



ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE

2 DECEMBER 2021

REFERENCE

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# DEFRA FUTURE FARMING RESILIENCE FUND (ENGLAND ONLY)



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Defra launched the second phase of the Future Farming Resilience Fund (FFRF) in August 2021, to provide **free support and business advice** to current BPS applicants. This second phase of the programme is open now and will run until March 2022, with Defra allocating over £10 million of funding to 19 sector specialists including AHDB, The Prince's Countryside Fund, regional land agents and farm business consultants. The support will help BPS recipients build an understanding of the impact of reduced BPS payments on their businesses, advise how business plans need to adapt and demonstrate how to monitor business performance going forwards.

Cuts in the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) in England start in 2021. While for most, the cuts in the first year are relatively small, the cuts will increase by 15% per year for all BPS recipients, with a minimum 50% cut in payments by 2024. BPS payments will cease completely after 2027. Farming businesses need to start making plans now for how they are going to manage this change and understanding current business performance and the impact of cuts in BPS is a good starting point.

## 2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### *Key information:*

- The scheme is open to all current BPS applicants.
- The second phase of the scheme is open now and will run to 1 March 2022. Those interested should contact the provider **as soon as possible**. Many of the organisations have reported significant interest since their details were published on 13th July and are likely to be fully subscribed.
- There are 19 providers who cover different regions, sectors and services. The up to date list can be found [here](#) and in the table below.
- The providers are offering a range of services, including group discussion, online webinars and skills workshops. Many are also offering a bespoke farm business analysis with recommendations for improvements.
- Direct, one-to-one support can only be obtained from one provider, though applicants can attend introductory meetings and webinars to help them select a provider.
- Farms that straddle borders with Wales and Scotland are eligible to take part in this phase, as long as they have some land in England.
- A new (and final) phase of the FFRF will launch in autumn 2022 and will run until late 2024.

## 3. CLA ADVICE

- These services will help farmers and landowners navigate the early stages of the agricultural transition and identify key actions to build a resilient business. The CLA **strongly recommends** that members that claim BPS and are looking to adapt to future changes, should access the support under this scheme. Access to professional advice and information will help members prepare for change and highlight ways to adapt.
- Start by reviewing the list of providers and the services they are offering before accessing the one-to-one advice. Whilst all of the providers are offering an impact assessment of the cuts in BPS and most are offering a tailored farm business report, some providers are offering services such as environmental and carbon audits, which could help prepare businesses for future schemes.
- Some providers have reported high levels of interest. Members should act now or risk being faced with a limited list of providers.

## 4. FURTHER INFORMATION

The Defra Future Farming and Countryside Programme has a number of other schemes to support agricultural productivity, animal health and welfare, and environmental land management. These schemes are summarised in the CLA Guidance Note *Overview of Defra Agriculture Transition Schemes*. There are individual CLA Guidance notes for many of the schemes that each provide key information and advice on whether and how to apply.

If you have any questions please contact your regional office or the national team. If you wish to keep up to date with changes in Defra Future Farming Programme please register for their email blog [here](#).

Organisation	Contact	Phone	Coverage	Sector	Support
AHDB	<a href="mailto:Comms@ahdb.org.uk">Comms@ahdb.org.uk</a>	0247 5189300	England	Grazing livestock & Cereals	<p><b>Podcasts, webinars, articles, meetings, dedicated helpline.</b> (targeting 10,000 businesses).</p> <p><b>BPS business impact calculator, KPI assessment, feedback sessions, discussion groups</b> (targeting 4,000 businesses)</p> <p><b>One-to-one support</b>, including full farm benchmarking, environment and carbon audit, agribusiness appraisals assessment of strengths and weaknesses within the business, discussion on business priorities and action to take (targeting 600 businesses)</p>
<a href="#">Berrys</a>	<a href="mailto:will.davies@berrys.uk.com">will.davies@berrys.uk.com</a>	07469858749	Shropshire, Staffordshire, Cheshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Bucks, Warwickshire, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northants, Rutland, Leicestershire, Derbyshire.	No particular sector	Advice by means of a face-to face-meeting, <b>business report</b> (including accounts analysis), and recommendations for the future of the business. The latter will include a series of milestones for which they will monitor progress and provide further advice through a series of <b>follow-up sessions</b> delivered either virtually or face-to-face.
<a href="#">Brown &amp; Co</a>	<a href="mailto:defrafr@brown-co.com">defrafr@brown-co.com</a>	01480 598875	Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Humber, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire,	Targeting all farmers and farm types	<b>Webinars, group meetings and one-to-one, on farm meetings.</b>

			Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Bucks, Bedfordshire, Northants, Essex, Kent, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset.	including arable, livestock, mixed and roots. An emphasis on tenants, older farmers and those under financial pressure.	One-to-one support will produce a <b>business assessment report</b> , including an <b>action plan</b> and resilience benchmarking.
Bury Beet Group	<a href="mailto:jamie.gwatkin@virgin.net">jamie.gwatkin@virgin.net</a>	01284386111	Suffolk and Norfolk	Arable and sugar beet	45/ 62 places filled as of end of July 2021.  Running a project called 'soils for sugar.' Includes benchmarking, environmental assessment, soil management, improving biodiversity and carbon counting, future funding opportunities.  <b>One-to-one visits</b> and <b>group topic-based seminars</b> .
<a href="#">Ceres Rural</a>	<a href="mailto:sebastian.murray@ceresrural.co.uk">sebastian.murray@ceresrural.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:george.badger@ceresrural.co.uk">george.badger@ceresrural.co.uk</a>	01865790790	Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, Northants, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Bucks, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Essex, Suffolk, Kent, Sussex, Berkshire, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Surrey	Arable	<b>Farm visit and follow up farm resilience report</b> , focussing on improving business resilience and financial performance. Will identify opportunities for new businesses, environmental opportunities and conduct a sustainability assessment.

Devon County Council	<a href="mailto:linda.wilson@devon.gov.uk">linda.wilson@devon.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:charlotte.molyneux@devon.gov.uk">charlotte.molyneux@devon.gov.uk</a>  <a href="mailto:farmingresilience@devon.gov.uk">farmingresilience@devon.gov.uk</a>	01392383000	Norfolk. Devon and Somerset	No particular sector	<b>Information workshops</b> - virtual or in person.  One-to-one support- <b>detailed business analysis</b> and action plan.  <b>Specialist workshops</b> on particular themes- e.g. environmental schemes or adding value to produce.
<a href="#">DJM Consulting</a>	<a href="mailto:helen@theruralbusiness.co.uk">helen@theruralbusiness.co.uk</a>	01746714089	Shropshire, West Midlands, South Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Derbyshire, Northants, Cambridgeshire, Oxfordshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire	No particular sector	Pre-visit account analysis and BPS reduction analysis. Farm visit. Production of a tailored, strategic <b>action plan</b> .
JH Agri Consultancy	<a href="mailto:ihadwin@jhagricconsultancy.co.uk">ihadwin@jhagricconsultancy.co.uk</a>	07739176667	Cumbria, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Northumberland	Livestock	Solely one-to-one support, including <b>financial analysis</b> , flock and herd performance, areas to improve. Alternative income opportunities. Short, sharp report with <b>action plan</b> .
<a href="#">Kite Consulting</a>	<a href="mailto:jennie.moore@kiteconsulting.com">jennie.moore@kiteconsulting.com</a>	01902854797	Cumbria, Lancashire, Cheshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Gloucestershire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Somerset, Devon, Northants, Suffolk	Dairy	Aim to target 500 farmers.  Participants asked to enter farm physical and financial info onto a dedicated portal, so it can be benchmarked. Farm will be visited by a Data Consultant to sense check the data and explore the best route to improved resilience. Farmer then invited to a 1 day workshop with 20-25 other farmers to explore challenges and solutions. Farmers then develop an individual <b>action plan</b> at the workshop.

					Follow up online group meeting to discuss the action plans and implementation.
<a href="#">Landworkers Alliance/ Pasture for Life Association/ Organic Research Centre</a>	<a href="mailto:jyoti.fernandes@landworkersalliance.org.uk">jyoti.fernandes@landworkersalliance.org.uk</a>	07875849754	England	Horticulture , dairy, SME meat, mixed farming	<p>PFLA- targeting small to medium dairy and red meat enterprises.</p> <p>LWA- targeting medium and large scale horticulture(above 5ha) and arable</p> <p>Also help from Organic Research Centre</p> <p>Mixed farming will fall between them.</p> <p>Advice targeted towards encouraging organic/ agroecological practices alongside adoption of short supply chains. Welcome those considering full conversion to organic farming and applicants should be interested in agroecological principles and short supply chains.</p> <p>Will host around 25 <b>webinars</b> on farm resilience. Attendees will be invited to apply for mentoring- they have the capacity to provide a mentoring service for 80 farmers.</p> <p>Will develop a series of <b>online educational resources</b> for up to 500 farmers, including toolkits and webinars. A proportion of the 500 will be eligible for more in depth, <b>one-to-one mentoring and advisory services</b>, delivered by the Organic Research Centre LWA and PFLA, depending on the needs of the farm.</p> <p>Applications for peer mentoring and advice will be competitive and assessed on application.</p>
<a href="#">Laurence Gould Partnership</a>	<a href="mailto:keith@laurencegould.com">keith@laurencegould.com</a>	07968412052	Kent, East Sussex, West Sussex, Surry, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Dorset,	No particular sector	Will present 4 <b>webinars</b> in autumn 2021- 1 per month from Sept to Dec. From those attending will hold 60 one-to-one 'visits' via video conferencing. The remaining 180 visits will be

