

## Recommendations to suckler cow scheme

1. That the scheme is for all suckler cows without a cap on numbers and that the same payment is made on all cows in the scheme with a minimum payment of 300 euro.
2. That the full budget allocated to the scheme be paid out to farmers participating in the scheme if undersubscribed for the full duration of the scheme.
3. An open and transparent debate with the farmers on the ground in a personal face to face setting as per covid guidelines in actual town halls or marts around the country and not via zoom so as all questions may be asked and answered.
4. That the scheme remains open so as new farmers may join or exit the scheme during the 5-year duration, and that at the end of the scheme there will not be any future restrictions or conditions going forward for participating in the scheme.
5. There should be no requirement to be Board Bia approved to participate in this scheme or to receive any payments from the deptment of agriculture as they are separate entities.
6. For Teagasc to explain their carbon figures associated with suckler farming and to show the full scientific proof for these figures of how the carbon footprint is calculated and as to how the carbon sequestration is subtracted to calculate an overall accurate carbon footprint.
7. An independent carbon footprint analysis to be carried out on all farms so as to scientifically show if farms are carbon neutral or carbon positive or carbon negative as is the case with different farms.
8. If these recommendations are not taken on board seriously and we the individual farmers around this island are ignored and not engaged with about our futures well then expect serious upheaval form the very people that this scheme will drive them from the lands they own.