

**Guidance from on RDPE nomination
from Y&H RAF Chair Graham Ward:**



Andy Tordoff of Yorkshire Forward has confirmed that the RAF had been invited to nominate two names for the decision making panel of the RDPE projects being administered by them. I attach guidance on this as presented to the Rural Practitioners Group (but the same principle apply to the RAF) and the nomination form that the RAF will need to complete and send to YF by the 27th July.

Our nominees need to be experienced and knowledgeable particularly in the farming and farm diversity sectors or in the general rural economic regeneration or change. They need to be able to think customer value of the projects being assessed, but most of all to be independent. They are not RAF representatives, but need to safeguard the RAF aims of grass-roots value and benefits. Could you return nominations to yhraf@goyh.gsi.gov.uk (the RAF secretariat) by 25th July. If we have more than two, myself, together with a couple of steering group members will make our selection to go forward.

As the RAF chairman I have been invited help in the appointment of the final decision panel from the nominees put forward. This will be chaired by Yorkshire Forward.

As your chairman, I have pressed the need for RAF involvement in these strategic governance processes so that the RAF is seen to be involved in these very important processes at the start rather than be left to 'moan and mumble' about top down decision making. It is new ground and we must welcome Yorkshire Forwards willingness to apply the Haskins principles of Modernising Rural Delivery.

Having been given the opportunity please look round your field of activity and nominate some strong candidates

Regards, Graham Ward

9th July 2007