

**Are you a farmer
or land manager in
the South Devon
AONB?**

The face of agricultural support is changing and grants and payments available to farmers and land managers over the coming years will shift to a more environmentally focussed system. The Agriculture Act gained royal assent in November and Defra then released the Agricultural Transition Plan.

Please note – wherever this leaflet mentions farmers we include all land managers.

January 2021

What we know so far

New schemes are moving away from the current Basic Payment Scheme (BPS).

They will focus on 3 key areas:

- Improving the environment
- Improving animal health & welfare
- Reducing carbon emissions

The transition will begin with several key changes:

- Removal of greening rules
- The first reduction of BPS (5-25%)
- More detailed guidance on ELM will be published shortly
- The national pilot will begin in the spring of 2021

From 2022 the **Sustainable Farming Incentive** will be available, intended to be a simple package accessible to all farmers and land managers.



From now until 31st March 2021 we will be offering this series of free workshops for farmers and land managers across the AONB. It is likely they will be online, but we will review if restrictions allow:

- An introduction to what net zero means for farmers (See enclosed flyer for details)
- The Carbon Toolkit and how to apply it.
- The true value of hedges – preparing for ELM
- C S Mid tier overview with Q & A– considering your options, with local examples
- C S Mid tier application 1:1 support

Farming in protected landscapes

Commencing April 2021 for 3 years

DEFRA is proposing a time limited package to help farmers in protected landscapes, our AONBs and National Parks, to adapt during the transitional period ahead as the future of Britain's agricultural world changes.

This programme commencing in April 2021 will lay the groundwork for the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELM) by supporting farmers and land managers to deliver environmental outcomes. The scheme will deliver funding through the Protected Landscapes bodies including the South Devon AONB Partnership to support farmers in making improvements to the natural environment, cultural heritage and public access on their land.

As a protected landscape, we will be involved in the delivery of this programme

Farmers could benefit from the following:

- Farm level projects to diversify incomes, to prepare for ELM and create more green jobs
- Wider infrastructure investment and projects supporting farmers and rural economies

We are awaiting further information about this scheme but will let you know more as the scheme unfolds.

To ensure you are included in further communication updates from us please email us to confirm you'd like to be kept on our mailing list.

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Feel free to mention this to neighbours, friends and family who farm or manage land in the South Devon AONB

If you have any queries or would like to discuss any of this information, please email or call:

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- Diane: diane.lethbridge@southdevonaonb.org.uk tel: **01803 229333**

