

The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution

NEWS RELEASE

Date: February 19, 2020

R.A.B.I TO FAST-TRACK HELP TO FARMERS IN WAKE OF STORMS CIARA AND DENNIS

Farming charity R.A.B.I is once again releasing money from its Crisis Fund to provide emergency grants to farming families via its Helpline – 0808 281 9490.

Following the last two weekends of heavy storms and with more rainfall forecast, R.A.B.I has released an initial £50k to provide emergency payments to those affected by the impacts of the extreme weather across England and Wales.

Alicia Chivers, R.A.B.I CEO, said: “Having already provided around £75k of emergency grant support to those affected by extreme wet weather this autumn / winter, we know how devastating the impacts are for farmers in both the immediate and longer-term. Simplifying our criteria and application process means we can fast-track immediate assistance to affected farmers.

“These funds, whilst a relatively small element of the help we expect to provide over the longer-term to those affected, can make a real difference dealing with urgent priorities – and help to alleviate pressing financial worries, allowing farmers to concentrate on dealing with the immediate impacts of the extreme weather.

“R.A.B.I understands that the effects of severe weather are both financial and emotional. We will be here to provide support for as long as it is needed by our community. We will also continue to work closely with partner charities and other farming organisations to make sure help is available, both now and on an enduring basis.”

The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (R.A.B.I) is the agricultural sector's oldest and largest charity, offering support, practical care and guidance to farming people of all ages.

To apply for assistance, call R.A.B.I's confidential Freephone Helpline 0808 281 9490.

(Ends, 273 words)

Notes for Editors:

1. R.A.B.I – the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution – has been providing support to farming families since 1860. Support is offered in confidence to farming people of all ages and includes guidance, practical care and financial assistance, including one-off and regular grants.
2. Extreme weather, illness, accidents, family breakdown, animal disease, bereavement and cash flow problems are just some of the reasons why working people approach us for help.
3. We support the elderly, sick and disabled in various ways, such as paying home help costs or contributing towards care home top-up fees. We own two residential care homes of our own, Manson House in Bury St Edmunds and Beaufort House in Burnham-on-Sea.
4. Our work is funded by voluntary income, including donations from individuals, businesses, charitable trusts and fundraising activity by supporters / county committees, as well as investment income and legacies. To find out more visit www.rabi.org.uk

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The royal agricultural charity providing financial support to the farming community past, present and future

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