

# Guides to Bringing a Croft into Production



**Farm  
Advisory  
Service**

## Starting a Crofting Business

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### Update Register of Crofts (RoC)

When you buy croft land and/or become a tenant, you must update the Register of Crofts (RoC), a database held by the Crofting Commission.

### Update the Crofting Register

The Crofting Register is a map based record of the croft boundary held by Registers of Scotland (RoS). Events that trigger registration include assignation and purchasing an owner-occupier croft.

### Register with SGRID

To keep livestock you need a Main Location Code (MLC). This is allocated when you register with the Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division (SGRID).

### Contact APHA

Contact your local Animal & Plant Health Agency office (APHA) and advise them of the type of stock you will be keeping.

### Buy Stock!

Now you are registered and can buy livestock.

### Update the Register of Crofts (RoC)

- The Crofting Commission regulates and promotes the interests of crofting in Scotland. If you have bought or have the tenancy of a croft, you will have to inform this regulatory body as they hold information on your croft and will need to be notified of any changes.
- Full details on how and forms required to update the Register of Crofts can be found at [www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk/how-are-decisions-taken-on-applications](http://www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk/how-are-decisions-taken-on-applications)

### Update the Crofting Register

- Registers of Scotland (RoS) hold the land and crofting registers which are official records of farms, crofts and common grazings etc. in Scotland.
- Full details on how, the forms required and when to apply to update the Crofting Register can be found at [kb.ros.gov.uk/search?query=crofting](http://kb.ros.gov.uk/search?query=crofting)

### Register with SGRPID

- The Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspections Division (SGRPID) are responsible for the payment of the main support schemes and grants available to farmers and crofters.
- Registering with SGRPID can be done online at [www.ruralpayments.org](http://www.ruralpayments.org) or at your local SGRPID office by completing a PF01 and PF06 form. This requires information about you, your land and its location, and the type of business you will be operating. On completion of this form you are allocated a Business Reference Number (BRN) and a Main Location Code (MLC). These are required for moving livestock and corresponding with SGRPID.

*NOTE: There is no benefit to having numerous MLCs for separate crofts. This only adds confusion for livestock records and movements.*

### Contact APHA

- APHA is an executive agency safeguarding animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy. When purchasing cattle or sheep you will have to be registered with APHA and you will also need to register any seasonal holdings where you keep sheep.
- To find your local office visit [www.gov.uk/guidance/find-your-local-apha-scotland-field-services-office](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/find-your-local-apha-scotland-field-services-office)

### Buy stock!

- Stock can be bought privately from a neighbour, friend or other farmer, or you can source them from a livestock market.