

GUIDANCE NOTES

Environmental / Countryside Stewardship

England – Countryside Stewardship

Countryside Stewardship (CS) provides financial incentives for land managers to look after their environment through activities such as:

- conserving and restoring wildlife habitats
- flood risk management
- woodland creation and management
- reducing widespread water pollution from agriculture
- keeping the character of the countryside
- preserving features important to the history of the rural landscape
- encouraging educational access

The scheme is:

- open to all eligible farmers, woodland owners, foresters and other land managers
- suitable for many types of land use (for example conventional and organic farmland, coastal areas, uplands and woodlands)
- competitive
- scored against local priority targets to maximise environmental benefit

There are 3 main elements to the scheme:

- 1) Mid Tier
- 2) Higher Tier
- 3) Capital grants

For a successful application, you're encouraged to choose management options and capital items which provide the environmental priorities for your local area.

New for 2018

Four new Countryside Stewardship (CS) offers will be introduced for farmers and land managers for 2018 applications to boost biodiversity and help protect and enhance farmland and the countryside.

The 4 new Offers

- 1) Online Arable Offer
- 2) Lowland Grazing Offer
- 3) Upland Offer and
- 4) Mixed Farming Offer

The closing date to apply for an application pack is the 31st May 2018.

Hedgerow and Boundaries Grant

The popular Hedgerows and Boundaries Grant will also receive additional funding from 2018, with farmers and land managers able to apply for a maximum grant of £10,000, up from £5,000 in previous application rounds.

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