

Farm Advisory Service

One-to-one advice stakeholder pack: January 2022



**Farm
Advisory
Service**



Farming business support in challenging times



Happy New Year and welcome to the January 2022 edition of the Farm Advisory Service (FAS) stakeholder pack.

As we look to the year ahead, the team at FAS would like to highlight the ongoing importance of better business resilience and future planning so that your agri business is equip to cope with whatever 2022 has in store.

The pandemic and extreme weather events driven by climate change, remain ongoing issues affecting much of the agri sector, impacting supply chains and market activity. For many, managing such challenges leaves little room for business planning and/or laying the groundwork for a better work-life balance.

To support farmers and crofters in prioritising resilience and long-term planning, this pack provides information on grant funding to identify business strengths and areas for development, accessing technical advice on specialist topics and the long-term benefits of Integrated Land Management Plans.

Please share this pack's contents with your networks and contacts

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

Embedding sustainability and resilience in the Scottish agricultural sector – COP26 and beyond

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), that took place between October and November in Glasgow, brought into sharp focus the urgency of climate change and the need to live and work more sustainably. With agriculture a key focus of the [Scottish Government's Update to the Climate Change Plan 2018 – 2032](#) and accounting for 15.7% of Scotland's GHG emissions in 2019, farming has an important role to play in helping reduce Scotland's emissions. In its plan, the Scottish Government has pledged to 'support farmers, crofters and agricultural businesses to cut their emissions to the lowest level possible'.

Rising to the challenge of reducing Scotland's agricultural emissions requires farmers and crofters to understand how they are performing now and what options are open to them to adopt more sustainable practices in the future. There are two aspects to this:

- Adapting to Scotland's changing climate including unpredictable weather events.
- Adopting more climate friendly farming practices to reduce emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change.

An [Integrated Land Management Plan \(ILMP\)](#) provided through the [Farm Advisory Service \(FAS\)](#) can help Scottish farmers, crofters and land managers to adopt better practices, and find their way to a more sustainable and profitable future. An ILMP can help you set out a clear vision for your farm or croft by providing a clear, achievable, step-by-step action plan that will help you achieve your goals.

FAS can help farming businesses access up to 80% of the total cost of consultancy support (up to a maximum of £1,200), for a professional farm adviser to carry out an ILMP on behalf of the participatory business. In addition to the ILMP, you can choose to benefit from up to two further [specialist advice](#) plans, for which funding is also available.

For more information, please phone FAS on **0300 323 0161**, email advice@fas.scot or visit <https://www.fas.scot/advice-grants/>

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

Funding available towards professional fees for succession planning advice



Due to the nature of succession planning, many agri businesses may need to seek support for a range of professional services (such as legal, financial and mediation services) to adequately cover all aspects of planning.

Through the [Farm Advisory Service \(FAS\)](#), Scottish agri businesses can access up to £1,000 of Government funding for succession planning specialist advice, which can be put toward professional fees.

Through FAS, agri business owners can select their own service provider to deliver the work. Once FAS has verified that the provider put forward has professional qualifications and experience in the desired field, funding can be released to the provider.

To access funding, agri businesses must apply to FAS for specialist advice support on succession planning and confirm their choice of service provider.

For more information, please phone FAS on **0300 323 0161**, email advice@fas.scot or visit <https://www.fas.scot/specialist-advice/>

3. Text and image for your newsletter: (podcast content)

Taking stock – the long-term benefits of an Integrated Land Management Plan (ILMP)

In [this podcast](#) from the [Farm Advisory Service \(FAS\)](#), Ben Graham, Managing Partner at Kirkland in Dumfries and Galloway talks to FAS about his experience of applying for an ILMP to reflect on how he runs the enterprise.

In the interview, Ben details his reasons for applying for an ILMP and how this fits into the long-term plan for the business. He also discusses wanting to leave the business in a healthy, profitable state for the person who will take over from him, and which recommendations he's turned into actions and the importance of farmers always being prepared to change.

Could an ILMP help you improve your business?

Receive a detailed Integrated Land Management Plan that will identify opportunities and cost savings for your business, based on an independent and confidential assessment of your business by an experienced farm business adviser of your choosing.

The assessment is flexible and typically includes:

- an assessment of strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats as they relate to your vision for your business
- a basic habitats, biodiversity and conservation review
- financial performance analysis
- a cross compliance assessment to highlight where there may be risk areas for the business

Contact advice@fas.scot, call 0300 323 0161 or visit <https://www.fas.scot/integrated-land-management-plans-ilmps/> to find out how FAS can help.



