



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara**  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine

## **Fodder Support Scheme 2023**

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## 1. General outline

The Fodder Support Scheme (FSS) is designed to incentivise farmers to grow sufficient grass and conserve fodder (silage and/or hay) for the 2023 winter in order to reduce the risk of potential animal welfare issues occurring, as a result of the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on the price of key inputs involved in the production of fodder such as fertiliser, diesel and plastic, which have increased significantly over the last 12 months.

The FSS is funded by the National Exchequer and is implemented pursuant to the Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid measures to support the economy following the aggression against Ukraine by Russia.<sup>1</sup>

The Basic Income Support for Sustainability 2023 (BISS) will be the basis of the eligibility for the Scheme and the BISS rules as per the 2023 BISS Terms and Conditions will apply in respect of eligibility. The full terms and conditions of BISS are available online at [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) - [Basic Income Support for Sustainability \(BISS\) Scheme \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie).

Any queries in relation to the Scheme can be addressed to:

Postal	Email	Phone
FSS, Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine Old Abbeyleix Road Portlaoise Co. Laois	<a href="mailto:fss@agriculture.gov.ie">fss@agriculture.gov.ie</a>	057-8674422

## 2. Objective of the Scheme

The purpose of the Scheme is to incentivise and support farmers to grow sufficient grass and conserve sufficient fodder (silage and/or hay) for the 2023 winter because the costs of key inputs such as fertiliser, diesel and plastic for the conservation of fodder has increased significantly in the last 12-18 months.

The initial budget for the scheme is €30 million and the aim is to provide support up to a **maximum of 10 hectares** per eligible applicant (herd number). If the cost of key inputs remains high in 2023, and in the absence of offsetting developments, additional financing on top of the €30 million may be provided in late 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> Aid measures developed under the TCF are subject to the Standstill Obligation in compliance with Article 108(3) TFEU. This means that no aid can be granted or paid out before notification to and approval by Commission. In line with the requirements of the Framework, overall aid shall not at any point in time exceed €250,000 per undertaking.

### 3. Eligibility

Applicants must have made a valid 2022 Fodder Support Scheme application to have been eligible to apply for FSS 2023.

The re-opening of the scheme in July 2023 is to facilitate existing FSS 2023 applicants to amend **downwards** the area they entered for FSS 2023 in November/December 2022 to reflect the land the participant has claimed on their 2023 BISS application if required. **Where a farmer intends to cut the same area in hectares in 2023 as in 2022 and their 2023 BISS is the same as their 2022 BPS, no action is required.**

## 4. Scheme requirements

To be eligible for the Scheme:

- Applicants must confirm that by selecting all declarations on the application I/we have agreed to read and abide by the Terms and Conditions of the FSS 2023 scheme.
- FSS amendments must be submitted online **only** through agfood.ie on or **before 23.59hrs 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**
- Have submitted a valid 2023 BISS application online on or before **23.59hrs on the 23 June 2023.** BISS Applications received after this date will not be accepted for FSS 2023.
- Applicants must agree to cut the hay and/or silage on the areas declared in the 2023 Fodder Support Scheme application by the **12<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**
- Applicants will have an opportunity to reduce the area declared for the 2023 Fodder Support Scheme online from when the scheme opens in July 2023 up to 23.59hrs on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023. No amendments including withdrawals will be accepted beyond this date. Where you reduce your declared cuts to 0.0 hectares online this will be treated as a withdrawal.
- If an applicant wishes to withdraw their application they must do so in writing via email or by post before 23.59 on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
- Applicants must agree that where they fail to deliver some or all of the the 2023 Fodder Support Scheme requirements, recoupment of some or all of the monies will apply.
- If an applicant intends to submit their application through their registered FAS advisor, the FAS advisor must be associated on the Department's Exceptional Aid system with the farmer. If a new association is required or if the farmer is changing their FAS advisor, this can be done using the SMS authorisation facility. If applicants are linked to an advisor/advisory agency, they can apply on your behalf if you wish to engage them, but farmers are also permitted to apply themselves through agfood.ie if they so wish.
- If you are not an individual you can use the authorisation form on [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) - [Agfood and other Online Services offered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie)
- If an applicant is not registered with agfood.ie you must register with the Department online services. [agfood.ie:Individual Login \(agriculture.gov.ie\)](http://agfood.ie:Individual Login (agriculture.gov.ie))
- Applications, amendments and/or withdrawals can only be updated by an authorised agent or nominated contact and this information must be recorded with the Departments Corporate Customer Management System (CCM).
- Only grassland parcels suitable and available for harvesting hay and or silage before 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and declared on your BISS 2023, will be eligible. (See : The eligible grassland crops for FSS 2023 are set out below and must be declared on your 2023 BISS application. Table 1 below)
- Tillage lands are excluded from support.

