

File No:

Township/Group:



CROFTING CATTLE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME – 2021

Conditions of Hire-For Approved Applications to the above scheme.

For successful applicants the following conditions shall apply to the hire of all bulls supplied to townships, Grazings committees and other such groups (referred to hereafter as 'the group') under the Crofting Cattle Improvement Scheme 2021. You are asked to note these and confirm your understanding and acceptance of these by signing one copy of this document and returning it to SGRPID along with your completed application form.

1. All normal cattle movement-recording procedures apply to the delivery and uplift of Cattle Improvement Scheme bulls.

Delivery

2. The Custodian (nominated by the group) will be responsible for the safe handling of the bull, on delivery, whilst on the township and on collection and so must have the relevant skills and experience. The Custodian must be personally present to receive the bull, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed with the Stud farm staff. The nominated Custodian and their contact details should be provided on the confirmation section of this document. SGRPID will contact the Custodian to arrange the time and place of delivery. SGRPID will confirm this information during the week leading up to delivery.
3. This information will provide the delivery driver with a schedule and contacts. The driver will telephone the Custodian in advance should there be any undue delay or changes in schedule. SGRPID will not be responsible for any delays which are outwith their control.
4. In the absence of the Custodian to take delivery at the appointed place and time, the bull will be returned directly to the Scottish Government Bull Stud Knocknagael. Should the delivery driver have reason to be concerned as to the competence or fitness of any person taking delivery of the bull, he may refuse to offload the bull and return it to the Scottish Government Bull Stud.
5. The group is responsible for ensuring that the facilities at the delivery point are suitable for the safe delivery and handover of each bull. The delivery driver has sole discretion to judge the fitness or otherwise of the facility and may refuse to offload the bull at an unsuitable facility.
6. In the event that the bull/s cannot be delivered for the reasons given at 3 and 4 above, the group will be liable for all the charges associated with this. This may include liability for disruption to subsequent deliveries.
7. The delivery driver will pass the cattle passport and delivery note to the Custodian when the bull is delivered. The delivery note must be signed by the Custodian, acknowledging receipt of the bull and passport, the delivery note is then returned to the driver. At this point the group becomes the keeper of the animal, assumes responsibility for it, for all movement recording and the passport. The Custodian must ensure that all movements are reported to BCMS and that entries are made in the appropriate herd registers. If any medicines or animal health products are administered to the bulls, this must be entered in the appropriate medicines records

and copied to the Stud Farm Manager. **Please ensure that Main Farm codes entered on the application form have a registered keeper attached on BCMS records.**

8. The passport must be returned to SGRPID with the bull/s.
9. The delivery driver will not assist the group in further livestock movements once the bull is delivered.

Uplift

10. **All bulls must be haltered and tethered prior to being handed over by the Custodian.** SGRPID will contact the Custodian by telephone to arrange time and place to handover the bull/s and will confirm this again by telephone in the week prior to uplift. The Custodian must be present for the collection, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed with the Stud Farm staff.
11. This information will provide the delivery driver with a schedule and contacts. The driver will telephone the Custodian in advance should there be any undue delay or changes in schedule. SGRPID will not be responsible for any delays which are outwith their control.
12. The Custodian will pass the cattle passport to the delivery driver when the bull/s is uplifted. The driver will not uplift the bull if the cattle passport is not available at the time of uplift. At this point SGRPID becomes the keeper of the animal/s, assumes responsibility for it, for all movement recording and for the passport.
13. **In the absence of a competent person or if the bull is not suitably haltered and restrained at the appointed place and time, the bull will not be uplifted as this is against Stud Farm Health and Safety Policy.**
14. The group is responsible for ensuring that the facilities at the delivery point are suitable for the handling of this class of livestock. The delivery driver has sole discretion to judge the fitness or otherwise of the facility and may refuse to uplift the bull from an unsuitable facility.
15. In the event that the bull/s is unable to be uplifted for the reasons given at 12, 13 and 14 above the group will be liable for all additional charges associated with the return of the bull/s to the Scottish Government Bull Stud Knocknagael.

General Conditions

16. SGRPID reserves the right to inspect the bull and the premises in which it is housed at any time.
17. On receipt of the bull the group will be responsible for all Health & Safety measures and must ensure that these are put in place for themselves and any other parties.
18. The bull must be available for the service of cows in the township or group for which it is supplied. On no account must any other stock be served by the bull unless the SGRPID's approval has been obtained. **The bull must not be used on animals that have aborted within the previous 2 months.** Also, please note that the maximum number of cows and heifers put to an individual bull, must not exceed 40-50 at any one time. Anything in excess of this, has a significant effect on the bulls performance and may result in a number of cows proving not in calf, which could result in financial implications for the individual.
19. **SGRPID accepts no liability for a bull proving to be a non-server or infertile nor for loss in respect of any outbreaks of contagious or infectious diseases. In addition while every care is taken in the selection of bulls used in the Scheme, no liability can be accepted should any bull leave defective progeny.**
20. Each Township/Group **must** provide details of each individual crofter who is benefiting from, and sharing in the cost of the hire of the bull(s). Details must include

full name, address with post code and Agricultural Code Number. The scheme is subsidised and this is therefore a requirement of State Aid *de minimis* in the agriculture sector regulation 1408/2013. The European Union prohibits any undertaking/individual in the agriculture sector from receiving more than 15,000 Euros *de minimis* aid over a 3 year rolling period. Any *de minimis* aid granted to an undertaking over the 15,000 Euros limit may be subject to repayment with interest. If you have received any *de minimis* aid over the last three years (from any source) you should inform us immediately with the dates and amount of the aid. The *de minimis* reference for this grant is DMA/010/2013.

21. Submission of a signed acceptance of Conditions of Hire do not signify approval for entry to the Scheme. Each application will be considered on its merits and the applicant(s) notified in due course. Applications not approved will be notified.
22. A combined Cattle Improvement/Marketing, Health, Training & Future Breeding Plan will be issued for completion over the course of this year's scheme. **Completion is a mandatory requirement for scheme participation.** Farm staff will be available for advice if required.

Animal Health and Welfare

23. Scheme participants are reminded that whilst the bulls are out on hire, they are considered to be part of your herd and should be kept within the scope of the Animal Health and Welfare Codes of Practice and guidelines. Any breaches of the aforementioned found at inspection or reported to the Stud farm staff, will be followed up and appropriate action taken.

If the Bull is losing condition due to inclement weather, poor grazing or harsh environment, it should have access to supplementary feeding e.g. Hay/Silage, compound feed, cobs, bruised barley or oats.

All Bulls are condition scored on leaving and returning to the Stud. Any animal returning in excessively poor condition, will result in follow up action being taken.

Please complete below, the person (Custodian) who will be responsible for receiving the bull from SGRPID and its despatch on its return:

Name

**Address
(including
postcode)**

**Main Farm
Code Number**

**Telephone No
& mobile
number**

I have read and understand these conditions of hire and accept them on behalf of the Township/Group

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Position _____

PLEASE SIGN BOTH COPIES OF THE CONDITIONS OF HIRE. ONE COPY SHOULD BE RETAINED AND THE OTHER RETURNED WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM (please remember to complete the list of participants on last page)

