

SFS SUMMARY



BPS Transition

The Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) will be phased out from 2026 onwards:

2025 - 100%

2026 - 60%

2027 - 40%

2028 - 20%

2029 - 0%

SFS STRUCTURE

Collaborative Actions

Offering opportunities to work with others on a landscape scale if you wish.

Optional Actions

These offer further funding opportunities for you to do more if you wish

Universal Actions

You must complete those that are applicable to your farming system

Universal Code

Requirements of the Scheme that are not currently in Law

Regulatory Baseline

Cross Compliance rules that are already set in Law

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Sustainable Farming Scheme, you will need to:

- ✓ Undertake agricultural activities
- ✓ Have at least 3 hectares of eligible land OR show at least 550 standard labour hours
- ✓ Have management control of the land for at least 10 months of the year

UNIVERSAL BASELINE PAYMENT



Universal Actions

- UA1 - Soil Health
- UA2 - Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- UA3 - Benchmarking
- UA4 - Continuous Professional Development (CPD)
- UA5 - Habitat maintenance
- UA6 - Temporary habitat creation on improved land
- UA7 - Designated Site Management Plan
- UA8 - Hedgerow management
- UA9 - Woodland maintenance
- UA10 - Tree and hedgerow planting opportunity plan
- UA11 - Historic environment
- UA12 - Animal health and welfare

Universal Baseline Payment

The Universal Baseline Payment (UBP) offered to all participating farmers will be made up of the following payment rates in 2026:

Whole Farm Payment on all eligible areas, including Common Land based on rights - £70 on the first 70 hectares and £2 per hectare thereafter

Social Value Payment on all eligible areas including Common Land based on rights - £107 per hectare

Habitat Maintenance Payment - additional £69 per hectare on semi-natural habitat and/or temporary habitat created to meet the 10% habitat requirement.

Woodland Maintenance Payment - additional £62 per hectare on existing woodland.

Payment Capping

Up to £25,000	0%
£25,000 - £50,000	5%
£50,000 - £150,000	10%
£150,000 - £200,000	15%
£200,000 - £250,000	30%
£250,000 - £300,000	55%
Over £300,000	100%

Stability Payment

Claims of up to 100 hectares that enter the Scheme in 2026 will receive a one-off £1,000 stability payment.

SFS Timeline

Scheme year starts

Follow Regulatory Baseline, Universal Code & applicable Universal Actions

1st January

SFS Universal Baseline advanced payments administered

October

1st March - 15th May

SFS application window

Update eligible land, habitat and woodland areas on RPW
Declare that you have and will continue to follow the Scheme requirements until 31st December

31st December

Deadline for submitting evidence of Universal Actions completed
Balance Universal Baseline payments administered