

**Peter Cook**  
**ENRD Contact Point**

Peter Cook has 30 years' experience in agricultural, rural and food business management. He worked for the Scottish Agricultural College for 18 years as an agricultural economist, as a lecturer, researcher and farm business adviser, latterly heading the Rural Business Unit. From 2003 to 2016 Peter ran his own rural consultancy business and in 2016 he was employed by Opportunity North East to set up and manage its Food, Drink and Agriculture development activity. Opportunity North East is a private sector economic development body established by Sir Ian Wood, principal of the Wood Group, a large multinational oil services company based in Aberdeen. The aim of Opportunity North East is to grow the economy of North East Scotland beyond its current reliance on the oil and gas sector; it works in partnership with the public sector. Peter has worked throughout Europe, including most east and central European countries during their EU accession period. He has worked on many EU projects including several RDP reviews involving assessment of the LEADER approach. He has been an adviser on policy issues to UK House of Commons Select Committee Inquiries and to Scottish Government Inquiries. Peter also farms in Aberdeenshire.