

**PR1379 – 28 June 2010**

## **Business Skills for Rural Women**

Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for environmental and land-based industries has submitted a bid to help fund a new programme – Business Skills for Rural Women – which will be rolled out across eight areas in Scotland.

The programme will provide rural women with the business management and leadership skills necessary to improve their business performance.

Mary Mitchell, Lantra's Regional Partnership Manager said: Women have always held in a central role in sustaining the fragile rural economy in Scotland, with many running their own small enterprises. This new project is offering women the tools to take their businesses, whatever their size, to a new level. I would urge all women in the rural area who are running or thinking of starting a rural business to sign up to find out more about this programme.

A networking event to gather support for this programme was held at Lantra's stand during the Royal Highland Show. During the event, Jenny Leggate, co-founder of Equibuddy spoke about her previous experience of this programme and of the benefit it had been to her.

Jenny Leggate said: Participation in this programme afforded me, and many other rural women, the opportunity to push the boundaries and be able to access information about the things we needed to know. As the programme was client led and not pre-set, this made it more suitable for those participating; each person benefited by being able to access what was relevant to them. So, if you want to meet some like minded people to help you realise your dreams, join the rural business programme for women; I'm glad I did!

The event also afforded the opportunity to meet with other rural women to discover how they had successfully built their businesses.

For more information on the Business Skills for Rural Women programme call 01738 553311 or email [lantra.scotland@lantra.co.uk](mailto:lantra.scotland@lantra.co.uk).

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## EDITOR S NOTES

" Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the environmental and land-based sector, is licensed by the UK Government to drive forward the new skills, training and business development agenda for the sector.

" Lantra represents 17 industries and 1.5 million workers and volunteers in agricultural crops, agricultural livestock, animal care, animal technology, aquaculture, environmental conservation, equine, farriery, fencing, fisheries management, floristry, game and wildlife management, land-based engineering, landscape, production horticulture, trees and timber and veterinary nursing. For more information see [www.lantra.co.uk](http://www.lantra.co.uk)