

The FARM CONSULTANCY Group



Public Funding in Agriculture - What is Available?

Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) - Run by Rural Payments Agency

Deadline for BPS application and Entitlement transfers - please call 07496 587011 for more information.

Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS) - Run by Natural England

- **Mid Tier** (ELS equivalent) application window expected to be March-Sept for 1st January of the following year start. This is competitive and options based (does not cover whole farm). Payment based on options chosen. Minimum £1,000/year. Must include options from Statement of Priorities for your National Character Area
- **Organic** must have an Organic certification. If converting to Organic status the land must never previously have been organic. Not competitive.
- **Higher Tier** (HLS equivalent) this is competitive and targeted. The local Natural England office will be able to tell you if a particular area/feature is a target. NE is writing to all farmers with expiring ESA/CSS schemes (well ahead of expiry) if they have a feature that is "wanted" for HT. Payment for HLS will vary according to what is in it but can include some monies for capital works.

CSS Capital Grants

- Included as part of MT or HT; or stand alone.
- **Hedgerows and boundaries** They are for small-scale restoration of boundary features, like hedgerows and stone walls to a maximum of £5,000 (more if part of a MT or HT agreement).
- **Water quality grants** Only available in CSF priority catchment target areas and need Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer (CSFO) endorsement. The maximum grant available for capital items associated with soil and water protection is £10,000 (more if part of a MT or HT agreement).

Forestry - Run by Forestry Commission (initial contact to Natural England)

- Limited grants as part of MT or HT agreement.
- Many grants available for creating, regenerating and maintaining woodland.

Countryside Productivity Scheme - Run by Rural Payments Agency

- Capital grants for high technology in agriculture
- Growth Programme (farm diversification/job creation)
- Leader funding (local community projects).
- The Sherborne office has helped with over 30 applications for the 2 Rounds of the FFIS. With a 97% success rate we have successfully obtained approval for £272,500 of grant monies for our clients.
- Very time specific for applications.

**We have the expertise and experience to cover all of the above schemes.
Call Sophie Cligg on 07496 587011 for further assistance.**

The Farm Consultancy Group

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