

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cùisean Dùthchail agus na h- Àrainneachd
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment

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— 16th April 2014

New AB,

**RURAL AFFAIRS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE –
WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH 2014**

I am writing to follow up on the outstanding issues that were raised at the RACCE Committee session on Wednesday 26 March 2014. I have set out our response below:

- You asked for a breakdown in simple tabular form of projects in the SRDP that have been approved by type, size and distribution, and the numbers that are legacy projects.

The tables contained within annex A and B provide a breakdown of Agri-environment scheme and projects by type, size and distribution.

- Graeme Dey asked whether the €70,000 grant in respect of new entrant support under pillar 2 would cover livestock acquisition as well as machinery, equipment and upgrading of buildings.

The new entrant start-up grant can cover just about anything as long as the business plan justifies it. This includes livestock, and even the purchase of land. The current proposals have been discussed with the New Entrant expert panel and their view is that the purchase of land would be an inefficient use of the grant, so we are likely to rule this out of the new scheme. The previous scheme did not support the purchase of land either and given the maximum grant amount available this is likely to have no bearing on land purchase decisions.

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Legacy Agri-Environment Scheme Expenditure (SRDP: 1 January 2007 – 31 December 2013)

Distribution (Area Office)	Size	
	No. of Businesses	Expenditure (£)
Ayr	544	8,632,421
Benbecula	431	3,246,169
Dumfries	416	6,629,124
Elgin	110	2,439,015
Galashiels	806	16,675,091
Golspie	91	1,466,880
Hamilton	189	3,131,006
Inverness	389	6,807,375
Inverurie	1,082	16,484,331
Kirkwall	286	5,198,800
Lerwick	759	6,969,539
Oban	514	6,131,649
Perth	881	16,033,909
Portree	140	1,771,731
Stornoway	92	999,330
Thurso	191	2,971,630
Total	6,921	105,588,001

NB: The above table shows legacy agri-environment scheme annual recurrent and capital expenditure covering the period of the last SRDP. Farmers entered into agreements lasting 5/10/20 year agreements, depending on the scheme, and all commenced prior to 1 January 2007. The schemes concerned offered a range of options and were the Environmentally Sensitive Areas Scheme, Countryside Premium Scheme, Rural Stewardship Scheme, Habitats Scheme and Organic Aid Scheme. We are unable to break down the above figures any further due to the restrictions of older IT systems.

Land Management Contract Menu Scheme (LMCMS) Agri-Environment Options

Distribution (Area Office)	Size	
	No. of Businesses	Expenditure (£)
Ayr	781	3,757,476
Benbecula	29	69,985
Dumfries	552	2,953,042
Elgin	236	1,010,544
Galashiels	773	3,876,296
Golspie	85	443,961
Hamilton	302	1,562,074
Inverness	350	1,505,059
Inverurie	850	3,037,063
Kirkwall	171	436,786
Lerwick	124	363,104
Oban	260	1,167,357
Perth	1,082	5,184,354
Portree	103	412,651
Stornoway	48	109,798
Thurso	387	2,383,291
Total	6,133	28,272,839

NB: The table shows LMCMS agri-environment annual recurrent expenditure from 1 January 2007 to date. The LMCMS was a non-competitive scheme which closed to new applications in 2006 and offered 12 agri-environment options. Agreements lasted for 5 years. The LMCMS was replaced by the Land Managers Options Scheme with effect from 1 January 2007 (see below). We are unable to break down the above figures any further due to the restrictions of older IT systems.

