

New £6m Sustainable Production grant round for on-farm nutrient management and storage to open

The fourth window of the SPG will give farmers the opportunity to take the lead in tackling agri-pollution to improve water, soil and air quality.

Grants will range from £12,000 to £50,000 as a maximum 40% contribution to project costs. The items supported will include, amongst other things, covered slurry storage and management equipment.

The SPG will only provide support where the investment exceeds compliance with slurry storage regulations, achieving a minimum storage capacity of 160 days, regardless of any existing on-farm storage.

The next round of the Sustainable Production Grant is planned to open on 3 September and closes 26 October. Contracts are due to start January 2019 and be claimed by August 2021.

Speaking ahead of the Pembrokeshire Show, the Cabinet Secretary said:

“The impacts of on-farm pollution affecting water quality and wildlife have increased recently, often due to poor slurry storage and dirty water handling facilities.

“The level of interest we have had in each Sustainable Production Grant round has demonstrated farmers are willing to invest in their farm businesses to become more sustainable, prosperous and resilient.

“Our next round of the SPG will focus on supporting farmers to deliver our objectives of enhanced nutrient management, safeguarding and improving water, soil and air quality by reducing pollution. The investment will support farmers to address these important issues and ensure current and future generations continue to benefit from our natural resources.”

The Cabinet Secretary will attend the first day of the Pembrokeshire Show, undertaking a range of events and meetings and wants to hear the views of farmers, Unions and partners about the Welsh Government's recently launched proposals on future support for farmers in Wales after Brexit.

At the start of July, the Cabinet Secretary launched a 16 week consultation [Brexit and our Land](#), which proposes a new Land Management programme to replace the Common Agricultural Policy in Wales once the UK leaves the EU.

The new Land Management Programme will consist of two large and flexible

schemes – the Economic Resilience Scheme and the Public Goods Scheme.

Welsh Government officials will hold drop in sessions at the Welsh Government trailer providing an opportunity for farmers and the public to come along to find out more about the consultation and give their views.

The Cabinet Secretary added:

“Brexit brings with it significant challenges and opportunities. I have been clear maintaining the status quo is not an option and the Basic Payment Scheme will come to an end in Wales once the UK leaves the EU.

“We are currently consulting on our proposals for a new ‘made-in-Wales’ Land Management Programme which aims to keep farmers farming and ensure they thrive in a post Brexit world. This is 16 week, meaningful consultation which will help inform our plans.

“This year’s Pembrokeshire Show will be the last before we leave the EU. My message is simple – there has never been a more important time to get involved and help us shape the future of farming in Wales. I look forward to visiting the Show and hearing as many views as possible on our proposals.”