

Covid-19 Update – What a “plan for jobs” means for farmer employers



Information correct as at 2:00pm on 17.07.2020

- Schemes launch as part of the “plan for jobs” are aimed at creating NEW jobs.
- Farm businesses who are expanding and creating new employment may be eligible for financial support via one of the schemes

During the Chancellor’s summer statement last week, he set-out his ‘Plan for Jobs’ programme to boost job creation. The measures are targeted at all sectors and are not specific to certain industries but if your farm business is in the process of expansion or staff succession is on the agenda, then you may be able to access one of the following schemes.

Kickstart Scheme

- Designed to create high-quality 6-month work placements
- Aimed at 16-24-year olds on Universal Credit and who are at risk from long-term unemployment
- Jobs must be 25 hours/week + and paid at least the National Minimum Wage
- Funding will cover 100% of National Minimum Wage (up to 25 hours/week) plus employer NI and minimum pension contributions
- Employers can top-up both the number of hours worked and rate of pay
- Business must prove these are new or additional jobs to access funding
- The jobs must include an element of training

Traineeships

- The government will provide an additional £111 million this year for traineeships in England
- Aimed at funding high quality work placements and training for 16-24-year olds
- Employers who provide trainees with work experience will be eligible for Government funding of £1,000 per trainee
- To ensure more young people have access to high quality training, eligibility will be expanded to include individuals with Level 3 qualifications and below
- Capped at 10 jobs per business

Apprenticeships

- Introduction of a new payments for Employers in England who hire apprentices
 - £2,000 for each new apprentice aged under 25
 - £1,500 for each new apprentice aged 25 and over
- Applies from 1st August 2020 to 31st January 2021
- These payments are in addition to the existing £1,000 Government payment for employers hiring new 16-18-year-old apprentices or those aged under 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan, where applicable.

Full details on all schemes are available [here](#) or please contact your consultant to discuss your individual suitability.