[Listen now](#)



4. Text and image for your newsletter: (podcast content)

Animal welfare and farmer wellbeing – the holistic benefits of improving animal housing

In [this episode](#) of the [Farm Advisory Service \(FAS\)](#) podcast John Imrie from Hillhead Farm talks to FAS about his experience of receiving specialist advice for animal welfare.

In this podcast, John discusses his ambition of making his farm a more comfortable place for animals and people. John also talks about the importance, as a farmer, of taking care of your health and making sure farming is an attractive prospect for future generations.

Interested in getting specialist advice but don't know where to start?

Visit the FAS [advice and grants](#) page for details on [specialist advice](#) and information on all FAS one-to-one business support services. Or contact advice@fas.scot or call 0300 323 0161 to find out how FAS can help.



[Listen now](#)



5. Text for your newsletter: (infographic video)

Share our FAS programme video

Help raise visibility of the [help and grant support](#) available through the Scottish [Farm Advisory Service \(FAS\)](#) by sharing the FAS infographic video with your farming contacts and networks.

The 2-minute animated video provides a concise overview of the programme's core services (Integrated Land Management Plans (ILMPs), specialist advice, carbon audits and mentoring) and the level of grant support available for each.

The video can be shared via social media, embedded in your website or signposted in an email campaign pointing to FAS's website or YouTube channel.

Select the channel that works best for you:

- FAS YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngSHgpImkBU>
- FAS website: <https://www.fas.scot/publication/fas-one-to-one-services-what-you-need-to-know/>
- Embed code: `<iframe width="560" height="315" src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/ngSHgpImkBU" frameborder="0" allow="accelerometer; autoplay; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; gyroscope; picture-in-picture" allowfullscreen></iframe>`



Images to use with newsletter text/online



Suggested Tweets to share



Conversations about farm succession can be difficult, but can be made easier with the help of an experienced advisor. £1000 of funding and information on advisors is available through @FASscot <https://www.fas.scot/specialist-advice/> #ScottishFarming #farmadvice #farm #croft



The @FASscot advice line is here to cover a wide variety of topics including climate change and technical issues, regardless of your farm size or business stage. To find out more, call 0300 323 0161 #NewFarmers #ScottishFarming #farmadvice #farm #croft



Been farming or crofting for 5 years or less? A wealth of advice and support is available to new entrants via peer mentoring. To find out more about mentoring with @FASscot, click here: <http://ow.ly/PjY350HgEmF> #NewFarmers #ScottishFarming #farmadvice #farm #croft



There is up to £3,700 of funding available to #farmers and #crofters in Scotland for improving business sustainability and efficiency through @FASscot. Find out more here: <http://ow.ly/TJpH50HgEsV> #Scottishfarming #farmadvice #farm #croft



Take advantage of up to £1,200 of support from @FASscot to identify sustainable opportunities and cost savings with an Integrated Land Management Plan here: <http://ow.ly/QOM450Gk221> #ScottishFarming #farmadvice #farm #croft



Worried about how to adapt your agri business to cope with #climatechange impacts in Scotland? You can get up to £500 for a carbon audit & £1000 for specialist advice on adaption and mitigation through @FASscot <http://ow.ly/qxiM50HgGoQ> #ScottishFarming #farmadvice #farm #croft

Posts to share on LinkedIn and Facebook



Funding to help Scottish farmers understand the financial and technical performance of their croft

An Integrated Land Management Plan through FAS, can help you assess the financial performance of your business, identify cost savings and viable improvements. In addition, you can access further specialist advice on topics like woodland advice, soil and nutrient management, or animal welfare.

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



Grant funding from the Scottish Farm Advisory Service (FAS) can help improve farmer wellbeing

Farming and crofting is a rewarding profession but it can also be stressful. An Integrated Land Management Plan provided through FAS can help you identify opportunities to improve the efficiency of your business and specialist advice can help alleviate worries about succession or offer robust advice on specific areas of concern.

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



Access expert advice on resilience planning for agri businesses

Strengthen the resilience of your farm or croft to changing market conditions and agri policy developments, through expert specialist advice on resilience planning through the Scottish Farm Advisory Service. Up to £1000 is available in funding.

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

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to share with your network...**



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

For further information, please contact:

0300 323 0161

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