Table 1: The eligible grassland crops for FSS 2023 are set out below and must be declared on your 2023 BISS application.

<b>Crops</b>
Alfalfa
Arable Silage (grass)
Clover
Extensively Grazed Pasture (ACRES)
Grass Year 1-5
Grass Year 1-5 (MSS)
Grass Year 1-5 (MSS Measure)
Grass Year 1-5 (MSS Eco-Scheme)
Grassmeal
Low Input Grassland (ACRES)
Low input Peat Grassland (ACRES)
Low Input Permanent Pasture (LIPP)
Lucerne
Management of Intensive grassland next to watercourse (ACRES)
Permanent Pasture
Permanent Pasture (MSS Eco-Scheme)
Permanent Pasture (MSS Measure)
Permanent Pasture (MSS)
Red Clover
Traditional Hay Meadow

MSS –Multi Species Sward

ACRES –Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme

## 5. Scheme Operation

It is proposed to pay **up to €100 per hectare** to applicants who cut grass for silage and/or hay in 2023. The Department, as part of the application process, will provide the number of grassland hectares declared on the applicants 2023 BISS application. The applicant must then declare how many hectares of silage and/or hay they will produce in 2023. If more than 10 hectares is declared, the applicant is only eligible for payment on a maximum of 10 hectares. The applicant must have sufficient grassland parcels declared in their 2023 BISS application to support the area declared under the 2023 Fodder Support Scheme. If a farmer intends to take a second cut of silage, then the farmer must input the number of hectares for a 2<sup>nd</sup> cut at the time of application on the online form in the requisite space. The area paid on will **only** be based on **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cuts** regardless of whether additional cuts have been taken.

If in the event of the Fodder Support Scheme being oversubscribed, the Department will reduce the payment rate for all hectares or maintain the rate of €100 per hectare on the first number of hectares and reduce it for the remaining hectares per applicant.

The re-opening of the scheme in July 2023 is to permit FSS 2023 applicants to reduce their declared land in line with their 2023 BISS application, if required. Failure to do so may result in a penalty being applied to their FSS 2023 advance payment and if applicable balancing payment for over-declaration. Where there is a reduction in the declared land, a recoupment on the advance payment and if applicable balancing payment equivalent to the difference in declared land, may be applied.

### For example:

1. An applicant had 12 hectares of grassland crops declared on their BPS 2022 application. They declared to cut & conserve silage/hay on the full 12 hectares on their FSS 2022 application. This land is prepopulated onto their FSS 2023 application. The max payment they would have received for FSS 2022 was 10 hectares (€1000). The applicant now has 8 hectares of eligible grassland crops declared on their BISS 2023 application. The applicant will have the facility to amend the declared area down to 8 hectares when the system reopens in 2023 to avoid an over declaration penalty. The farmer is eligible to receive payment of up to €100 per hectare on the scheme to a maximum limit of 8 hectares, amounting to a max payment of up to €800. If this area is not reduced in line with their eligible grassland crop, a penalty will apply.
2. An applicant had 5 hectares of grassland crops declared on their BPS 2022 application. They declared to cut 5 hectares on their FSS 2022 application. This land is prepopulated onto their FSS 2023 application. The max payment they would have received payment for FSS 2022 was on 5 hectares (€500). The applicant now has 0 hectares of eligible grassland crops declared on their BISS 2023 application. The applicant will have the facility to amend the declared area down to 0 hectares when the system reopens in 2023 to avoid an over declaration penalty. If this area is not reduced in line with his eligible grassland crop (0 hectares), a penalty will apply.
3. An applicant had 7 hectares of grassland crops declared on their BPS 2022 application. They declared to cut 7 hectares on their FSS 2022 application. This land is prepopulated onto their

FSS 2023 application. The max payment they would have received payment for FSS 2022 was 7 hectares (€700). The applicant still has 7 hectares of eligible grassland crops declared on their BISS 2023 application. If the applicant intends to cut the same amount in 2023 as declared in 2022 no amendment is required.