			Wiltshire, Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Notts, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Rutland, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, Northants, Bucks, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Berkshire, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Northumberland, Cumbria, Durham		<p>one-to-one on farm visits. One-to-one video and farm visits will take place from mid-August to end of Feb 2022.</p> <p>The <b>one-to-one visits</b> will be supported by a <b>brief report</b> to cover the individual farmer's particular situation and requirements.</p>
<a href="#">M B Hodgson &amp; Son Limited</a>	<a href="mailto:kathryn@nwauctions.co.uk">kathryn@nwauctions.co.uk</a>	01539566222	Cumbria, North Lancashire, North Yorkshire	Livestock	<p>Initial meetings at Junction 26 auction centre and Lancaster auction.</p> <p>Will conduct farm visits and produce a business support and <b>farm resilience audit</b>.</p>
<a href="#">Natural Enterprise</a>	<a href="mailto:graham.biss@naturalenterprise.co.uk">graham.biss@naturalenterprise.co.uk</a>	01983296244	Isle of Wight	No particular sector	<p>3 introductory meetings, 4 <b>seminars</b>, 6 <b>workshops</b>, 10 <b>one-to-one appraisals</b>.</p>
<a href="#">NIAB</a>	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.stockdale@niab.com">elizabeth.stockdale@niab.com</a>	07957966802	If you self-identify as either from Wessex or the Cotswolds, then can apply.	Arable	<p><b>Workshops</b>- 3 locations, up to 40 participants/ workshop in early November.</p> <p>On farm support to create structured <b>change management plans</b> (50 study farms 2 x half day sessions on farm).</p> <p>Follow up <b>workshops</b> to share learning from study farms.</p>

					Dissemination of a Change Management <b>Toolkit</b> , available to all.
<a href="#">Promar International</a>	<a href="mailto:sandra.callwood@genusplc.com">sandra.callwood@genusplc.com</a>	07971 118688	England	Dairy, Beef and Sheep	Tailored <b>one-to-one support service</b> . Identify how to adapt business models in light of changes.  Sign up <a href="#">here</a>
<a href="#">Ricardo-AEA Ltd</a>	<a href="mailto:ffrf@ricardo.com">ffrf@ricardo.com</a>	01235 753530	England	No particular sector	170 one-to-one <b>farm resilience reviews</b> with a specialist business adviser from Andersons. Identify risks, opportunities, a personalised action plan and support implementing plan.  6 resilience planning <b>webinars</b> in Sept and Oct. Run by Andersons and FCN- resilience planning techniques and managing barriers to action.  Online <b>skills training portal</b> - for anyone who has a one to one visit or attends a webinar. Will include 15 elements delivered via a range of media e.g. budgeting, utilising environmental features, planning for family changes, accounts and paperwork. Available to all participants from Ricardo pilot project from Sept 2020-March 2021.
<a href="#">RSK ADAS Limited</a>	<a href="mailto:resilience@adas.co.uk">resilience@adas.co.uk</a>	03301 755839	England	Any sector	<b>Webinars, business skills development workshops</b> . 350 Online or in person <b>one-to-one business reviews</b> .
<a href="#">SRUC</a>	<a href="mailto:neil.carter@sac.co.uk">neil.carter@sac.co.uk</a>	07825 781347	England	Any sector	11 <b>webinars</b> through Sept- Oct. 6 on a general update, 5 more sector specific.  200 remote <b>carbon audits</b> aimed at farmers that have not already done one.  30 <b>carbon management plans</b> (visit and tailored plan).



<a href="#">The Prince's Countryside Fund</a>	<a href="mailto:project@countrysidefund.org.uk">project@countrysidefund.org.uk</a>	<p>07551848892</p>	<p>Cumbria, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Northumberland, Durham Dales, Peak District, Dartmoor, Exmoor, Lincolnshire, Herefordshire, Cornwall. There will also be a virtual group.</p>	<p>Dairy, Beef and Sheep</p>	<p><b>Workshops</b>, online learning, one-to-one support, <b>peer networking</b> for 1,000 family farm businesses.</p> <p>Virtual group will be accessible to all farmers in England.</p> <p>Aimed at small-medium sized farms.</p>
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<b>Name of contact</b>	Cameron Hughes
<b>Job title</b>	Land Use Policy Adviser
<b>Email address</b>	Cameron.hughes@cla.org.uk

**For further information  
please contact:**

CLA 16 Belgrave Square  
London SW1X 8PQ

020 7235 0511  
[www.cla.org.uk](http://www.cla.org.uk)

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