The Prince's Farm Resilience Programme



The Prince's Countryside Fund was established by HRH The Prince of Wales in 2010 The Prince's Countryside Fund aims to

- · Improve the prospects of viability for family farm businesses
- Support aid delivery in emergency and build resilience
- · Sustain rural communities and drive economic vibrancy and opportunity in the countryside

Through a programme of grant giving, direct project delivery, advocacy and research the Fund supports the people who live and work in Britain's rural communities.

Our Patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, believes that family farm businesses are the heart of Britain's rural communities and is passionate about supporting them.

"No-one can predict the long-term effects of the continued volatility in farm-gate prices, the many other uncertainties in the sector, or for that matter the depth of the crisis that is looming over many farming families. However, we can be certain that the sector is going to have to respond and that farm businesses of all sizes will need to be more efficient and resilient and improve their productivity and competitiveness, through diversification and added value enterprises. This is why, if I may say so, my Farm Resilience Programme is so vitally important and I can only pray that it will give as much hope and confidence as possible to farmers during these uncertain and difficult times."



What is The Prince's Farm Resilience Programme?

- Free support for 300 family farms across 15 locations each year including:
 - A series of 5 Business skills workshops delivered by external consultants
 - 1:1 sessions on farm to include inputting data into a bespoke Business Health Check tool.
 - An Alumni programme with two further workshops and ongoing 1:1 support.
- Essential and practical examples of the best way to improve everyday aspects of farming
- Latest advice and guidance on how to improve your business
- Helping to identify a plan for the future of your family business
- Exploring new ideas
- Sharing ideas within a group of like-minded businesses

Who is the programme aimed at?

The Programme is aimed at small-medium family dairy, livestock and mixed farm businesses who are looking at ways to improve their business management and make efficiencies. The programme looks at farm businesses as a whole so is relevant to farms who have already diversified, as well as those looking to make the most of their existing assets. Up to 20 farm businesses are able to join the programme in each delivery location.

How it will be delivered

Each of the delivery locations has a dedicated local coordinator who will be your main point of contact. They will be there to make sure that you are able to make the most of the programme, attending all workshops and ensuring that consultants address the key topics for you. The coordinator can answer any questions about the programme and promote opportunities for the group locally.



Workshop Overview:

Workshop Topic	Objective	Delivered by
Business Health Check tool feedback	This workshop will look at on farm record keeping, and include anonymous feedback from the results of the Business Health Check tool. The group will have a chance to compare the farm data and explore the reasons behind varying results.	ANDERSONS THE ANDERSONS CENTRE
Applying practical cost savings on farm	This workshop will look at practical solutions to cost saving, including ways to make efficiencies through pasture, feed costs, housing livestock and sharing examples of best practice.	Kite
Getting to know your finances	Building on the practical suggestions explored so far this workshop will look at understanding farm accounts, different techniques for budget planning, managing cash flow and working with the bank.	premar International
Making the most of your Farm Business Part 1- Business Management	This workshop will help families explore and identify different options for their farm business. It will include some easy to use business planning methods and help identify the strengths and weaknesses of your business too see where changes could be made.	savills
Making the most of your Farm business Part 2- New opportunities and change management	The final workshop will look at the process of making change in your business and help to explore opportunities for new enterprises or to make more effective use of existing assets such as land, buildings, location, facilities, equipment, vehicles and machinery etc.	rural futures

One to one support

Time on farm to look at:

- How taking part in The Prince's Farm Resilience Programme could benefit your businesses.
- Where you see your business heading, and your plans for the future.
- Looking at the key priorities for you and your family and how these can be achieved.

Business Health Check tool

Support with capturing some key farm business data that will help inform your businesses plan and make strategic decisions using the data available in your business accounts. This includes basic information about your farm, livestock numbers, fixed costs etc. This data will be validated and your will receive a report providing a valuable insight into how your costs compare to similar farm businesses.

The Alumni programme

- One to one support on farm, 12 months after your initial meeting.
- Option for the group to choose two further workshops from a range of business and technical topics.
- Part of a network of small family farm businesses, receiving regular newsletters, information on upcoming opportunities and advice through projects and partner organisations.
- Opportunities to come together at local events and shows.

Next Steps

If you are interested in taking part in this programme please get in touch with your local coordinator who will send you a sign up form and provide details of future meeting dates.

Meetings will be held locally between November 2017 and March 2018 (approx. 3 hours each to include food and drink). Alumni workshops will take place in Autumn / Winter 2018/19.