

Farm Advisory Service

One-to-one advice and funding stakeholder pack:

Winter 2023



**Farm
Advisory
Service**



Personalised support for individual farmers and crofters

Welcome to the Winter 2023 edition of the FAS stakeholder pack.

High energy and input costs are making this winter even harder than normal. These challenges are affecting farmers and crofters in different ways and there is no one-size-fits-all solution.

In this edition, we share ways farmers and crofters can use the range of grant-funded advice services provided by FAS to meet the specific needs of their businesses. Services like Integrated Land Management Plans can be tailored to the individual needs of each farmer and crofter, from experienced farmers to new entrants.

Also, look out for links to our short [stakeholder pack survey](#) – designed to gather your feedback on what you'd like to see more, or less of, in future.

Help spread the word by sharing this pack's contents with your networks and contacts

1. Text for your newsletter: (Funding support information)

Personal advice for businesses in their first five years

Integrated Land Management Plans have helped new entrants to farming and crofting get their businesses off to a sustainable, profitable start. Funded by FAS, this support is delivered by a qualified advisor who will assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to your business along with a comprehensive assessment of your land, biodiversity and finances.

This is helpful for all farming businesses, but especially for those new to the industry or who have recently set up a business of their own. It can help them strategically plan the best way to grow their business and make the most of the land they have available to them.

Bruce MacAngus from Little Glencoe farm in Aberdeenshire received an ILMP last year and said “**...our adviser was excellent from start to finish. She assessed our business right from the start and advised us appropriately on every aspect... We have since managed to purchase a new holding and rent more land, all thanks to Kirsten and FAS.**”

For new entrants, **£1,200** is available to cover an ILMP for your business. To find out more visit <https://www.fas.scot/integrated-land-management-plans-ilmps/> or contact us at **advice@fas.scot** or **0300 323 0161**.

334 words

2. Text for your newsletter: (Funding support information)

Mentoring for specialist crops

Starting your own farming or crofting business is tough no matter what, but working with a specialist crop comes with a unique set of challenges.

Islay Roberts from Glen Caladh in Tighnabruaich used the mentoring programme provided through the Farm Advisory Service (FAS) to get guidance specific to her tea farm. Islay already knew the mentor she wanted to work with, who was also a specialist tea grower, and through FAS her mentor received funding to compensate for her time. This provided the opportunity for the two to work together to review the business and for Islay to discuss her plans with a skilled farmer with relevant experience. For Islay this boosted her confidence that she was making the right decisions for her business.

Mentoring is available for farming and crofting businesses that are less than five years old; applicants can choose to work with an advisor they know, or FAS can help find experienced mentors who are right for their business.

To find out more about finding a mentor or becoming one, visit **www.fas.scot** or contact us at **advice@fas.scot** or **0300 323 0161**.



3. Text for your newsletter: (Funding support information)

Animal welfare support for livestock and people

Specialist advice on animal welfare can help keep your livestock in good health and make your farm practices work for you. Animal welfare advice is one of the thirteen specialist advice options available through FAS and is aimed at farmers and crofters who want to adopt best practices in livestock management and to identify how to finance it.

The advice is delivered by a qualified adviser who will begin by meeting you and visiting your farm or croft. They will discuss the options with you and then provide a comprehensive report. One farmer received specialist advice on animal welfare through FAS with the intention of making his farm more **animal friendly and “human friendly”**. He says the advice he received made life easier for him after taking over the farm business and he believes such support encourages younger farmers to stay in the industry.

Businesses can choose two specialist advice options and there is up to **£1,000** available in funding per option. Find out more at **<https://www.fas.scot/integrated-land-management-plans-ilmps/>** or contact us at **advice@fas.scot** or **0300 323 0161**.



Images to use with newsletter text/online



Suggested Tweets to share



@FASScot has a range of options to help farmers and crofters mitigate high input prices, reduce emissions and achieve a #Sustainable and profitable future. Funding available for new and established businesses <https://www.fas.scot/advice-grants/> #ScottishFarming



Start your #ScottishFarming business sustainably! Understand strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats with a land, #biodiversity and finance assessment through @FASScot. 100% funded for businesses in their first 5 years <https://www.fas.scot/integrated-land-management-plans-ilmps/>



Adapt your agri-business to build #ClimateChange resilience and reduce emissions with support from qualified advisers. Funding is available to farmers and crofters for personalised @FASScot land management plans <https://www.fas.scot/integrated-land-management-plans-ilmps/> #ScottishFarming



Overcome the challenges of setting up a new business, access the valuable skills and knowledge of an experienced @FASScot #Mentor matched to your business's needs. Fully funded for business in their first five years <https://www.fas.scot/mentoring-new-farmers-crofters/> #ScottishFarming



Access specialist advice services with up to £1k grant funding available per topic. @FASScot can help you bring down costs and support the diversification of your business. Find out more <https://www.fas.scot/specialist-advice/> #ScottishFarming



Learn best practices to keep your #LiveStock in good health and optimise farm practices with advice from a qualified advisor. Up to £1,000 in funding available for @FASScot specialist advice on #AnimalWelfare and other topics <https://www.fas.scot/specialist-advice/> #ScottishFarming



Posts to share on LinkedIn and Facebook



Up to £3,200 of funding is available for tailored advice to help keep your farm or croft profitable and sustainable.

Expert advice can be provided through @Scotland's Farm Advisory Service – FAS to support your ambitions whether you are new to farming and have set out in the past five years or you are an established business.

Apply here <https://www.fas.scot/advice-grants/>

Overcome the challenges of setting up a new business.

Access the valuable skills and knowledge of an experienced mentor, matched to your business's needs, who can guide you through the vital set-up and early growth years of your business.

Apply for free mentoring for new farmers and crofters with @Scotland's Farm Advisory Service - FAS

<https://www.fas.scot/mentoring-new-farmers-crofters/>

Concerned or interested in a specific topic relating to your business?

Receive specialist advice plans on a range of topics including resilience planning, biodiversity, habitat and landscape management, succession planning and business efficiency.

Up to £2,000 of funding available to any Scottish farm or croft business for expert advice provided by @Scotland's Farm Advisory Service – FAS. Apply here

<https://www.fas.scot/specialist-advice/>

Receive a clear, achievable, step-by-step action plan to take your farm or croft to a sustainable and profitable future.

100% of costs covered for businesses in the first five years and 80% for older businesses for an Integrated Land Management Plan delivered by @Scotland's Farm Advisory Service – FAS. Apply here

<https://www.fas.scot/integrated-land-management-plans-ilmps/>

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Visit our website:
<https://www.fas.scot/>

For further information, please contact:

0300 323 0161

advice@fas.scot