



Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar  
gyfer Datblygu Gwledig:  
Ewrop yn Buddsoddi mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig  
European Agricultural Fund for  
Rural Development:  
Europe Investing in Rural Areas



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## Section 3 - Farm Business Grant – Yard Coverings

### Technical notes

#### CROSS DRAINS (Polychannel)

This technical note describes the minimum standard of work required in order to receive payments for 'Cross Drains (polychannel)', as specified in your FBG – Yard Coverings Contract. Where there are local traditional methods or styles that vary from this standard, these can be used, but the Welsh Government must approve any significant variation.

An open channel is the most effective way of intercepting run-off water from tracks and yards, as it can easily be cleared of accumulated silt and debris. This water can then be diverted into ditches, swales and sediment traps ensuring that nearby rivers are not polluted during flash floods.

The work will include the purchase and installation of a polychannel drainage system with grating. The channel once installed should be able to support the weight of slow moving, heavy machinery.

Minimum work expected:

- Excavate a trench across the width of the track or along part of the farmyard, allowing sufficient depth and width for the concrete bed and surround.
- Make sure the outlet of the trench runs into a suitable ditch or swale or where the clean water remains separated from dirty water.
- Slope the bed of the trench towards the outlet, following the depth of the proposed channel.
- Ensure any arrows on the side of the channel point towards the outlet i.e. in the direction of flow.
- Set levels and lay out the channels alongside the trench, always starting at the outlet point.
- Pour bedding – Begin at the outlet position, a good quality concrete bedding should be poured into the trench.
- Working away from the outlet, lower the channels into position following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Check alignment of channel.
- The grating should be loosely laid and wrapped in plastic, spanning the channel joints to ensure a clean final installation.
- The concrete surround can now be poured into the trench, taking care not to disturb the line of the run. This should finish 3mm above the channel and grating top surface.

- Once the concrete has set, lift out gratings and remove the protective plastic.
- To support heavy slow moving machinery, a minimum concrete bed and surround of 200mm is required, unless specified otherwise with Polychannel installation instructions.

Certain works you may be carrying out under your FBG – Yard Coverings contract may require permission or a licence before they are undertaken. Ensure that you carry out the works in line with the licenses or permission issued in your contract.

You will be responsible for ensuring that all safety requirements are observed when undertaking any work.

## **KERBING**

This technical note describes the minimum standard of work required in order to receive payments for 'Kerbing', as specified in your FBG – Yard Coverings Contract. Where there are local traditional methods or styles that vary from this standard these can be used, but the Welsh Government must approve any significant variation.

The use of Kerbing across or along the track may be appropriate to direct water off the track. It must be sufficiently robust to stand up to farm vehicle movements and not undermine the track in any way. For tracks, work should include:

- The excavation of a trench across the track to a minimum depth of 300mm.
- Fill with concrete and key in kerbstones protruding from the track.
- Tamper the concrete on the lower side of the track to the edge of kerbstone.
- Leave concrete on the upside of track flat below the level of kerbstone.
- Kerbstones – 900mm x 255mm x 125mm (half battered)
- The water from the kerbing should be directed to a stable drainage outlet such as a ditch, culvert or other drainage outfall.
- Concrete work should be carried out in accordance with the relevant British Standards BS 8000 and BS 8500.

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## **SLEEPING POLICEMEN**

This technical note describes the minimum standard of work required in order to receive payments for 'Sleeping Policemen', as specified in your FBG – Yard Coverings Contract. Where there are local traditional methods or styles that vary from this standard these can be used, but the Welsh Government must approve any significant variation.

Sleeping policemen (cross humps) may be appropriate to direct water off the track. They must be sufficiently robust to stand up to farm vehicle movements and not undermine the track in any way. The spacing of the cross humps is critical and you should seek advice if necessary. For tracks, work should include:

- The excavation of a trench across the track to a minimum depth of 100mm
- Key concrete into the trench and up to a height of at least 150mm above track level.
- Concrete work should be carried out in accordance with the relevant British Standards BS 8000 and BS 8500.
- The water from the sleeping policemen should be directed to a stable drainage outlet such as a ditch, culvert or other drainage outfall.

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You will be responsible for ensuring that all safety requirements are observed when undertaking any work.

## **RAINWATER GOODS (GUTTERING)**

## **RAINWATER GOODS (DOWNPIPE)**

This technical note describe the minimum standard of work required in order to receive payments for 'Rainwater Goods – Guttering' and 'Rainwater Goods – Downpipe', as specified in your FBG – Yard Coverings Contract. Where there are local traditional methods or styles that vary from this standard these can be used, but the Welsh Government must approve any significant variation.

### **Rainwater Goods**

This is for the provision of new rainwater goods (downpipes), where existing ineffective or non-existent rainwater goods discharge clean water onto fouled yard areas. This option is for existing buildings within the farmyard that currently do not have rainwater goods or which have existing rainwater goods, but they are beyond their serviceable life and need replacement. Clean water from new rainwater goods must be directed into a clean water drain.

Rainwater goods on proposed new buildings are not eligible for a grant, as these should be included as part of the primary new roof project.

Where rainwater goods are at risk of being damaged by livestock, suitable protection should be installed.

### **Work Should:**

- Satisfy Town and Country Planning requirements.
- Be properly designed for the agricultural purposes for which it is to be used.
- Only take place once you have consulted Natural Resources Wales about your assessment of clean water and about discharge consents.
- Use guttering, downpipe and brackets that satisfy BS EN 607, BS EN12200 and BS EN 1462 and are appropriate in size to handle the volume of water from the area of roof.
- Installation work should satisfy all relevant British Standards, e.g. BS 5502, BS EN1917. Drainage works to comply with BS 8000, BS EN 752 and BS EN 1610.
- Meet Health and Safety Regulations, and Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007.
- Comply with the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.

These regulations place duties on employers and the self-employed to make suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to their own health and safety and that of others from the work they do. Free HSE farm self-assessment software package can be downloaded from:

[www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/assessment](http://www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/assessment).

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You will be responsible for ensuring that all safety requirements are observed when undertaking any work.