Land Managers Options (LMO) Scheme Agri-Environment Options

Distribution (Area Office)	Size			
	No. of Businesses	Expenditure (£)	No. of Businesses with Continuing Commitments	Funding for Continuing Commitments
Ayr	577	2,139,331	577	1,922,832
Benbecula	28	48,479	28	36,039
Dumfries	511	1,565,710	511	1,543,591
Elgin	145	454,106	145	527,097
Galashiels	638	2,588,044	638	2,368,465
Golspie	39	80,008	39	86,919
Hamilton	225	816,870	225	891,775
Inverness	224	724,215	224	674,354
Inverurie	567	1,754,246	567	2,360,062
Kirkwall	117	177,073	117	447,091
Lerwick	21	22,270	21	48,523
Oban	297	944,082	297	933,438
Perth	773	2,900,347	773	3,355,705
Portree	73	179,437	73	178,950
Stornoway	85	260,613	85	240,701
Thurso	289	963,223	289	824,565
Total	4,609	15,618,053	4,609	16,440,108

NB: The above table shows LMO agri-environment annual recurrent expenditure from November 2009 to date and continuing commitments. The LMO Scheme was a non-competitive scheme which closed to new applications in 2013 and offered 14 agri-environment options. Agreements were for 5 years. The LMO replaced the LMCMS (see above). We are unable to break down the above figures any further due to the restrictions of older IT systems.

Projects by Type, Size and Distribution

Distribution (Area Office)	Type (Rural Priorities)	Size	
		No. of Businesses	Value of Funding (£)
Ayr	Agri-Environment Total	325	12,248,465
Ayr	Organic	13	568,239
Ayr	Designated Sites	78	3,553,247
Ayr	Hen Harrier	42	1,652,491
Ayr	Seed-eating birds	58	759,037
Ayr	Farmland waders	44	1,072,610
Ayr	Black Grouse	16	559,529
Ayr	Red Squirrel	10	299,700
Benbecula	Agri-Environment Total	260	7,585,826
Benbecula	Designated Sites	200	5,166,310
Benbecula	Corn Bunting	15	63,768
Benbecula	Corncrakes	208	2,104,207
Benbecula	Seed-eating birds	3	9,489
Benbecula	Farmland waders	147	1,406,206
Dumfries	Agri-Environment Total	168	9,302,486
Dumfries	Organic	12	477,371
Dumfries	Designated Sites	41	1,296,158
Dumfries	Hen Harrier	1	39,310
Dumfries	Seed-eating birds	50	910,119
Dumfries	Farmland waders	44	1,487,664
Dumfries	Capercaillie	1	5,438
Dumfries	Black Grouse	16	575,743
Dumfries	Red Squirrel	39	837,125
Elgin	Agri-Environment Total	141	11,674,471
Elgin	Organic	15	1,154,939
Elgin	Designated Sites	6	63,105
Elgin	Corn Bunting	1	4,997
Elgin	Corncrakes	1	17,316
Elgin	Seed-eating birds	86	793,059
Elgin	Farmland waders	79	1,730,069
Elgin	Black Grouse	18	989,171
Elgin	Red Squirrel	1	9,250
Galashiels	Agri-Environment Total	349	27,163,901
Galashiels	Organic	49	3,041,578
Galashiels	Designated Sites	57	3,597,843
Galashiels	Corn Bunting	3	79,140
Galashiels	Corncrakes	1	64,469
Galashiels	Hen Harrier	2	762,839
Galashiels	Seed-eating birds	120	3,095,639
Galashiels	Farmland waders	65	1,930,909
Galashiels	Black Grouse	43	3,364,581
Galashiels	Red Squirrel	52	1,430,050

