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9th February 2022
AQW 28795/17-22

**To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to
provide details of all grants available through his Department.**

There are a number of schemes currently open for application across a range of sectors from farming to the environment with over £17million in funding available. These opportunities include the £12million Farm Business Investment Scheme supporting farmers and growers with larger-scale transformational investment in on-farm capital projects. Full details of the current schemes available are provided at the Annex. My Department is also making final preparations for this year's Single Application scheme, with £300million in funding available for Northern Ireland farmers in 2022.

I was delighted to recently launch a new online hub to improve signposting to the wide variety of funding opportunities my Department offers. This new one-stop hub has been designed to assist all our stakeholders easily navigate the monetary and non-monetary schemes offered by DAERA. It can be directly accessed via the DAERA homepage at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk> and a text service is also in place to compliment the hub providing users directly with updates on new and existing opportunities.



Over the coming months and years as new funding programmes develop, it will be more important than ever that stakeholders have timely, succinct information to help them determine which opportunities they can avail of to support and develop businesses and rural communities alike. The funding hub and text service provide the foundation to update stakeholders on these new opportunities.



EDWIN POOTS MLA
Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs



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Details of funding currently available through DAERA

Scheme	Value	Details	Closing Date	Application Method
The Maritime and Fisheries Fund (NI) 2021/2022	£1.9m	Completion of projects and incur all spend by 31 March 2022.	11 February 2022	Submitted online through the MFF E-system
Northern Ireland Regional Food Programme	£0.3m	For projects taking place from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023	Noon on 22 February	Application form available on DAERA website
2022 DAERA Postgraduate Studentships	£0.8m	12 new three-year studentships, which will start on 1 October 2022	Midnight on 29 March 2022	Submission of a research proposal
Farm Business Improvement Scheme Capital Scheme (FBIS-C) Tier 2 Tranche 2	£12m	Projects costing from £30,000 - unlimited (within the overall maximum grant limit of £250,000 available under the NI Rural Development Programme 2014-20)	4pm on 1 April 2022	Submission of a business plan (by those who submitted Expression of Interest at Stage 1)
Agri-Food Co-operation Scheme	£2m*	Aimed at the NI agricultural or horticultural production sector to reduce fragmentation and improve competitiveness and sustainability within the agri-food sector.	30 April 2022	Submit expression of interest form
Forest Protection Scheme – Ash Dieback	£0.21m*	Aimed at forestry grant scheme agreement holders to assist their management of woodland affected by Ash dieback.	Rolling	Application form available on DAERA website



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Woodland Investment Grant	£0.625m*	The scheme supports sustainable forest management by encouraging the replanting of a wide range of tree species to build woodland resilience following harvesting.	Rolling	Application form available on DAERA website
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Note: *total funding over course of the multi-year scheme dependent on uptake



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