

Farming Connect: Registration Guide for Farmers

Introduction

This guide explains how new and existing RPW Online users can register for **Farming Connect**, which supports the Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS), particularly:

- **Universal Action 3 – Benchmarking**
- **Universal Action 4 – Continuous Professional Development (CPD)**

All Farming Connect registrations **must be completed through RPW Online**, including those who have used Farming Connect before. The Registration must be carried out by individuals who require access to Farming Connect, rather than an Agent acting on behalf of the business. This is because RPW Online now uses GOV One Login to connect your personal identity (your email and login details) with the **Customer Reference Number (CRN)** for the businesses you are in.

Your CRN is the same number used when registering with Farming Connect and is connected to your One Login Identity to ensure your information remains consistent across all services. This enables Farming Connect to automatically confirm with RPW Online when you have completed the actions for Universal Action 3 and 4. This would not be possible without the link made during the registration process.

Where helpful, the guide links to additional support and the Glossary in [Annex 1](#).

Before You Start

Before beginning your registration, please ensure:

- ✓ You have your **RPW Online login details**, including your **Customer Reference Number (CRN)**
- ✓ You have **migrated to GOV.UK One Login**
- ✓ You have the correct **roles and permissions** set in RPW Online
- ✓ **Agriculture and Farm Woodland** is selected as a business area
- ✓ You have your **existing CON number** (if previously registered with Farming Connect). A reminder was issued to you separately.

If you are unsure about any requirement, please refer to the online guidance linked throughout the form.

Eligibility

To register for Farming Connect, you must:

- Meet Farming Connect's **eligibility criteria**, and
- Have successfully **migrated to GOV.UK One Login**

Further guidance on eligibility and One Login is available on [GOV.WALES](https://gov.wales).

RPW Online Roles and Permissions

Access to Farming Connect is determined by the role given to each individual within a CRN after migration to GOV.UK One Login.

Roles eligible to register

The following roles can register for Farming Connect:

- **Business Members**
 - Owner / Sole trader
 - Business Partner
 - Director
 - Executor
 - Chair / Trustee
 - Personal Administrator
 - Employee with delegated authority
 - Company Secretary
- **Non-Business Members**
 - Spouse / Family member
 - Employee
 - Manager
 - Secretary

Individuals assigned **any other Non-Business Member role cannot register**.

The **Online Administrator** is responsible for assigning roles and permissions within the CRN.

For full guidance on roles and how to make changes, please refer to the One Login support pages.

Permissions for Non-Business Members

Having the correct **role** is not sufficient—Non-Business Members will also require the correct **permissions** associated with their account, this can only be granted by the **Online Administrator**.

Guidance on assigning permissions is available on p.12 of [RPW Online: migrating from Government Gateway to GOV.UK One Login](#).

Adding Non-Business Members

When Non-Business Members are added to a business, the Online Administrator can choose to give them **Full Access, Custom Access or No Access** to RPW Online.

The **Farming Connect registration link** will appear on the homepage regardless of their access level. Where **No Access** is assigned, the individual will not have access to RPW Online other than the **Farming Connect registration link to register for training only**.

Benchmarking and FARMDATA+

Farming Connect provides access to **FARMDATA+**, the tool used to complete **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** required under Universal Action 3.

- **Business Members** automatically receive access
- **Non-Business Members** must be granted access by the **Online Administrator**, see [one Login Guidance](#)

Registering for Farming Connect

Please note:

- **Agents cannot register on your behalf**
- Each Business Member and eligible Non-Business Member must register individually through RPW Online
- If you are involved with more than one business, you may register for each one as long as you have the correct permissions and have migrated to GOV.UK One Login

If you have already registered your individual details under another CRN, these will be carried forward.

Registration

When you begin the Farming Connect registration form, you will automatically be asked to register either:

1. **Business + Individual**

- You complete both business and individual details
- Most common for the first person registering under a CRN

2. **Business Only**

- Only business details required
- Occurs when your individual details already exist under another CRN

3. **Individual Only**

- Only your personal details are required
- Occurs when business details have already been completed by someone else

Screen Journey

RPW Homepage: Farming Connect Registration is available from the RPW Online homepage. Select [Register](#) to begin. To see this option, users must:

- Migrated to **One Login**
- Be an **Agricultural and Farm Woodland business**
- Hold an eligible business or non-business member role such as:

Business Member	Non-Business Member
Owner / Sole Trader	Spouse / Family Member
Business Partner	Employee
Chair / Trustee	Manager
Personal Administrator	Secretary
Executor	
Employee with delegated authority	
Company Secretary	
Director	

The screenshot shows the RPW Ar-Lein Online homepage. At the top, there is a green header with the RPW logo and 'Ar-Lein Online Rural Payments Wales'. Below the header, there is a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'CRN Details', 'Land', 'Correspondence', 'Forms', 'Contracts and Small Grants', and 'Plans'. A blue banner below the menu contains a reminder to sign out of the account. Below this, there is a section for 'Messages between You and RPW' with a list of unread messages, including 'Llythyr Hysbysu / Notification Letter' and 'Survey of Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) outline proposals'. A 'View all messages' button is also present. At the bottom, a red box highlights a 'Register with Farming Connect' button, which is part of a banner that says 'Farming Connect Registration is now only available via RPW Online'. To the right of the main content, there are two blue informational boxes: one about 'Your SAF 2026' and another 'SAF Reminder' about the submission deadline of 15 May 2026.

RPW Tŷfodau-Gwladig Cymru
Ar-Lein Online
Rural Payments Wales

Your profile ▾ Cymraeg | Sign out

Home CRN Details ▾ Land ▾ Correspondence 25 ▾ Forms Contracts and Small Grants ▾ Woodland Plans

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Register your Business (CRN)

A registration period is open for Farming Connect. All registrations must be made through RPW Online.

