



# Kent rural towns

Information Sheet 1

## What is Kent Rural Towns?

The **Kent Rural Towns** programme advises and supports small rural towns in Kent and Medway. It also delivers the **SEEDA Small Rural Towns** programme and facilitates the **Kent Rural Towns Group**. This group includes people who work to support small rural towns and representatives of town partnerships, who meet regularly to share experiences and good practice in community led rural regeneration.

The **KRT County Co-ordinator** helps communities set up an inclusive town partnership, carry out a town **Health Check** and then take forward practical, realistic projects which will really make a difference to the town and its surrounding countryside.

## What is the SEEDA Small Rural Towns Programme?

**SEEDA** (the South East England Development Agency) recognises the vital role that small towns play in rural areas. The **SEEDA Small Rural Towns** programme provides funding towards the County Co-ordinator's work, as well as direct support for eligible towns, to the value of £7 million across the whole of the South East region.

The programme has been developed with the **South East Rural Towns Partnership**, drawing on lessons from the Countryside Agency's Market Towns work. **SEEDA** recognises the need for time for towns to develop their ideas so this funding is available to towns over a 7 year period.

**The Kent Rural Towns Group** is the partnership leading the programme in Kent and Medway. The four Area Investment Framework partnerships work with the **KRTG** to set priorities and **Kent County Council** acts as the accountable body and hosts the County Co-ordinator. The County Co-ordinator also has close links with **Action with Communities in Rural Kent**

To find out more please contact Sue Beer, the Kent County Co-ordinator.  
You can Email her at [sue.beer@kent.gov.uk](mailto:sue.beer@kent.gov.uk) or telephone **01622 221936**.

Or search for Kent Rural Towns on KCC's website at [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk)