



Are you worried about the future of your farming business? Don't miss the chance to get free advice from experts

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Future Farming Resilience Fund will support farmers and landowners as they prepare for the Agricultural Transition period, starting in 2021. This pilot project, managed by Ricardo Energy & Environment, is currently available to farming businesses in Yorkshire, Herefordshire, North Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire.

The challenges caused by coronavirus (COVID-19), extreme weather and the forthcoming changes to agricultural support as a result of the UK leaving the EU may put significant stress on farming businesses. It could leave many farmers and land managers in England needing to adapt their business model and carefully consider options for the future. The Future Farming Resilience Fund will provide information, tools, advice and support to farmers through this period of change. The full programme of support includes:

- **Resilience planning events:** Joe Scarratt from The Andersons Centre will introduce some tools and tips on reviewing business performance. Attendees will also receive insight on the future changes to agricultural policy, and the opportunities and threats these may bring. The sessions will be facilitated by Dave Freeman from Ricardo, Sarah Starkey from Herefordshire Rural Hub, and Fraser Hugill.
- **One-to-one farm visits:** A specialist business adviser from The Andersons Centre will support individuals to identify the potential risks and opportunities for their business.
- **Group workshops:** Bringing together local farmers to talk about the risks and opportunities, to share ideas and learn from each other.
- **Your own business plan:** A personalised plan that identifies actions to help a business mitigate the risks it faces and to support it during the plan's implementation.

All the advice provided will be completely free of charge but is funded through State Aid rules. Therefore, participants will be required to complete a consent form, a State Aid declaration, and a survey at the start and the end of the programme. Places are limited, so booking is essential. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that everyone who registers will be offered a place.

How you can get involved

We are running a series of resilience planning webinars on the following dates. To register for your free place, please click [here](#).

- Tuesday 27 October – 10:00 to 12:00
- Tuesday 27 October – 14:00 to 16:00
- Thursday 29 October – 19:00 to 21:00

If you require help with the registration or have any questions, please contact the Ricardo Future Farming Resilience Project team: Tel 01235 753530 or email FFRF@ricardo.com

****COVID-19 update****

We are closely monitoring Government guidance, and delivering some services remotely using telephone and other electronic methods as required.