

**Crofting Cattle Improvement Scheme
ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPPLY OF BULLS 2021**

Costs

	Breed of Bull Supplied	
	Continental	Native
Flat Rate Hire Fee (All Bulls)	*£1,302.26	*£1302.26
Flat Rate Hire Fee (if wintered in Township)	£937.62	£989.70

* Wintered at Scottish Government Bull Stud Knocknagael. All prices include VAT at 20%.

Please submit your application by the 15th January 2021. Successful applicants will receive an invoice for the cost and payment should be made by return.

Guidance Notes

Q1. *Can we apply for any breed?*

SGRPID reserves the right to supply a breed, which it considers more suitable. Where herd replacements are made from homebred heifers, suitable breeds for that purpose will be provided.

Q2. *Which breeds of bull are available?*

Aberdeen Angus, Charolais, Limousin, Luing, Saler, Shorthorn and Simmental.

Q3. *Who is responsible for delivery to and collection of bulls from the township?*

This is normally arranged by SGRPID.

Q4. *Must the custodian/keeper be present when the bull is delivered?*

Yes. If the custodian is not available then the group must appoint a responsible member or representative of the group, with prior agreement being sought from the Stud Farm staff. This person must be competent in handling such livestock, **must be personally present** to receive the bull. The nominated representative and their contact details should be provided on the confirmation section of Conditions of Hire document.

Q5. *What if there is no person available at the time of delivery?*

In the absence of a competent person to take delivery at the appointed place and time, the bull will be returned directly to SGRPID. 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 Knocknagael.

Q6. *What facilities must the group provide at the delivery point?*

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.

Q7. *What documentation is required?*

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 the bull, for all movement recording and safekeeping for the passport.

Q8. *Who is responsible for the bull while in the township?*

Township Committees and other approved groups must provide for the adequate keep and welfare of the bull and appoint a custodian to be responsible for its care. The nominated custodian 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. They will ensure that the bull is haltered, ready for collection and that they are present for the delivery and collection unless alternative arrangements have been agreed with the stud farm staff.

Any unattended or unhaltered bulls will not be uplifted as this is against Stud farm Health and Safety policy.

The custodian must ensure that all movements are reported to BCMS using the agricultural code number registered with 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. should take all reasonable steps to keep the bull under proper control. The custodian must be under 70 years of age.

Q9. *What if there are breeding difficulties with the cows to be served?*

Then service may be refused by the custodian and the case reported immediately to the Clerk of the Committee or group representative who should inform the Farm Manager on 01463 231261 or 07767 673717. Where there is evidence of abortion or it is found difficult to get cows or heifers to hold to the bull, the local veterinary surgeon should be consulted and the Farm Manager informed.

Q10. *Who arranges for the uplift of the bull?*

SGRPID will contact the group to arrange the time and place for uplift and will confirm the name of individual responsible for the handover the bull/s. These details will again be confirmed by telephone in the week prior to uplift.

Q11. *What must we do to prepare for the uplift of the bull?*

All bulls must be haltered and tethered prior to being handed over by the named individual who must be competent in handling such livestock. The same individual will hand over the cattle passport to the delivery driver. At this point SGRPID becomes the keeper of the animal/s, assumes responsibility for it, for all movement recording and for the passport. **The driver will not uplift the bull if the cattle passport is not available at the time of uplift.**

Q12. *What facilities must the group provide at the uplift point?*

The group is responsible for ensuring that the facilities at the uplift point are suitable for the handling of bulls. 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. In the absence of suitable facilities, the presence of the competent person or if the bull is not suitably haltered and restrained at the appointed place and time, the bull will not be uplifted.

Q13. *Will the group be charged if the bull is unable to be delivered/uplifted?*

In the event that the bull/s is unable to be delivered/uplifted due to failure of the group to provide suitable facilities, lack of a competent person being present or the passport not being available. The group will be liable for all additional charges associated with the return of the bull/s to and from the Scottish Government Bull Stud Knocknagael.

Q14. *How do we know that the bull provided will be fertile and disease free?*

Only fertile bulls found free from clinical evidence of disease are dispatched to townships.

Q15. *What are the arrangements for wintering the bulls?*

Bulls are normally returned each autumn to the Scottish Government Bull Stud Knocknagael for wintering. If a township requests to over winter a bull and there are adequate facilities and keep available then any such arrangement requires the approval of SGRPID.

Q16. *Do we need insurance cover for the period of hire?*

SGRPID has arranged cover for the townships and groups under public liability insurance up to £2,000,000 and also minimal cover for the custodians under personal accident insurance. Details are available from the Farm Manager. **As the cover for personal accident is minimal you may wish to consider arranging additional cover privately to a level you consider adequate.**

Q17. *What if the bull has an accident or dies in our care?*

This must be reported immediately to the local veterinary surgeon and to SGRPID. If the bull dies the veterinary surgeon's report stating the cause of death must be sent to SGRPID without delay and the carcass disposed of in accordance with regulations.

Q18. *What if the bull needs veterinary attention?*

If you need to call a veterinary surgeon to attend the bull, you should do so and immediately inform the SGRPID Farm Manager on 01463 231261/07767 673717.

Q19. *Who pays the veterinary surgeon's fees?*

SGRPID are to be invoiced by the veterinary surgeon, with a detailed report attached.

Q20. *Will SGRPID monitor the condition of the bull while in our care?*

Yes. SGRPID officials or their representatives must have access to inspect bulls.

Q21. *Is VAT payable?*

The hire of a bull is a flat rate charge and includes VAT at 20%. A VAT receipt will be issued upon request.

Q23. *Who is responsible for the collection of the fees from individual cow owners?*

Responsibility lies with the Grazings Clerk/Constable or secretary/ representative of the group. These should be collected and submitted by cheque with the application.

Q24. *What if we fail to comply with the conditions of the Scheme?*

SGRPID will refuse to supply further bulls on loan. In all cases of dispute, SGRPID's decision is final.

Q25. *How will the success of the scheme be monitored?*

A combined Cattle Improvement/Marketing/Training/Future Breeding & Health Plan will be issued for completion over the course of the scheme. Farm staff will be available for advice if required. Completion is a mandatory requirement for scheme participation.

Q26. *How can I appeal against a decision?*

Our aim is to provide a good standard of service but if there is any aspect of the administration of the Scheme about which you have a complaint we shall investigate this fully. Any complaints or appeals against decisions should be addressed in writing to the Principal Agricultural Officer, SGRPID, Longman House, 28 Longman Road, Inverness, IV1 1SF.

Contact Details

**Application Forms to
be sent to:**

SGRPID
Longman House
28 Longman Road
Inverness
IV1 1SF
Tel: 0131 244 4968
SGRPID.Inverness@gov.scot

Enquiries

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