

9th July 2009

Our ref: R00126

Freedom of Information Request - Rural Transport and Rural Accessibility Expenditure 2005-2009

Your request to SEEDA is:

I am seeking information relating to expenditure by SEEDA on projects and schemes relating to rural transport and rural accessibility, more specifically:

- 1. Total expenditure year-by-year on rural transport from 2005-2009*
- 2. Full breakdowns of this expenditure, including the projects and schemes invested in as well as the duration and nature of these projects and schemes*
- 3. Future and proposed expenditure on rural transport.*

Information Requested

SEEDA's involvement in rural transport started with the Rural Transport Programme, which was transferred to SEEDA from the Countryside Agency in 2005 (as part of Defra's Modernising Rural Delivery programme). The programme ran until May 2007, which included a year's extension.

Rural Transport Programme

Key facts about the Countryside Agency Programme:

- 10 Rural Transport Officers across the South East.
- 52 Rural Transport Projects.
- SEEDA extended the Rural Transport Officers for an additional year (2006/2007) whilst SEEDA developed a Rural Accessibility Programme.
- The Transport Projects ceased when all the legal commitments had been honoured.

SEEDA's rural transport expenditure 2005 to 2008:

	2005/2006 Spend	2006/2007 Spend	2007/2008 Spend
Transport Officers	£260,150	£312,159	£4,117
Regional Project	£41,493	£25,068	£0
Berkshire Projects	£28,539	£7,046	£0
Buckinghamshire Projects	£18,391	£7,884	£0
East Sussex Projects	£142,896	£20,897	£0
Hampshire Projects	£83,014	£0	£0
Isle of Wight Projects	£14,741	£3,148	£0
Kent Projects	£115,699	£35,412	£0
Oxfordshire Projects	£35,804	£41,223	£0
Surrey Projects	£238,162	£27,304	£0
West Sussex Projects	£70,269	£8,722	£0

Rural Access to Services Programme (RASP)

SEEDA has developed a successor programme which involves local county-based partnerships. These partnerships make their own priorities based on local needs and then approve all the projects and take responsibility for delivery. The intention is to test local solutions and review their suitability for inclusion in the Local Area Agreements which govern LA priorities. A needs analysis was performed in the first year of the Programme, which is being followed by a three year Programme of Projects, some of which may be focussed on transport, but the choice will be made by local partnerships and not SEEDA.

SEEDA is supporting nine Local Partnerships as follows:

	2007/2008 Spend	2008/2009 Spend	2009/2010 Budget	2010/2011 Budget
Baseline Research	£180,000	£0	£0	£0
Berkshire RASP	£0	£65,010	£105,981	£126,952
Buckinghamshire RASP	£0	£68,518	£110,620	£132,722
East Sussex RASP	£0	£66,872	£108,444	£130,016
Hampshire RASP	£0	£71,374	£114,398	£137,422
Isle of Wight RASP	£0	£62,047	£102,061	£122,165
Kent RASP	£0	£77,839	£122,949	£148,059
Oxfordshire RASP	£0	£72,900	£116,350	£139,800
Surrey RASP	£0	£66,934	£108,525	£130,116
West Sussex RASP	£0	£68,557	£110,672	£132,787