

The Land-Based and Rural Economy

5.34 Land-based economic activity is integral to the District's economy, cultural heritage and identity. Farming, forestry and the equine industry, in particular horse racing, have all been longstanding and traditional components of economic activity. Many of these activities have helped to ensure that Ryedale's valued landscapes are carefully and sensitively managed. In Ryedale the role of local Estates has been a significant factor in influencing rural economic activity and management of the landscape.

5.35 However the land-based sector, and in particular agriculture, has undergone considerable restructuring over the post war period, and is set to continue to restructure as a consequence of both local and global changes. These changes are happening at a rapid rate, can be difficult to predict and are likely to exert a combination of positive and negative pressures on the District's rural economy. This Strategy is intended to support and be flexible to the needs of those who rely on the land-based economy. It also supports new opportunities that may arise from future changes. These range from alternative cropping to renewable energy schemes. It is essential that these new land uses and economic activity must be supported and encouraged where appropriate if Ryedale's countryside is to continue as the living and working countryside that is intrinsic to Ryedale's cultural identity.

5.36 Malton Livestock Market is the last remaining livestock market in Ryedale and is greatly valued by the local farming and wider community. It provides a local sustainable focus for the sale and purchase of livestock, reducing food miles and encouraging the trend towards local food production. The Council considers that the

current livestock market is an important use that should be retained in Ryedale. Following the grant of outline planning consent for redevelopment of the current livestock market site, it is very likely that the livestock market will vacate its current location. It is important that any new site for a livestock market reflects the balance of maintaining links to a Market Town in Ryedale but also ensures that it is acceptable taking into account other matters such as highways, amenity, visual impact, character and setting.

SP9 The Land-Based and Rural Economy

Ryedale's land-based economy will be sustained and diversified with support for:

- New buildings that are necessary to support land-based activity and a working countryside, including for farming, forestry and equine purposes
- Replacement dwellings for land management activity if no other existing available buildings suitable or capable of conversion
- Replacement of non-traditional general-purpose storage buildings to support farming, forestry or equine related activity
- Conversion of traditional buildings for tourism or residential uses (subject to the occupancy conditions set out in Policy SP21)
- Conversion of existing buildings and provision of new buildings to support appropriate small-scale rural economic activity in line with Policy SP6
- Appropriate farm and rural diversification activity including innovative approaches
- Local food production and sales. Farm shops which will meet a demand for local produce and which contribute to the local economy will be supported where they do not adversely affect easily accessible convenience shopping.
- Appropriate new uses for land including flood management and energy production related research and education in this field
- Small-scale extraction of local building stone and limited aggregate provision*

And indirectly by supporting:

- The retention of a livestock market within Ryedale on a site which is convenient to users, well related to the main road network and in a location which is close to a Market Town but will not harm its character, landscape setting or the amenities of nearby residents
- Local weekday and Saturday markets, farmer's markets and events
- Proposals or actions that would assist in utilising and retaining traditional rural skills including land and woodland management, farming, conservation, local traditional building techniques

*To be determined by the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (North Yorkshire County Council, City of York Council and North York Moors National Park Authority)

SP9 Implementation and Monitoring

Implementation	Action/Mechanism	Responsibility	Timing
Conversion of rural buildings	Supplementary Planning Document on Conversion of Rural Buildings	Ryedale District Council	On-going
New development and land use proposals	Development Management/Planning Application Process	Ryedale District Council and North Yorkshire County Councils	On-going
Rural Land Management	Grants/Advice and Programmes	DEFRA; Natural England; Environment Agency; public sector land owners; Local Authorities; private landowners;	On-going
Support for markets and events	Planning Application Process; Temporary Highway restrictions; Licensing, where necessary	Town Councils; Landowners; Ryedale District Council; North Yorkshire County Council	On-going
Monitoring	Data Source	Responsibility	Relevant Target/Trend
Number of farm/rural diversification schemes granted permission by type	In-house monitoring	Ryedale District Council	No target