



**HUTCHINSONS**  
Crop Production Specialists

# Agri-Environment Schemes

INFORMATION GUIDE





# Understanding the environmental value of your farm

Our team of specialists provide professional, practical advice and support on a range of agri-environment areas, including Countryside Stewardship, the Sustainable Farming Incentive, and Environmental Land Management Scheme.

Our specialists and agronomists understand the practical needs of your farm business, and design tailor-made agreements that align with both your objectives and the environmental priorities on your farm.

Omnia mapping software enables you to focus on option locations in detail and ensure every decision suits you and your farm.





# Agri-Environment Schemes

## Countryside Stewardship Schemes

Countryside Stewardship Schemes provide financial incentives for farmers to look after and enhance their farm environment. They are available to all farmers and land managers now with the final application window open in 2023 for a 2024 start date.

### Should I consider Countryside Stewardship?

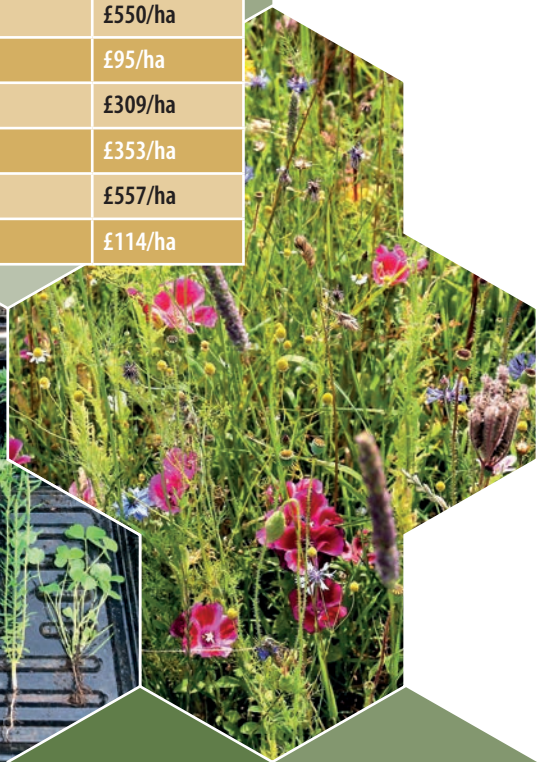
- Having a Countryside Stewardship agreement will provide a viable, guaranteed source of income as BPS payments reduce.
- Options within a scheme can be used to the farms advantage, improving infrastructure and rotations.
- Entering a Countryside Stewardship Scheme now will best place you to benefit from ELMS, once it is fully rolled out in 2024.
- Having a Countryside Stewardship Scheme in place is likely to put you at an advantage in being successful when applying for ELMS.





## The top ten Countryside Stewardship options

Code	Option	Payment
AB8	Flower-rich margins and plots	£539/ha
AB9	Winter bird food	£640/ha
AB12	Supplementary winter feeding (1 tonne for 2ha AB9)	£632/tonne
AB15	Two year sown legume fallow	£522/ha
AB16	Autumn sown bumble bird mix	£550/ha
GS2	Low input permanent grass	£95/ha
GS4	Legume and herb-rich sward	£309/ha
SW1	4-6m grass buffer/margin	£353/ha
SW3	In-field grass strip	£557/ha
SW6	Winter cover crops	£114/ha





## Capital Grant Scheme and Capital options

### Capital Grant Scheme

The Capital Grant Scheme is a two-year grant for capital works to deliver specific environmental benefits.

Grouped into three categories:

- **Boundaries, trees and orchards**
- **Water quality**
- **Air quality**

The maximum total amount of funding available for any single application has increased from £10,000 to £60,000, however there is a limit of £20,000 for each of the three categories. The Capital Works Grant is applied for online and separately to a Wildlife Offer Scheme.

### THE TOP FIVE CAPITAL GRANT SCHEME OPTIONS

Code	Option	Payment
BN11	Planting new hedges	£11.60/m
FG1	Fencing	£4.00/m
RP4	Livestock and machinery hardcore tracks	£33/m
RP15	Concrete yard renewal	£27.14/sqm
RP27	Sprayer or applicator load and washdown area	£40/sqm

Capital options are available as part of a Higher-tier and Mid-tier Countryside Stewardship Scheme.





## Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS)

The Environmental Land Management Scheme will consist of three new schemes available to all farmers and land managers and reward sustainable environmental land management.

These are:

- Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI)
- Local Nature Recovery
- Landscape Recovery

ELMS is set to launch following the end of Countryside Stewardship in 2024.







## Sustainable Farming Incentive

The SFI is intended to promote sustainable practices on farm through financial incentives. Actions will be grouped into simple packages set out as standards:

- Arable and horticultural land – £28 - £74/ha
- Arable and horticultural soils – £30 - £59/ha
- Improved grassland – £27 - £97/ha
- Improved grassland soils – £6 - £8/ha
- Low and no input grassland – £22 - £110/ha
- Hedgerow – £16 - £24/100 metres
- On-farm woodland – £49/ha
- Waterbody buffering – £16 - £34/100 metres

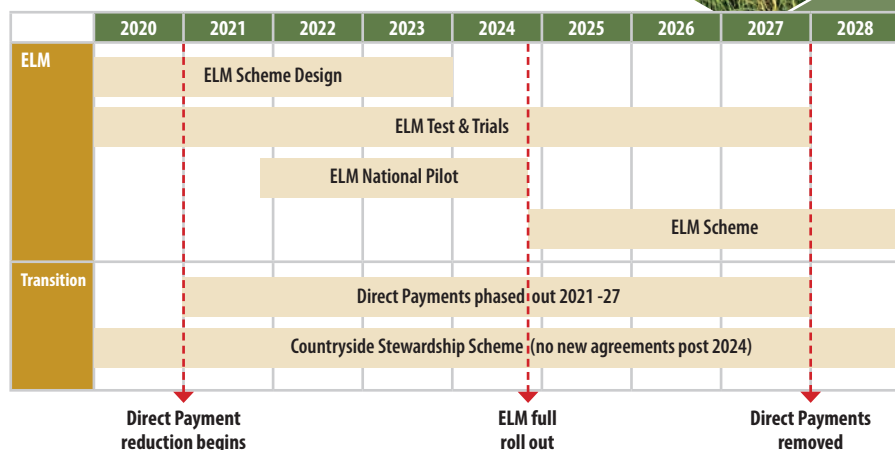
### Example of options for SFI Arable Land Standard

Introductory level (£28/ha)	Intermediate level (£54/ha) All of introductory level plus	Advanced level (£74/ha) Both lower levels plus
Resources for farmland wildlife	Nutrient budgeting	Nesting and shelter for wildlife
Nutrient management planning	Ditch management	Provide crop pest predator habitat
Minimise ammonia emissions	Soil mapping	Precision application of fertilisers and manures

[Credit source: DEFRA]



## The timeline for Agri-Environment Schemes



Visit the website for up-to-date  
information and key dates

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