



USING LOCAL PRODUCE

CATEGORY: PURCHASING CASE STUDY YEAR: 2007

Business Details:

**Grindon Cartshed
Hexham
Northumberland**

<http://www.grindon-cartshed.co.uk>



Description:

Grindon Cartshed is a new self-catering and B&B in Hadrians Wall country. The owners farm in an environmentally sensitive way and are passionate about using and supplying local produce. The business supplies meats from the local butchers; they promote local beer and supply local eggs and other produce from nearby farms. They also provide locally produced crafts such as soaps, greetings cards and textile products such as aprons and tea and coffee cosies. Great care and attention went into refurbishing the old buildings in as green a way as possible including the use of local stone and the building sits well in the environment.



Economic

Cutting out the middle man and buying produce directly from the producers bring economic benefits for both the supplier and the purchaser. Transportation costs are minimised and sourcing products with a short shelf life from local producer's means less wastage occurs. Having contacts with local producers can mean the purchaser has access to good quality seasonal produce also.



Environmental

Supplying products made in the local area ensures that transportation is kept to the absolute minimum. (Food represents 30% of the goods transported on the roads). In many situations products will often have travelled from overseas to get to the consumer, emitting greenhouse gases and other pollutants into the environment. Sourcing locally produced products mean that this pollution is minimised, and since local craft products are often made from reusing materials waste can be minimised also.



Social

The provision of local craft products mean that money is kept circulating in the local area, particularly important in rural areas where unemployment can be high. Most crafts will use local labour and materials. The feel good factor is important for the visitor; they take away a souvenir of their holiday which is authentic to the area, they know they have supported the local economy, in some cases they may even meet the crafts person. All these factors mean that craft production and sale is well suited to sustainable development.

WEB

Craft people by region: <http://www.craft-fair.co.uk>
Northumberland Tourism: <http://www.made-in-northumberland.co.uk>