4. An applicant had 6 hectares of grassland crops declared on their BPS 2022 application. They declared to cut 6 hectares on their FSS 2022 application. This land is prepopulated onto their FSS 2023 application. The max payment they would have received for FSS 2022 was 6 hectares (€600). The applicant now has 10 hectares of eligible grassland crops declared on their BISS 2023 application. The maximum eligible hectares for FSS 2023 IS 6 hectares. An applicant *cannot* increase their previously declared area.

## 6. Administrative and Compliance Checks

Applications will be subject to a series of administrative checks as part of the BISS 2023 application process. Checks on dual claims, over-claims, etc. may potentially have an impact on the area declared for the 2023 Fodder Support Scheme. Changes to land parcel usage or ownership from the years 2022 to 2023 will also have an impact on the area claimed. The full details on the checks carried out as part of the BISS processing are set out in the 2023 BISS Terms and Conditions.

A percentage of Fodder Support Scheme 2023 applicants will be subject to specific administrative checks. In that context, the Department reserves the right to request proof of compliance with the Scheme requirements prior to payments issuing. The following non-exhaustive list of methods may be used by the Department as a means of assuring that the Scheme is being complied with:

- Receipts to support that fodder has been grown, cut and conserved – for example receipts from a contractor to mow, bale, wrap etc, the grassland area in hectares declared for the Scheme.
  - Receipts must include sufficient details which must include supplier name and address, applicant name and address, date of purchase, quantity and type of material.
  - Receipts should be maintained for the duration of the scheme. All invoices/ receipts/ statements should be legible, original version and on supplier headed paper. The receipt must include the supplier/contractor name and address, date of sale, applicants name and address and should include any transactions to provide proof that you cut silage and/or hay on the hectares entered in the scheme.
  - Receipts that do not contain the above information may not be accepted by the Department.
- Geo-tagged photos submitted in a manner described by the Department.

## 7. Payments under the Scheme

The Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine will make payment directly to the participant's bank account.

Payments under the 2023 Fodder Support Scheme shall comply with EU State aid rules applicable to enterprises engaged in agricultural production under the COVID-19 Temporary State Aid Framework.

Any balancing payments under the Fodder Support Scheme 2023 will be made in late 2023.



## 8. Penalties

Penalties will be applied in circumstances where the action has not been completed or has only been partially completed. If the area declared exceeds the area determined, the aid shall be calculated based on the area determined up to a maximum of 10 hectares, except in cases where, the difference between the declared area and the determined area is equal to or less than 0.1 hectares, payment will be based on the declared (claimed) area. The area paid on will **only** be based on **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cuts**.

### **Scenario 1**

If the difference between the declared area and the determined area is less than 5%, payment will be based on the area determined. If the difference between the declared area and the determined area is equal to or less than 0.1 hectares, payment is based on the declared area.

### **Scenario 2**

If the difference between the declared area and the determined area is between 5% and 20%, payment will be based on the area determined. In addition, a penalty will apply which will be calculated on the difference between the area declared and the area determined.

### **Scenario 3**

If the difference is more than 20% of the area determined, no aid shall be granted.

### **Scenario 4**

If the difference is more than 50% of the area determined, no aid shall be granted. In addition, a penalty will apply which will be calculated on the difference between the area declared and the area determined.

Any penalty amounts shall be off set against aid payments under any of the payment schemes to which the farmer is entitled in the context of applications he/she lodges in the course of the three calendar years following the calendar year of the finding.

**Examples of Over Declaration. Note monetary amounts are assuming a payment rate for Fodder of €100 per hectare. This is for illustration purposes only.**

**Scenario 1: Less than 5% over declaration**

Applicant declared 10 hectares, determined area 9.80 hectares, over declared area 0.20 hectares.

$0.20 / 9.80 = 2\%$  over declaration.

Assuming the payment would have been €1,000. No penalty applied and payment based on determined area of 9.80 hectares.

**Payment due €980**

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**Scenario 2: Between 5% and 20% over declaration**

Applicant declared 10 hectares, determined area 9 hectares, over declared area 1 hectare.

$1/9 = 11.11\%$  over declaration.

