

# CLIENT BRIEFING NOTE

18 November 2021

## FARM INVESTMENT FUND

### Overview

On 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 Defra opened applications for the two grant streams of the **Farm Investment Fund**. The fund is intended to support productivity and animal health and welfare on farms. The two offerings are:

- The Farming Equipment and Technology Fund (smaller grants for specifically listed items)
- The Farming Transformation Fund (larger grants initially for reservoirs, irrigation and other water management strategies)

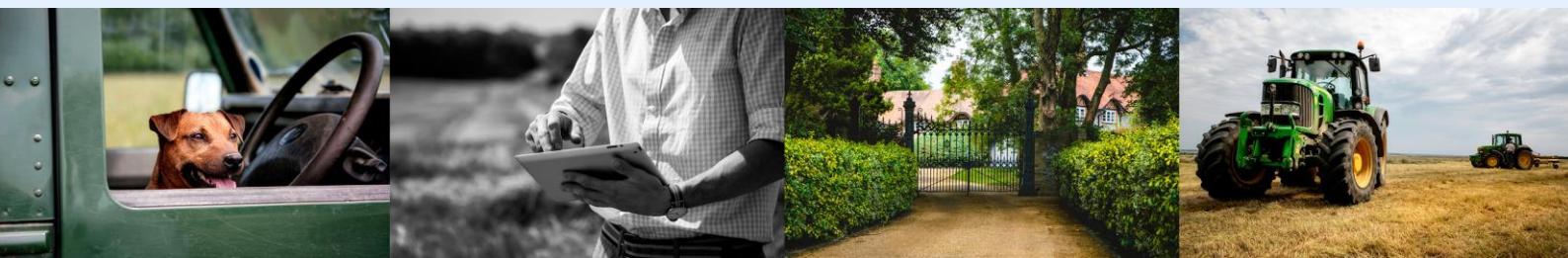
Both parts of the fund are open not only to farmers but also agricultural contractors, foresters and those who have not previously claimed Basic Payment Scheme income.

### Farming Equipment and Technology Fund

This part of the fund supports applicants financially in buying items from a specific list of new equipment and technology. The application window is between **16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022** so we advise interested parties to investigate the grants sooner rather than later. Key points of the scheme include:

- 120 items are now included on the list for livestock work, horticulture and forestry. A full list can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/farming-equipment-and-technology-fund-round-1-manual/annex-3-eligible-items-specification-and-grant-amount>
- The minimum grant available is £2,000
- The maximum grant available is £25,000
- Second-hand equipment will not be supported by this scheme

The grant for each item is a set amount which will be paid to a successful application no matter the cost at which they purchase the qualifying equipment. It is intended to be approximately 40-50% of the average cost of the technology with the farmer or forester needing to fund the shortfall.



Payment will be made as a single payment in arrears to successful applicants following submission of:

- A completed claim and declaration template.
- Copies of the purchase invoice.
- Copies of payment evidence (such as bank statements showing the item has been paid for in full).
- Photographic evidence showing the equipment in situ and operational.
- Evidence the item purchased falls within the specification required by the fund.
- Serial number of each item.
- Any extra evidence, such as operating or installation manuals.

This evidence must be provided to the RPA at [FETFClaims@rpa.gov.uk](mailto:FETFClaims@rpa.gov.uk) by midnight on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Grant funding will be paid directly into the applicant's bank account as registered with the RPA within 30 working days of the receipt of the claim.

### The Farming Transformation Fund

This fund offers larger grants of between £35,000 and £500,000 for investment intended to transform a farm's performance through greater changes. Different waves of this offering are being offered in succession with the first theme being for water management including reservoirs and irrigation amongst other things. The likely subsequent phases will focus on farm productivity and adding value to agricultural produce.

The application process involves two stages, firstly an online check of the proposal's 'eligibility and desirability' and thereafter – if considered suitable- the applicant will be invited to complete a full application.

The water management phase is open for 'eligibility and desirability' checks between **16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. Full applications are then required to be made by **30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**.

**END**

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