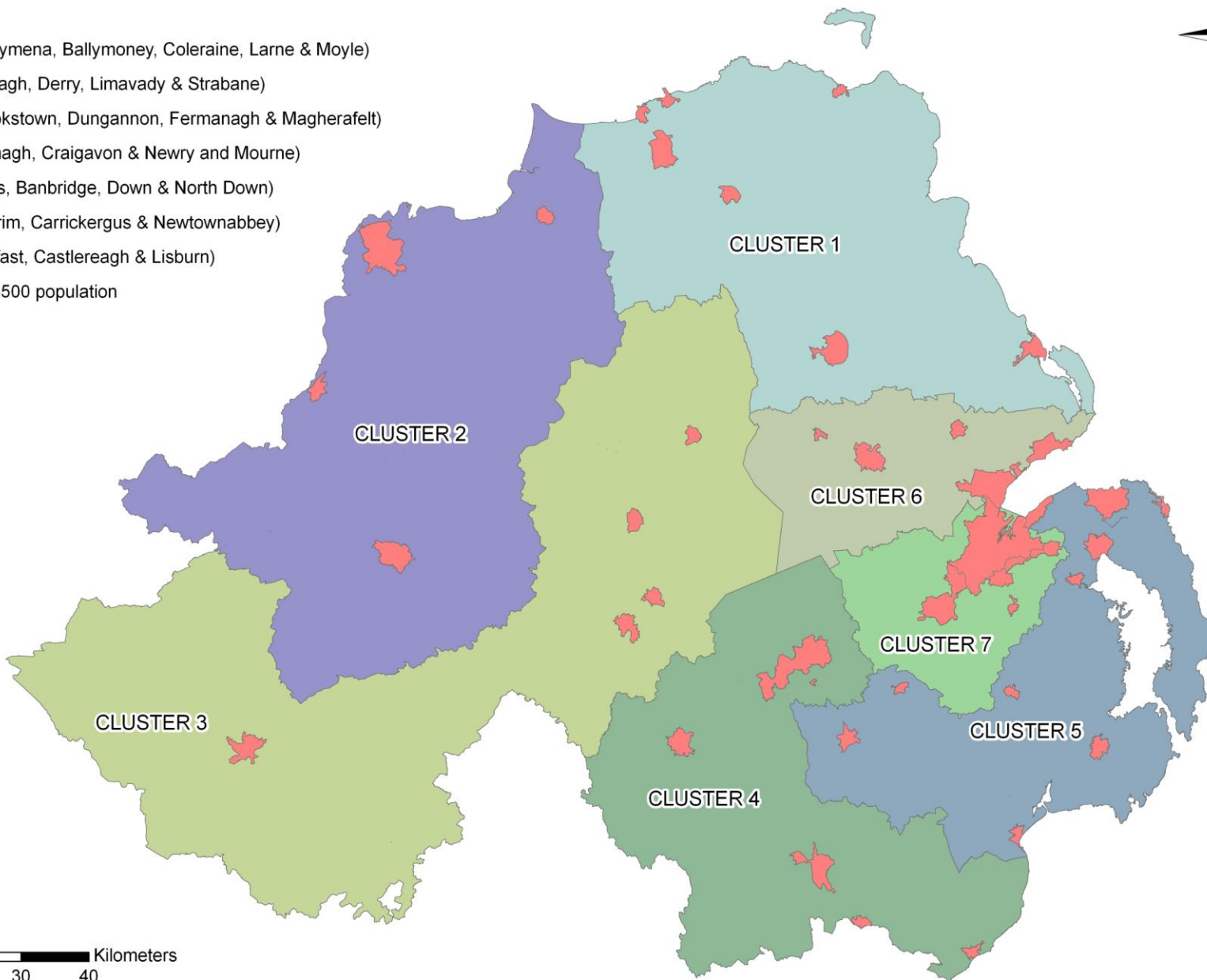


Cluster Areas



Cluster Areas

- CLUSTER 1 (Ballymena, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Larne & Moyle)
- CLUSTER 2 (Omagh, Derry, Limavady & Strabane)
- CLUSTER 3 (Cookstown, Dungannon, Fermanagh & Magherafelt)
- CLUSTER 4 (Armagh, Craigavon & Newry and Mourne)
- CLUSTER 5 (Ards, Banbridge, Down & North Down)
- CLUSTER 6 (Antrim, Carrickergus & Newtownabbey)
- CLUSTER 7 (Belfast, Castlereagh & Lisburn)
- SDL's with over 4500 population



0 5 10 20 30 40 Kilometers

WHO WE ARE



- Strategically delivered by a Joint Committee representing the 3 Councils (9 members)
- Implemented by a Local Action Group comprising representatives from local business, community, agriculture, council and statutory sectors (23 members)
- Administration unit – Antrim Borough Council

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ELIGIBLE AREAS



Project based, or demonstrates a significant impact in an area with < 4,500 residents.

- **INCLUDES** – Ballyeaston, Ballynure, Ballyrobert, Burnside, Crumlin, Doagh, Parkgate, Straid, Templepatrick, Toome, Whitehead outlying rural areas.
- **EXCLUDES** – Antrim town, Randalstown, Carrickfergus town, Greenisland urban area, Ballyclare town, Newtownabbey urban area, including Glengormley.