Payment based on the determined area (€900) and penalty applied (€100 x 1ha)

**Payment due based on determined area minus penalty €800.**

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**Scenario 3: Between 20% and 50% over declaration**

Applicant declared 10 hectares, determined area 8 hectares, over declared area 2 hectares.

$2/8 = 25\%$  over declaration.

Payment would have been €1,000; however, as over declaration is over 20% but not over 50%, reduction is 100% meaning no payment.

**Payment due €0**

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**Scenario 4: Greater than 50% over declaration**

Applicant declared 5 hectares, determined area 3 hectares, over declared area 2 hectares.

$2/3 = 66.66\%$  over declaration.

Payment would have been €500. As the over declaration is greater than 20% no payment is due. In addition to this, as the over declaration is greater than 50% a penalty is also applied. In this example that penalty would be 2 hectares by the payment rate of €100 resulting in the applicant owing €200 to the Department.

**Payment due €0 and the applicant owes €200 to the Department.**

## 9. Recoupments

Where it is established that the relevant requirements of the Scheme were not fully adhered to by the applicant, the Department may reduce the amount payable and may seek recoupment of aid paid under the Scheme.

Debts due to the Department arising from overpayments and/or penalties must be paid in full.

If alternative payment arrangements to clear outstanding debts in full are not in place, the Department will recoup the debts from any DAFM payments that become due to issue to the applicant.

Where debts arising from penalties and/or overpayments are not paid or recovered within the period requested, the Department will take whatever action is deemed necessary for their recovery, including legal action.

Joint applicants remain liable for each other's debts or as provided for in a signed partnership agreement.

## 10. Inspections

A percentage of 2023 FSS applicants will be subject to on farm inspection in 2023. The cases selected will be a combination of random and risk based. Alternatively, the Department may utilise the new Area Monitoring System (AMS) that will be operational in 2023 for BISS, ANC, SIM and PAS.

Farmers, in applying for the Scheme, agree to permit officials or agents of the Department to carry out on-farm inspections without prejudice to public liability.

To facilitate checks and on-farm inspections, farmers and/or his/her agent(s) shall co-operate with Department staff, reply in full to all queries and provide any documentary evidence that may be requested. Failure to do so may lead to loss of aid. Notice of up to 48 hours will be provided in advance of the inspection.

If an on-farm inspection cannot be carried out through the fault or action of the farmer, the application shall be rejected, unless the Department determines an instance of force majeure or exceptional circumstances.

The inspection will involve, where necessary, measurement and inspection of areas, including silage pits, inventory of the number of bales conserved and checks to ensure that silage and/or hay has been produced to the level declared by the applicant. GPS measurement of parcels (i.e, an area check) may also be carried out at inspection. All applicants will be required to have cut and conserved the silage and/or hay from the grassland parcels they have entered in the 2023 Fodder Support Scheme by **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023**.

Any non-compliances identified during the inspection will be notified to applicants following the inspection.

## 11. Review and Appeals

### Internal Review

Reviews may arise from administrative checks or from the inspection process, be it remote or on the ground. The process provides in the first instance for an internal review within the Department followed by an external appeal if required to the Agriculture Appeals Office.

Requests for Internal review can be submitted by post to:

FSS Internal Review  
Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine,  
Old Abbeyleix Road,  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois

Alternatively, they can be emailed to [fss@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:fss@agriculture.gov.ie) with “Internal Review” in the subject line.

Any request for internal review must clearly indicate the grounds for the review request including supporting documentation where necessary.

### Inspections Review

Where the farmer is not satisfied with any inspection findings, he/she can seek a first stage internal review within the inspection service. Notice of findings letters will provide details on the appeal options available and the contact details.

### Appeal

If the internal review of a decision by the Department does not resolve the position to the satisfaction of the farmer, appeals can be made to the Agriculture Appeals Office (AAO), which is an independent statutory agency. It provides an independent, impartial and free appeals service to farmers who are dissatisfied with decisions of DAFM regarding their entitlements under certain schemes.

Appeals must be submitted to the AAO within three months of the date of the letter of notification to the farmers of the final decision of the Department. In certain cases, where the Director considers it appropriate, this three-month deadline can be extended on a case-by-case basis.

The Agriculture Appeals Act 2001, along with the Agriculture Appeals Regulations 2002 (as amended), set down the functions of the office, the decisions that may be appealed and the procedures to be followed in respect of agriculture appeals. From the date of receipt of all relevant documentation, the Appeals Office will aim to conclude its findings within a three-month period.

