



**Farm
Advisory
Service**

If you are new to farming and have set out in the past five years, we can help.

Free mentoring support plus up to £3,200* of funding is available for tailored advice to help keep your farm or croft profitable and sustainable.

Mentoring

We will provide a mentor, experienced in your business sector, to guide you through the critical early years to establish a successful and sustainable business. Their experience will help to support you as you make important decisions for your business. They will steer you away from the many pitfalls that can be suffered in the early start-up years.

Farm Advisory Service (FAS) will link you to a mentor and provide your mentor with up to £1,000 to support their work with you.

Fully-funded business review

All new entrants to farming are eligible to receive a fully funded Integrated Land Management Plan (worth £1,200), which enables you to bring in an expert adviser who can support you in many ways, including:

- Developing a business plan and identifying suitable targets.
- Mapping out the reporting, legal and environmental requirements of the business.
- Identifying what support schemes and information services are available.

100% of farmers and crofters that received funding for mentoring rated the ease of the application process as excellent or good.

‘FAS advisor Hazel Laughton has been invaluable in assisting our farming business with honest advice and a fantastic attitude towards progress.’ – Integrated Land Management Plan recipient Jenny McKerr, The Wee Farm Distillery.

* Terms and conditions apply. See www.fas.scot for full details.



Specialist advice

No farmer can be an expert in the many issues that must be addressed. FAS can support you in finding an adviser, or you can bring in your own specialist you trust, be it a farm adviser, conservationist, lawyer or accountant, and FAS funding can help support their work for you. You are eligible to receive specialist advice support for two topics with £1,000 of funding per topic, including:

- Animal welfare
- Archaeological and historic sites
- Biodiversity, habitat and landscape
- Carbon audit action plan
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Crofter's plan
- Farm business efficiency
- Organics
- Resilience planning
- Soil and nutrient management
- Succession planning
- Water pollution prevention and control
- Woodland creation, management and conservation

99% of farmers and crofters who received special advice rated the helpfulness at the initial contact point as excellent or good.

Annual carbon audits

Support is also available for a carbon audit - open to all farming and crofting businesses - to help identify performance improvements and cost savings. Carried out by an experienced agricultural consultant and fully funded through FAS, the carbon audit will establish your carbon footprint, identify the sources of emissions on your farm, and show you how your performance compares with others - highlighting areas where you can improve your farm's operational efficiency. The carbon audits can be repeated annually to monitor performance and identify the impact of changes you make.

Fact sheets & case studies

We have a wealth of resources to help businesses get underway in farming and crofting. The 'New Entrants' section of our website has a range of fact sheets dealing with topics ranging from setting up a business and marketing through to benchmarking and succession planning. There are also videos and reports that allow you to 'look over the hedge' at how others have established their businesses. Whether you are looking to buy or rent land, enter a joint venture or sub-let a croft, we have information to help you.

Apply now

Find out more and apply for funding by post or online. **By post:** call 0300 323 0161 or email advice@fas.scot for an application form. **Online:** www.fas.scot/advice-grants