



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Are you worried about the future of your farm?



Don't miss the chance to register for free advice from expert advisers

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Future Farming Resilience Fund will provide support to farmers and land managers as they prepare for the agricultural transition. This project, managed by Ricardo, is available to farming businesses in England that are in receipt of the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) payments. Ricardo is working in partnership with Andersons, Neil Wilson from SAB Advisory Ltd, the Farming Community Network (FCN), Sarah Starkey from Herefordshire Rural Hub, Mary Dimambro from Cambridge Eco Ltd and Fraser Hugill who is the Yorkshire regional coordinator.

The challenges caused by Coronavirus (COVID-19), extreme weather events and the forthcoming changes to agricultural support as a result of the UK leaving the EU may result in many farmers and land managers in England needing to adapt their business models and carefully consider options for the future. This project will provide information, tools, advice, and support for farming businesses throughout this period of change.

The programme starts on 18 August 2021 and will run until 28 February 2022. It will include:

- **One-to-one farm resilience reviews.** A specialist business adviser from Andersons will support you in identifying the potential risks and opportunities for your business. You will receive a visit to discuss your business and be provided with a personalised plan that identifies actions you can take to help mitigate the risks your business faces and to support you in implementing the plan.
- **Resilience planning webinars.** These webinars will be held in September and October (dates to be confirmed) and will provide background to the Agricultural Transition Plan (ATP). The sessions will run through some resilience planning techniques and how to ensure that barriers to action are managed effectively – such as stress and relationships. These events will be delivered by The Andersons Centre and the FCN.
- **An online skills training portal.** Access will be granted to anyone who has a one-to-one visit or attends a webinar. This portal will include a range of resources and support packages to help participants deal with some of the common barriers and challenges that constrain businesses becoming more resilient. Subjects will include budgeting, utilising environmental features, planning for family changes, and getting accounts and paperwork in order.

The portal will be available to all participants from the Ricardo Pilot project, which ran from September 2020 to March 2021, and the current interim phase project. It will include a minimum of 15 elements across a range of media (video, podcast, webpages, and document templates).

All the advice provided will be completely free of charge. However, as the programme is funded by a Defra grant, you will be required to complete a consent form, and a survey at the start and end of the programme. The documentation must be completed prior to the visit or webinar taking place. Places are limited, so registration is essential. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that everyone who registers for the one-to-one elements of the programme will be offered a place.

How you can get involved

To register your interest, please visit <http://futurefarming.eventbrite.com>

If you require help with the registration or have any questions, please contact Ricardo's Future Farming Resilience Fund project team:

01235 753530 or email FFRF@ricardo.com

