

Expanded SFI 2024

You can apply for an SFI agreement if:

- you're a farmer or land manager with 'management control' of the land you want to enter into an agreement
- your land is eligible for the SFI actions you select

Make sure all your **land is registered** with the RPA and has the correct land use (such as permanent grassland, temporary grassland, arable) including registering hedges, farmyards, barns, woodland, etc.

SFI agreements will usually last for either 3 or 5 years (ie Hay making 5 yrs).

There are 2 types of actions in the expanded SFI offer:

- SFI actions which you can apply for without specialist advice or prior endorsement – this is most of the actions
- 'endorsed' SFI actions for certain priority habitats or species and heritage features, which require prior endorsement from Natural England or Historic England

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) can be made to apply early for the new Expanded SFI offer – from where you will be invited to apply. The RPA are opting for a phased rollout to test the system.

Ending your agreement early – (from May 2024 website and still on 5th August website)

BUT - (This was published under the 2022 to 2024 Sunak Conservative government)

The RPA may allow you to end your agreement early to move to SFI or CS Higher Tier.

If you have a CS Mid Tier or HLS agreement, from September you'll be able to end your existing agreement early to apply for a SFI agreement. You may also be able to apply for a CS Higher Tier agreement this winter, with the first agreements starting from early 2025. You will not be able to end your existing agreement before September.

You'll be able to end your existing agreement either:

- at the end of your current agreement year and receive the full payment due for that year (subject to meeting the requirements of your agreement)
- before the end of your current agreement year, but not receive payment for the part of the current agreement year you've already completed.

[Ending your existing agreement to apply for a new scheme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Still no definite info on this!

Useful links - [SFI scheme information: expanded offer for 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

SFI ACTIONS for the Uplands – not an exhausted list. Last updated on 5 Aug 2024

Link - [Find funding for land or farms - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

ACTION CODE	ACTION	£/Ha
HEF1	Maintain weatherproof traditional farm or forestry buildings	5
HEF2	Maintain weatherproof traditional farm or forestry buildings in remote areas	8
HEF6	Manage historic and archaeological features on grassland	55
HEF5	Control scrub on historic and archaeological features	215
SCR2	Manage scrub and open habitat mosaics	350
	GRASSLAND	
CLIG3	Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs	151
CAHL3	Grassy field corners or blocks	590
CIGL2	Winter bird food on improved grassland (limited area)	515
WBD7	Remove livestock from grassland during the autumn and winter (SDAs) – ‘usually’ early October until mid-March	115
GRH1	Manage rough grazing for birds (Priority area, LFA, 2ha+)	121
	IMPROVED/TEMP GRASSLAND	
CNUM2	Legumes on improved grassland (below moorland line)	102
CSAM3	Herbal leys	382
	SUPPLEMENTS – must be added to main action (CLIG3 etc)	
GRH10	Lenient grazing supplement	28
GRH11	Cattle grazing supplement (non-moorland) – 5 years	59
GRH7	Haymaking supplement – 8 week rest	157
GRH8	Haymaking supplement (late cut)-9 week rest	187
SPM2	Keep native breeds on grazed habitats supplement (50-80%)	92
SPM3	Keep native breeds on grazed habitats supplement (more than 80%)	146
	ORGANIC examples	
OFM1	Organic land management – improved permanent grassland	20
OFM2	Organic land management – unimproved permanent grassland	41
OFM3	Organic land management – enclosed rough grazing	97
OFA1	Overwinter stubble (organic land)	264
	BOUNDARIES	
CHRW1	Assess and record hedgerow condition	5
CHRW2	Manage hedgerows	13
CHRW3	Maintain or establish hedgerow trees	10
BND1	Maintain dry stone walls	27
BND2	Maintain earth banks or stone-faced hedgebanks	11
	PLANS/REPORTS	
CSAM1	Assess soil, produce a soil management plan and test soil organic matter - £97per plan + £6/ha	6/ha+97
CNUM1	Assess nutrient management and produce a review report – per plan	652
CIPM1	Assess integrated pest management and produce a plan – per plan	1129
	ARABLE	
CAHL1	Pollen and nectar flower mix – (limited area)	739
CAHL2	Winter bird food on arable and horticultural land - (limited area)	853
AHW6	Basic Overwinter stubbles	58

	UPLANDS & MOORLAND	
CMOR1	Assess moorland and produce a record (£272/agreement + £10.60/ha)	10.60
GRH1	Manage rough grazing for birds (Priority area, LFA, 2ha+)	121
UPL1	Moderate livestock grazing on moorland – less than 0.16 grazing LU	20
UPL2	Low l/s grazing on moorland – less than 0.08 grazing LU	53
UPL3	Limited l/s grazing on moorland – less than 0.04 grazing LU	66
UPL4	Keep cattle & ponies on moorland supplement (min 30%GLU)	7
UPL5	Keep cattle & ponies on moorland supplement (min 70%GLU)	18
UPL6	Keep cattle & ponies on moorland supplement (100%GLU)	23
SPM5	Keep native breeds on extensively managed habitats supplement (more than 80%)- moorland	11
SPM4	Keep native breeds on extensively managed habitats supplement (50-80%) - moorland	7
	REQUIRES ENDORSEMENT	
GRH6	Manage priority habitat species-rich grassland (5 year) + 1 supplement of hay or cattle grazing or native breeds	646

Notes

‘**limited area**’ actions must not be more than 25% of the total agricultural area of your farm.

Later in 2024, Defra will introduce:

- an educational access action, which will pay you to provide educational tours of your farm or woodland
- more endorsed SFI actions for farmland wildlife and habitats on grassland, heritage, wood pasture, orchards, coastal habitats and waterbodies

Details of these additional SFI actions will be published in summer 2024.

Capital Grants – The agri-environment capital grants offer has been available since January 2024. As of 5th August 2024 a few new items have been added -

AF1: Plant an agroforestry woodland tree
 AF2: Plant an agroforestry fruit tree
 AF3: Supplement: Species diversity bonus
 TE6: Tree guard (tube and mesh)
 TE7: Tree guard (wood post and rail)
 TE8: Tree guard (wood post and wire)
 PA4: Agroforestry plan
 PA5: Moorland mapping plan

Help and Advice:

Dartmoor Hill Farm Project – Office Telephone: 01822 890913 Em: hfp@dartmoor.gov.uk

FWAGSW - info@fwagsw.org.uk or Tel: 01823 660684

Farming Advice Service (FAS) - technical advice line: 03000 200 301

Email: advice@farmingadvice.service.org.uk Website: farmingadvice.service.org.uk