Expression of interest window dates October 2023

Please note that the application windows for the Horticulture Development, Agricultural Diversification, Growing for the Environment (Spring crops) and Yard Covering schemes which were all due to have opened in September, October or November, have been postponed whilst the 2024/25 budgets are reviewed across Welsh Government.

Scheme	Summary	Window dates
Habitat Wales Scheme	The new scheme, Habitat Wales, will provide an alternative offer of support to all eligible farmers, including Glastir Advanced, Commons and Organic farmers when their contracts end on 31 December 2023. FUW members can make appointments with their local County Office to process and submit an expression of interest. Aims of the Habitat Wales scheme	29th September - 10th November 2023
	 protect habitat land previously under management in 2023 up to the full introduction of the Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) in 2025 introduce additional habitat land, not currently under paid management, into sustainable land management prior to start of SFS maintain environmental support for common land The scheme will be open to all eligible farmers and Grazing Associations. 	
	Land classifications	
	There will be three eligible land classifications:	
	 land currently under a habitat option within a Glastir Advanced contract (including Glastir Commons) habitat land (excluding designated sites), not currently under management in 2023, as identified by published maps on DataMapWales land managed as habitat. (This land has potential to become habitat land following management.) 	
	Management payments for designated sites within existing Glastir contracts will be maintained, however, designated sites, not currently under a Glastir contract will not be eligible for payment under the Habitat Wales scheme. Payment Rates	
	For Individual Farms:-	
	Habitat Land £69/Ha Woodland Habitat £62/Ha	
	For Common Land:-	
	Common Land Management Payment £25/Ha Additional payment - Stock Management £15/Ha Additional Payment - Mixed Grazing £12/Ha	

	Additional Payment - Reduce Stocking £259/LU	
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	More information: https://www.gov.wales/habitat-wales-scheme	
Woodland Creation Planning Scheme	The Woodland Creation Planning Scheme offers grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 to develop plans for new woodland creation. After a plan is successfully verified by NRW, it will be eligible for Welsh Government funding for tree planting and fencing (Woodland Creation Grant).	Open throughout the year (subject to budget)
	More information can be found at the following link: https://gov.wales/woodland-creation-plan-scheme	
Peatland Development Grant	To reverse habitat loss and improve the condition of Welsh peatlands we have capital development grants of between £10,000-£30,000 available. The development grant will enable individuals and organisations to:	13th October 2023 - 15th January 2024
	 explore if their peatland restoration project is feasible develop a costed peatland restoration project by January 2025 that has a realistic chance of delivery gather the information they will need to apply for future delivery grant funding rounds 	
	Project priorities All projects will need to address one or more of the National Peatland Action Programme priorities:	
	 Peatland erosion Peatland drainage Sustainable management of blanket peats Sustainable management of lowland peats The restoration of afforested peatlands The gradual restoration of our highest carbon emitting peatlands 	
	The peatland must also be in Wales - for any cross-border proposals, we'll consider only the Welsh element. You can apply for between £10,000 to £30,000 of funding. You can ask for up to 100% of your project costs. Successful projects can start from 1 April 2024 and must be completed - and the final claim submitted - by 15 January 2025.	
	All queries about the grants and application process should be directed to grants.enquiries@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk.	
	More Information: https://naturalresources.wales/about-us/grants-and-funding/peatland-development-grant/?lang=en	

Food Business Accelerator Scheme Support under this scheme covers tangible and/or intangible investments in processing activities which offer clear and quantifiable benefits to the food and drink industry in Wales and its supply chains.

You are eligible to apply if:

You are a **VAT Registered businesses** involved in primary and/or secondary processing of agricultural and non-agricultural products, such as:

- private and public limited companies
- Sole Traders and Partnerships
- farm businesses to process agricultural products
- new businesses, including established businesses starting a new diversification and start-up businesses.
- non-profit companies, co-operatives, community, public and voluntary sector organisations

Eligible Costs

Support under this scheme can cover tangible assets such as purchasing and/or developing land, buildings, machinery and equipment and intangible assets such as computer software, patent rights and licences and technical and consultancy fees, subject to limitations.

The maximum grant threshold per enterprise for any individual investment project is £5,000,000.

The minimum grant threshold per enterprise for any individual investment project is £20,000.

More information:

https://gov.wales/food-business-accelerator-scheme-guidance-html

Opened on 17th
November 2022 and a
selection will be carried
out every 4 weeks to
invite successful
beneficiaries to submit a
full application. The
window will remain open
until the budget
allocation has been
reached.