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GRANT RATES



- **Private enterprises** – Maximum grant of £50,000 @ 50% match funding.
- **Social enterprises & community organisations** - Maximum grant of £250,000 @ 75% match funding, except business development programme, maximum grant of £50,000.
- **NDPB (including Councils)** - Maximum grant of £250,000 @ 75% match funding.

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GROW's PROGRAMMES



- 6 Themes:
 - Farm Diversification
 - Business Development
 - Rural Tourism
 - Rural Heritage
 - Village Development
 - Basic Services

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FARM DIVERSIFICATION



- Support for farmers and members of the farm family to diversify into non-agricultural activities, based on farm.
- For example, light engineering, tourism, traditional skills, equestrian services, crafts.
- GROW is unable to fund mainstream agricultural activities.

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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



- Open to micro businesses, including social economy enterprises, with less than 10 employees.
- For example, innovative services, manufacturing businesses, crafts, day care facilities.
- GROW is unable to fund retail enterprises or general service and distribution businesses.

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TOURISM & HERITAGE



- Develop the tourism potential of the rural area by creating new or developing existing amenities.
- Support to preserve and upgrade rural heritage and natural resources.
- For example, new self-catering accommodation, activity tourism initiatives, visitor attractions, improve access to heritage sites and trails, townland signage, new events/festivals, heritage guides, marketing.

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VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT



Phase 1 – Village Plan Programme

- Support villages to create a vision and integrated development plan for a 5 year period.

Phase 2 – Capital infrastructure Programme

- Grants to help implement village plans, e.g. building upgrading, landscaping, signage and resource support.

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BASIC SERVICES



Services that are complementary & supplementary to the statutory provision by other government departments.

Project costs, including overhead costs where applicable, for example:

- Health & well-being
- Crèches
- Older people services
- Youth facilities
- Recreation
- Community transport
- Renewable energy
- Community building

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ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE



Grant aid towards capital and resource costs, eg:

- Building works
- Non mobile equipment
- Feasibility studies
- Marketing
- Renewable energy initiatives (as part of project)
- Signage
- Professional fees
- Business plans
- Specialised training

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INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE



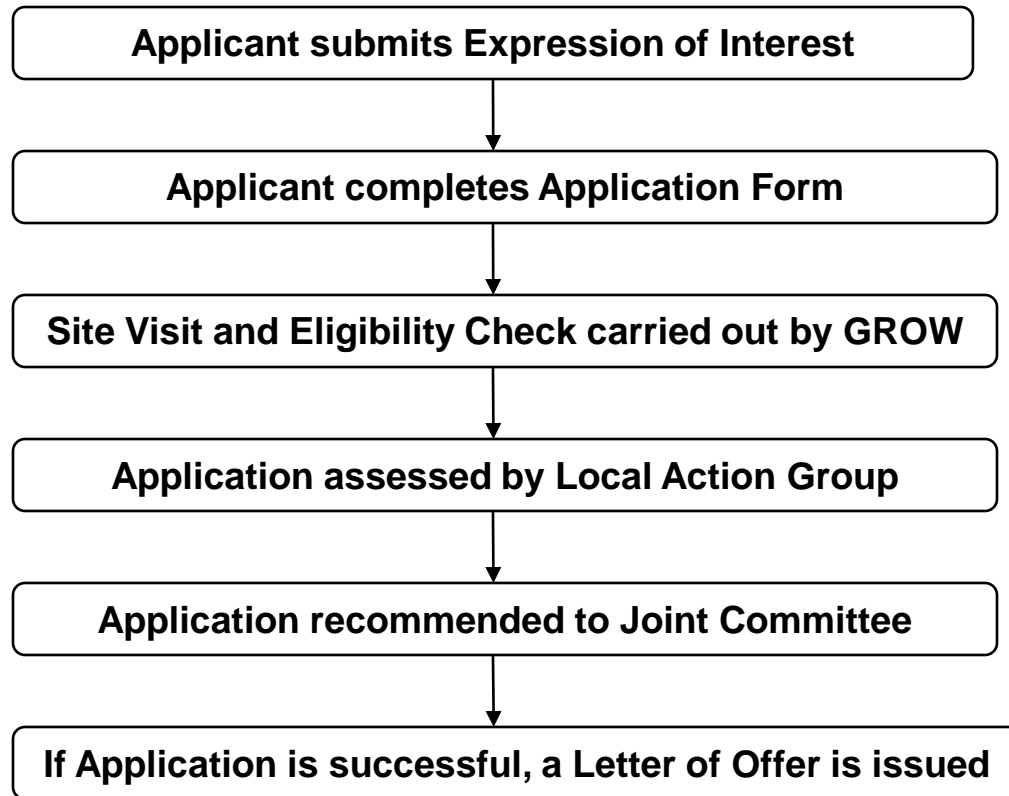
GROW is unable to fund:

- Mobile equipment
- Business running costs
- Existing festivals/events
- Projects that have commenced
- Projects that create economic displacement
- Purchase of land/buildings
- Own labour costs
- Additional B&B bedspaces

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APPLICATION PROCESS



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APPLICATION TIMESCALE



- Expressions of Interest – Open
- Farm diversification & Business development
 - Application call: 23rd March – 20th April 2009
- Tourism & heritage, Basic services, Village renewal (phase 2)
 - Application call: 18th May – 22nd June 2009

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CONTACT US



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