Defra SFI26 news

Defra news release for SFI26 scheme details

Defra have just released details of the SFI26 scheme, for eligibility of applicants, timings and options within it. These include some changes to previous or current SFI scheme options.

A few key points to note:

- There will be two windows for application
- Window 1 opens in June for small (3-50 ha) farms or those with no other current RPA agreements
- Planned to remain open for approx. 2 months, or less based on demand
- Window 2 opens in September - will be available to all; application period unknown will also be based on demand
- Only one SFI26 per farm business, capped at £100k
- Some options have seen payment rate changes (up & down)
- Any payment uplifts will be applied to current agreements & the new SFI26
- The list of options has been reduced to 71; ie. important to check if you were thinking of extending current actions if they are no longer available
- Amended now to 3 year (not 5 year) actions

HFP will be organising farmer events to help clarify some of these points in due course. We recognise the need for more understanding and especially support for those eligible for Window 1 opening in June. We will share details of these in due course.

Full details around the SFI26 are available on the Defra Blog.

Mental Health Contacts

Helplines and help is always available to those in crisis - contact:
RABI 24hr Helpline: **0800 188 4444**
FCN Helpline: **03000 111 999**
Samaritans, Call: **116 123** or email: **jo@samaritans.org**

Contact us:

Russell Ashford, Steering Group Chairman
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Hazel Kendall, Dartmoor Farming Officer
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