Golspie	Agri-Environment Total	68	3,798,361
Golspie	Organic	4	279,574
Golspie	Designated Sites	17	1,108,864
Golspie	Corncrakes	9	207,545
Golspie	Hen Harrier	5	94,886
Golspie	Seed-eating birds	23	158,232
Golspie	Farmland waders	33	454,506
Golspie	Black Grouse	5	126,754
Hamilton	Agri-Environment Total	77	6,431,202
Hamilton	Organic	9	335,595
Hamilton	Designated Sites	13	578,906
Hamilton	Hen Harrier	6	247,472
Hamilton	Seed-eating birds	45	1,749,898
Hamilton	Farmland waders	41	1,547,304
Hamilton	Black Grouse	7	185,445
Inverness	Agri-Environment Total	221	16,366,528
Inverness	Organic	13	728,797
Inverness	Designated Sites	41	2,727,207
Inverness	Corn Bunting	4	55,647
Inverness	Corncrakes	10	119,486
Inverness	Seed-eating birds	57	932,925
Inverness	Farmland waders	62	1,554,487
Inverness	Capercaillie	5	58,266
Inverness	Black Grouse	25	986,429
Inverness	Red Squirrel	1	27,750
Inverurie	Agri-Environment Total	764	47,840,337
Inverurie	Organic	27	1,478,552
Inverurie	Designated Sites	44	888,270
Inverurie	Corn Bunting	68	668,168
Inverurie	Golden Eagle	1	640
Inverurie	Seed-eating birds	553	16,294,328
Inverurie	Farmland waders	95	1,140,341
Inverurie	Capercaillie	1	22,500
Inverurie	Black Grouse	7	145,340
Inverurie	Red Squirrel	11	217,005
Kirkwall	Agri-Environment Total	228	13,111,040
Kirkwall	Organic	33	1,487,294
Kirkwall	Designated Sites	37	786,191
Kirkwall	Corncrakes	91	2,048,109
Kirkwall	Hen Harrier	17	140,308
Kirkwall	Seed-eating birds	146	1,022,690
Kirkwall	Farmland waders	187	4,974,667

Lerwick	Agri-Environment Total	148	5,811,739
Lerwick	Organic	4	168,207
Lerwick	Designated Sites	29	314,928
Lerwick	Corncrakes	1	24,662
Lerwick	Seed-eating birds	65	799,380
Lerwick	Farmland waders	119	2,700,636
Oban	Agri-Environment Total	307	18,049,952
Oban	Organic	8	216,849
Oban	Designated Sites	100	6,578,743
Oban	Corn Bunting	1	17,545
Oban	Corncrakes	140	4,597,241
Oban	Golden Eagle	3	70,730
Oban	Hen Harrier	2	176,615
Oban	See-eating birds	13	318,126
Oban	Farmland waders	15	590,923
Oban	Black Grouse	20	561,686
Oban	Chough	14	439,189
Perth	Agri-Environment Total	357	19,583,460
Perth	Organic	45	2,167,649
Perth	Designated Sites	79	3,290,830
Perth	Corn Bunting	17	259,735
Perth	Hen Harrier	9	275,852
Perth	Seed-eating birds	75	1,057,225
Perth	Farmland waders	58	1,001,316
Perth	Capercaillie	2	36,750
Perth	Black Grouse	27	1,527,887
Perth	Red Squirrel	78	1,757,500
Portree	Agri-Environment Total	82	2,426,691
Portree	Designated Sites	15	435,434
Portree	Corncrakes	51	532,437
Portree	Golden Eagle	7	153,571
Portree	Seed-eating birds	28	47,786
Portree	Farmland waders	30	197,477
Stornoway	Agri-Environment Total	149	3,799,219
Stornoway	Organic	1	73,113
Stornoway	Designated Sites	78	1,597,622
Stornoway	Corncrakes	75	734,455
Stornoway	Golden Eagle	1	1,280
Stornoway	Seed-eating birds	2	1,976
Stornoway	Farmland waders	21	173,026

Thurso	Agri-Environment Total	150	10,385,486
Thurso	Organic	7	388,247
Thurso	Designated Sites	25	548,020
Thurso	Corncrakes	1	13,489
Thurso	Hen Harrier	1	3,350
Thurso	Seed-eating birds	95	1,589,226
Thurso	Farmland waders	130	4,147,727
Scotland	Agri-Environment Total	3,795	215,579,163
Scotland	Organic	240	12,566,004
Scotland	Designated Sites	861	32,531,679
Scotland	Corn Bunting	109	1,149,001
Scotland	Corncrakes	588	10,463,416
Scotland	Golden Eagle	12	226,221
Scotland	Hen Harrier	85	3,393,122
Scotland	Seed-eating birds	1,419	29,539,135
Scotland	Farmland waders	1,171	26,109,868
Scotland	Capercaillie	9	122,953
Scotland	Black Grouse	184	9,022,566
Scotland	Chough	14	439,189
Scotland	Red Squirrel	192	4,578,380