

## Report of the Farm Conservation Liaison Officer

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### **SUBJECT: Greening Agriculture Report**

#### **Purpose of Report:**

To Introduce the members to the Greening Agriculture Pilot and scrutinise Grant applications received for the new phase of the pilot.

#### **1.1 Background**

##### Greening Agriculture Pilot (Phase 1).

The pilot was born out of the Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places (SLSP) grant funding (April '21) with two overarching objectives. The first was to engage with the dairy industry in a way the Authority had not done previously and the second was to explore practical ways of lowering carbon emissions and increasing sequestration in a conventional dairy system.

Being a pilot, we needed a small nucleus of farms to trial. With hopes that if the pilot was successful, we could roll the programme out to a larger audience. The logical step was to approach a Milk Cooperative that had an existing source of suppliers in the National Park area, it would benefit the pilot if the farms already had an existing carbon audit with plans to lower and sequester carbon emissions. First Milk is the largest buyer of milk from farms in Pembrokeshire. They source milk from around 200 farms in West Wales, the majority of which are in Pembrokeshire. The creamery at Haverfordwest is one of the largest hard cheese plants in the UK, it is the largest cheese processing plant in Wales, and the only large-scale dairy processing site in Pembrokeshire. Having set a pledge in 2019 entitled 'First4Milk' their ambition to target the climate emergency was made clear. They are committed to achieving net zero by 2040 at the latest, with a target to reduce their carbon footprint at farm level by 50% by 2030 and achieve net zero in transport and processing by 2035. They aim to sequester 100,000t of CO<sub>2</sub>e per annum on members' farms by 2025 and are focused on utilising renewable sources of energy in our processing sites by 2030. Alongside their ambition all the farms in the Tesco supply chain produce an annual carbon audit and review, an invaluable baseline to this carbon pilot.

After discussing with the First Milk officers, we created a list comprising of 23 holdings that supplied First Milk and were wholly (17) and partly (6) within the Authority Boundary. Due to GDPR requirements an Expression of interest (EOI) was sent out to these Farm Business via First Milk. The EOI included sections on farming methods, current involvement with the Authority, current renewable energy sources and plans to lower emissions. 4 expressions of interest were received. A criteria comprising of the elements below were agreed by Welsh Government when the funding was approved.

- Installing renewable energy equipment to power operations on the farm
- Creating carbon storage features on farms e.g. creating and regenerating hedge banks, tree planting, carbon - enriched soil
- Making permanent grasslands/hay meadow (carbon storage)

- Rainwater harvesting
- Green roofs (carbon storage)

## 1.2 Projects Approved

### Projects Supported in Phase 1

Type	Location	Description	Cost
Renewable Energy	Llwyngwair, Newport	22.21kW Solar PV System including a 25.56Kwh battery system	£45,996.59
	Westmoor, Jameston	9.24kW Solar PV System including battery as well as a 100kw Fabdec ice builder system including condensers and a heat recovery unit.	£43,318
Rainwater Harvesting	Parc y Morfa, Fishguard	Water harvesting system and relevant works.	£24,754
Carbon Storage/ Cycling	Goodwood, Uzmaston	Over Seeding with Herbal Lays Approximately 35 ac	£2,000
	Broomhill, Marteltwy	Creating Permanent pasture and Hedge laying.	£5,000
	Home Farm, Stackpole	Ploughing and re-seeding 64 acers with Herbal lays, Clover and areas of Winter Bird food Mix.	£10, 000

## Phase 2 2022/23

2.1 Funding has been secured over the next 3 years from the Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places Welsh Government Grant to develop the Greening Agriculture pilot with the aim of further decarbonisation within the agricultural sector both by reducing emissions and sequestration. Below is the financial breakdown of the funding available over the next 3 years and its allocation.

SLSP Grant Funding - Financial breakdown				
Project	Funding			Details
	2022/23 (100k)	2023/24 (40k)	2024/25 (60k)	
Greening Agriculture-Dairy Project	50,000	20,000	10,000	Grant application to enhance renewable provision and reduce carbon out-put of dairy businesses. Rainwater harvesting,

## **2.2 Greening Agriculture – Dairy Project**

This is the Expression of Interest summary table for 2022/23. For this Period £50,000 can be awarded.

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Farm</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Score (20)</u>	<u>Estimated Project Cost</u>
GA22/REEF	Lower Broadmoor Farm, Talbenny	Refrigerant Heat Recovery System and Digital Control Panels for the Water tank,	16	£13,400
GA22/CAERFAI	Caerfai Farm, St Davids	50kwh Battery Storage	15	£30,000
GA22/PENDDU	Penrallt Ddu, Pontfaen	Vacuum pump, double bank plate cooler, Heat Recovery system	15	£22,441
GA22/COURT	Court Farm, Castlemartin	Heat recovery system , Variable Speed Vacuum Pump, 20kwh	14	£39,000
GA22/HAROLD	Haroldston Farm, Broadhaven	Solar Panels	11	£30,000
GA22/CLERK	Clerkenhill Farm, Slebech	Heat recovery system, Solar and Battery	10	£43,000
GA22/BANG	Bangeston, Stackpole	Variable vac pumps, Heat Exchange Units, Ice banks	8	0
GA22/BERRY	Berryhill Farm, Newport	Rainwater Harvesting/ Solar and Battery	8	0
GA22/PENBERRY	Penberry, St Davids	Solar Panels	7	0
GA22/TED	Tedion Farm, Lawrenny	Vacuum pump, double bank plate cooler, Heat Recovery system, Ice builder, variable speed controller.	7	0
GA22/JOR	Jordanston Farm, St Florance	50kw Solar Aray	9	£40,000

All applications have been scored using the following matrix to establish Priority.

<b><u>Priority matrix (20 marks Available)</u></b>	
Location (5)	
Within the NP Boundary	5
Partial (More than 50%)	3
Partial (Less than 50%)	1
Detail in Application (4)	
Detail of project and how it benefits fits the business along with details of capital.	4
Detail of project and how it benefits the businesses without details of capital.	3
Details of Capital Expenditure	2
Listed Capital Expenditure no Details	1
Public Connection (3)	
Direct Sale of Public Goods	3
Public connection - Holiday Let, tourist attraction etc.	2
No direct Public Connection	0
Quoted Capital Expenditure (5)	
Priced Quote	5
Detailed approximation	3
Approximation without Detail	1
No pricing	0
Carbon Audit (1)	
Has Audit	1
Has no Audit	0
Value For Money (2)	
Multiple aspects	2
One Aspect	1