

# WHISKY FRAMES SUSTAINABLE FIT OUT

## APPLICANT

Whisky Frames Ltd  
[www.whiskyframes.com](http://www.whiskyframes.com)

## TOTAL PROJECT COST

£21,097

£12,658  
(60%)

£8,439

Tyne Esk LEADER Match Funding

## PROJECT AIMS

- Further improve efficiencies and cut costs in a fledgling business.
- Progress the ambition to become zero waste/carbon neutral.
- Move to e-commerce and expand product range in response to Covid.

## PROJECT DETAIL

Whisky Frames is a family run business based in Rosewell, Midlothian. They originally specialised in making bespoke picture frames from used whisky barrels and were the only provider to do this. They are a community orientated business, offering well paid, skilled employment to local people. They also run a number of community initiatives and are also highly-eco minded. The LEADER project, initially aimed to improve efficiencies and progress the company's goals to become carbon neutral and produce net zero waste through the purchase of specialist equipment and renewables. Covid provided a new slant though, and the business became aware of the need for greater e-commerce and product diversification/expansion. The focus of the project shifted towards this, with the aim of improving efficiencies remaining central.



## RESULTS

The LEADER grant has been instrumental in ensuring the success of both, the e-commerce move and product expansion. Purchase of photography and IT items ensures professional photographs can be produced and e-commerce functions met in house. New saws, sanders and lathes ensure all new items can be produced at high efficiency, with a new CNC router providing precision cutting. The business has stayed true to its environmental principals, buying second hand or repairing where possible and despite biomass and solar panels costs being removed from the project, they are currently operating on a borrowed biomass system. This, along with a new variable speed drive (identified as the key factor for reducing their electricity), is driving down costs, both monetary and environmental.



Alongside the LEADER project, Whisky Frames were developing Barrelsmiths, a one stop shop for all their barrel based gifts. LEADER has supported the success of Barrelsmiths in its first year and provided Whisky Frames the capacity to build on this year on year. In the applicant's own words, "Tyne Esk LEADER has helped safeguard Whisky Frames and the jobs they provide during Covid."

