

# The next Rural Development Programme for England 2007-2013

## Consultation

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# Background and context

- Current ERDP ends 2006
- New Rural Development Regulation
- New policy context

# Overall principles

- Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food
- Rural Strategy 2004
- Use funding to make a difference
- Maintain commitment to Environmental Stewardship
- Regional flexibility

# Priorities for the Programme

**Theme One** – enhancing the Environment and Countryside

**Theme Two** – making Agriculture and Forestry more competitive and sustainable

**Theme Three** – enhancing opportunity in rural areas.

# Other challenges and opportunities

- The Uplands
  - Remoteness, sparse populations, landscape and habitat value
  - Separate consultation
- Renewable Energy
  - Biomass taskforce report

# Developing the Programme

- Regional Implementation Plan for the South West
- Natural England, Forestry Commission, RDAs
- Leader approach to delivery

# Budget

- Overall EU-wide budget agreed
- Voluntary modulation
- Key decisions still to be made

# Timetable

- **Public consultation period:** 27 February - 22 May
- **Strategy Plan:** submitted end June 2006
- **Programme Document:** summer 06
- **Regional Implementation Plan:**
  - inform, challenge & expand the Programme Document
  - delivery in the region
- **New Programme begins:** January 2007