

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANCY SERVICE

As we move through the Agricultural Transition period, there are multiple funding options available to farm businesses for environmental activity. Legacy schemes, such as Higher Level Stewardship, continue to run alongside Countryside Stewardship and new Environmental Land Management (ELM) schemes, including the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI).

Farm businesses now have greater flexibility to move between schemes or 'stack' agreements (having multiple active agreements on the same piece of land). These changes come with conditions attached, for example farm businesses cannot be paid for the same activity twice. It is important to understand how the different schemes may fit together and what choices are most advantageous for your business.

SUMMARY OF SERVICE

If you are successfully referred to the Environmental Stewardship service following the initial on-farm business review, there are two different service packages that we can offer.

HALF DAY SERVICE - FOR BUSINESSES WITH EXISTING SCHEMES

This service is for businesses with existing schemes who would like to assess the potential of new schemes and ensure that agreements are compatible. This session will include:

- A meeting to understand the existing scheme and location/duration of the options currently in place.
- A plan will be produced outlining where additional schemes might be entered into, assessing whether there might be advantages to replacing existing schemes (if this is permitted), and setting out the process for applying for new agreements.

HALF DAY SERVICE - FOR BUSINESSES WITHOUT EXISTING SCHEMES

This service is for businesses without an existing scheme or with an existing scheme that is about to expire. This session will include:

- A meeting to outline the schemes available and discuss how options can be selected to complement the existing farm business.
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ADDITIONAL SERVICES

The following services are not covered by the FBAS scheme, but can be provided on a time charge basis:

- Completion and submission of the stewardship application.
- On-going support to ensure agreements are implemented in a timely fashion, and all requirements are adhered to.

Any additional work will be agreed with you prior to any work being undertaken.