Full details of appeals procedures, including details of the Schemes covered are available on the Agriculture Appeals Office website at [www.agriappeals.gov.ie](http://www.agriappeals.gov.ie) or from the Department’s local offices. Appeals should be addressed to the Agriculture Appeals Office.

If at the end of the appeals procedure the farmer feels his/her case has not been dealt with properly they can seek the assistance of the Ombudsman by contacting the Office of the Ombudsman.

## 12. Force Majeure or Exceptional Circumstances

Where an applicant wishes to rely on force majeure/exceptional circumstance, the obligation is on the beneficiary to notify the Department, in writing, the occurrence of such an event. The notification must be submitted, with relevant evidence to the satisfaction of the Department, within fifteen working days from the date on which the beneficiary or the person entitled through him/her, is in a position of doing so.

Without prejudice to the actual circumstances to be taken into consideration in individual cases the following categories of force majeure/exceptional circumstances may be recognised:

- death of the beneficiary,
- long term professional incapacity of the beneficiary,
- expropriation of all or a large part of the holding if that expropriation could not have been anticipated on the day of lodging the application,
- a severe natural disaster gravely affecting the holding,
- the accidental destruction of livestock buildings on the holding,
- an epizootic or a plant disease affecting part or all of the beneficiary's livestock or crops respectively.

## 13. Partnerships

Farmers in a Farm Partnership registered with the Department are eligible to apply for the Scheme.

The application must be made using the applicants **individual herd number**. Payment will issue to the Registered Farm Partnership Number.

A maximum threshold of 10 hectares of grassland for the Fodder Support Scheme will apply to a Single herd Registered Farm Partnership. A maximum threshold of 20 hectares of grassland (i.e., the 10-hectare individual maximum multiplied by 2) will apply to a Multi herd Registered Farm Partnership of **two herds**. A maximum threshold of 30 hectares of grassland (i.e., the 10-hectare individual maximum multiplied by 3) will apply to a Multi herd Registered Farm Partnership of three **or more herds**.

Each partner shall deliver all of the requirements related to their holding. All partners are jointly and severally responsible for delivery of the Fodder Support Scheme requirements.

## 14. Responsibility of the Applicant

It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to familiarise themselves with the Scheme's Terms and Conditions and with the consequences for breaches of the scheme.

The approval or payment of aid under the Scheme does not imply the acceptance by the Minister of any responsibility as regards the obligations undertaken by the applicant.

Applicants of the scheme registered with the Departments SMS service will receive regular updates. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that they are registered with the Departments SMS service and all details are up to date. [gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) - [Sign up to texts or emails from the department \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

Correspondence will be available online only. It is the herdowner's responsibility to ensure they check their afood.ie account for correspondence.

If an applicant withdraws from the scheme, they will not be eligible to reapply. Applicants cannot withdraw from the Scheme after **23.59hrs on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023**.

**Amendments will not be accepted after 23.59 on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. All amendments must be done by way of the online application system.**

If an applicant who applied for FSS 2023 during the application period, 2<sup>nd</sup> November up to and including the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022, did not submit a BISS 2023 application, declared themselves as an inactive farmer on their BISS application or no longer has the required land to be deemed eligible for the scheme they **must** withdraw in order to avoid any over declaration penalties.

In duly justified cases withdrawals and reductions may be considered if the applicant has not been notified of an issue with their application or notified of an inspection.

The applicant must maintain a record to demonstrate the completion of the commitments in this Scheme. The applicant must retain all receipts, documentation, and other evidence to prove compliance with the commitments of the Scheme. The record must be made available on request for inspection and administrative checks by the Department.

## 15. Failure to abide by the Term and Conditions of the Scheme

Where, for the purposes of obtaining payment under the scheme to which these Terms and Conditions relate, the applicant knowingly makes a false or misleading statement or withholds essential information, or if there is any material change in the circumstances of the applicant which would be in conflict with the letter or the spirit of the scheme, his/her participation in any or all of the scheme may be terminated and all or part of any aid paid shall be reimbursed.

The Minister reserves the right to recover such amounts in accordance with the law. The Minister also reserves the right to exclude such a person from further participation in any other Department scheme for such period as shall be determined, but in any event not exceeding a period of 6 years.

