

Derelict to Productive -

No 1 - A Practical Guide

Starting a Crofting Business



Update Register of Crofts (RoC)

- When you buy croft land and/or become a tenant you must update the Register of Crofts (RoC)– a data base 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 occupied croft.

Register with SGRPID

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

Contact APHA

- Phone 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.

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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 because they hold information on your croft and they will need to be notified of any changes.
- Full details on how and the forms required to update the Register of Crofts can be found at <https://www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk/forms-and-guidance>.

Update the Crofting Register

- RoS hold the land register and the crofting register which are official records of the farm, croft, common grazing etc in Scotland.
- Full details on how, the forms required and when to apply to update the Crofting Register can be found at <https://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 or at your local SGRPID office by completing a PF01 and PF06 form. It 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.
- There is no benefit in having numerous MLCs for separate crofts this only adds confusion for livestock records and movements.

Contact APHA

- AHPA 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 AHPA and you will also need to register any seasonal holdings where you keep sheep.
- To find your local office <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#scotland-field-service-offices>

Buy stock!

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