## 16. Review of Financial Aids

The Minister reserves the right to restrict the availability of the scheme and to vary, where occasion so demands, the amount of financial aid wherever specified in the scheme.

The obtaining of aid or the attempt to obtain aid under the scheme by fraudulent means by the applicant or others acting alone or together may render such persons liable to prosecution.

## 17. Interpretation

The Department may expand upon, explain, interpret, or define the meaning of any aspect of the Terms or Conditions of the scheme.

## 18. Data Protection Notice

**General Data Protection information applicable to all Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine customers is available here:**

<https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/ef9f6-data-protection/>

Information specific to the personal data being collected:

**The following data is specific information in relation to the personal data processed for the Fodder Support Scheme.**

### 1. Specified purpose:

The personal data sought from you, the applicant, is required for the purpose of making an application under the Fodder Support Scheme. Failure to provide all the personal data required to facilitate the processing of the application, including data testing, under the scheme will result in the Department being unable to process the application.

The Department may also use data provided in submitting an application under the Fodder Support Scheme for the purposes of updating information on the relevant databases held by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in connection with this scheme.

In addition, the following divisions also process information obtained via the Fodder Support Scheme application process to facilitate the administration of the scheme and compliance with the terms and conditions of the scheme:

- Integrated Controls Division
- Crop Policy, Evaluation & Certification Division
- Finance Division
- IT Division

## **2. Legal basis:**

The Fodder Support Scheme is implemented pursuant to the Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid measures to support the economy following the aggression against Ukraine by Russia and is operated by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

## **3. Recipients:**

Information provided as part of the Fodder Support Scheme application will be shared, with other divisions within the Department, for the purposes of processing applications in a timely and efficient manner.

When you submit a Fodder Support Scheme application some of your personal data may be made available to other Government Departments/Agencies/Local Authorities, but only where there is a valid legal basis to do so. Also, personal information may be released under the terms of the relevant Data Protection legislation in force and the Freedom of Information Act, 2014.

Information will be shared within the Department to facilitate the administration of the scheme, to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions and to allow for monitoring and evaluating of the scheme.

Personal data may be used for statistical, research and analysis purposes in some circumstances, but will only be done so in compliance with the Data Protection legislation in force. Data used for such purposes will be pseudonymised (masked) or anonymised, as appropriate, to protect to the security and confidentiality of the data. The use of the data in this way may facilitate the Department in informing policy decisions into the future, which would benefit the Irish farmer and the Agriculture Sector. The Department is also currently obliged by law to provide information concerning applicants in response to requests received from the Office of the Revenue Commissioners, An Garda Síochána, and other bodies and this will take place in accordance with Data Protection legislation.

As part of this scheme, if you are approved into the scheme, you may be requested by the Department or relevant agents acting on its behalf, to supply data in relation to your participation to the Scheme, and facilitate on-farm inspections/assessments, where required for the purpose of assessment, verification, evaluation or research purposes as provided for under the terms and conditions of the scheme. Not to supply such information may invalidate/cancel your application.

## **4. Transferred outside the EU:**

Information provided in support of an application under the Fodder Support Scheme is not currently transmitted outside of the EU.

## **5. Retention Period:**

The data submitted in support of the application by the data subject under the Fodder Support Scheme will be retained by the Department only as long as there is a business need to do so in line with the purposes for which it was collected.

After this time, it will be marked for destruction and will be destroyed in line with internal guidelines or guidelines for destruction received from the National Archives Office or associated permissions received from them.



## **6. Data provision being statutory or contractual obligation:**

The data provided for this purpose is being requested under the requirements of the Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid measures to support the economy following the aggression against Ukraine by Russia and if the customer chooses not to provide this information their application for the Fodder Support Scheme cannot proceed.

## **7. Automated Decision Making:**

Personal data provided in the submission of an application under the Fodder Support Scheme will be processed automatically for the purpose of the efficient running of the scheme, and the timely payment of participants.

Automated decision making will also be used for the purposes of selecting participants for inspection.

## **8. System generated text messages**

The Department uses personal data supplied in order to issue system generated text messages in relation to the scheme to applicants. These text messages may relate to reminders, correspondence issued or payments.

## **9. Technical Information of data collected**

Technical information on the cookies used on our Department's website is available at the following link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/ef9f6-data-protection/>