Your Business (CRN) is currently not registered with Farming Connect.

The registration period is open to:

- Re-register with Farming Connect if you have previously been registered
- New registrations

The business and the individuals within the CRN who wish to use Farming Connect must register.

If you are an existing Farming Connect user, you must provide your CON number, as this is required to link your training record.

Registration for Farming Connect may be required for some Sustainable Farming Scheme Universal and Optional Actions.

The information provided during this registration will be used to best tailor the support made available through Farming Connect.

All mandatory questions in the form will be marked with *. You will be unable to submit the form until these have been answered.

Where indicated **For Farming Connect use only** the response to the question is for Farming Connect use only and will not be recorded against your RPW on-line account.

[Start Registration](#) [Back](#)

[Guidance Documents](#) [Contact Us](#) [Copyright Statement](#) [Accessibility Statement](#) [Cookies](#) [Privacy](#)

Business Details Screen: This screen introduces the registration process, eligibility, and why the information is required to support SFS Universal and Optional Actions.

Mandatory information is marked with an asterisk* throughout the form. Some information (such as contact details and agricultural sectors) will be pre-populated with existing information held in RPW Online.

Users can update their business and individual contact details whilst completing the form, as well as their agricultural sectors – this will update their RPW Online Account. Some fields are used only for Farming Connect monitoring purposes and *will not be stored* in RPW Online.

From this point onwards, the user will begin their registration by clicking '[Start Registration](#)'.

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The screenshot shows the RPW Ar-Lein Online website interface. At the top left is the logo for Dwywodfaeth Cymru (Welsh Government). The main header features the RPW logo and 'Ar-Lein Online Rural Payments Wales'. A navigation bar includes links for 'Home', 'CRN Details', 'Land', 'Correspondence' (with a red '25' notification), 'Forms', 'Contracts and Small Grants', and 'Woodland Plans'. A user profile section shows 'Your profile', 'Cymraeg', and 'Sign out'. The main content area is titled 'Eligibility and Privacy' and contains two sections: 'Farming Connect Eligibility' with a link to check criteria, and 'Farming Connect Privacy Notice' with a paragraph explaining GDPR compliance and a link to the privacy notice. At the bottom of the content area are 'Continue' and 'Back' buttons. A footer contains links for 'Guidance Documents', 'Contact Us', 'Copyright Statement', 'Accessibility Statement', 'Cookies', and 'Privacy'.

Eligibility and Privacy: This screen provides direct links to the Farming Connect Eligibility Criteria and Privacy Notice. These documents open externally.

Users should review these before proceeding.

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Business Contact Details

Check the contact details below are correct for your business. If correct, continue to the next page. To make changes, click on "update this information".

Main farm / Premises Address

Correspondence Address

Correspondence Telephone Number

Online Preferences Email

Online Preferences SMS

[Guidance Documents](#) [Contact Us](#) [Copyright Statement](#) [Accessibility Statement](#) [Cookies](#) [Privacy](#)

Business Contact Details: Information already held in RPW Online will appear here. Any blank fields indicate missing data.

We recommend reviewing all details carefully.

If you need to make changes, select "Update this information", which will re-direct to customer details screen. Save your updates in RPW Online and return to the form, the new data will automatically appear.

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RPW Taldau Gwledig Cymru
Ar-Lein Online
Rural Payments Wales

Your profile ▾ Cymraeg | Sign out

Home CRN Details ▾ Land ▾ Correspondence 25 ▾ Forms Contracts and Small Grants ▾ Woodland Plans

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Business Contact Preference **For Farming Connect use only**

You will need to decide how, in the future, you would like Farming Connect to contact you.

Wherever possible, Farming Connect will use the preferred method of contact recorded. However, an alternative method may be used where necessary.

Indicate your preferred method of contact *

Email
 Post
 SMS (Text)
 Telephone

[Continue](#) [Back](#)

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Business Contact Preference: User must select one option to proceed. If the preferred method is not held in RPW Online, the user must select another option that RPW Online holds.

Business Contact Preference **For Farming Connect use only**

You will need to decide how, in the future, you would like Farming Connect to contact you.

Wherever possible, Farming Connect will use the preferred method of contact recorded. However, an alternative method may be used where necessary.

Error! Some data has not been entered or is invalid in the fields highlighted below. Please correct this data before continuing

Indicate your preferred method of contact *

Email
 Post
 SMS (Text)
 Telephone

Enter a valid response

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A user cannot proceed until they have selected a valid option.

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Agricultural Sectors

From the sectors listed below, select all that you have in your business that are run as a commercial enterprise. We are collecting this data for Sustainable Farming Scheme purposes only, in relation to Universal, optional and collaboration where applicable.

Information in relation to potatoes and root crops being Arable or Horticulture:

While arable farming typically includes root crops, the categorization can depend on scale and type. Potatoes are primarily considered an arable crop, whereas smaller-scale cultivation of certain vegetables, like carrots, would fall under horticultural practices.

Select agricultural sectors *

Dairy

Keeping or rearing cows to produce milk and other dairy products that is not for your own consumption.

Beef

Keeping or rearing cattle for breeding or meat production that is not for your own consumption.

Sheep

Keeping or rearing sheep for wool, breeding, dairy, or meat production that is not for your own consumption.

Pigs

Keeping or rearing pigs for breeding or meat production that is not for your own consumption.

Poultry

Keeping or rearing poultry for breeding, egg or meat production that is not for your own consumption.

Arable

Land cultivated for crop production - including land used for combinable crops, crops grown for fibre, potatoes, root crops, crops grown for animal feed such as forage maize and forage rape.

Horticulture

Producer of commercial horticultural crops. (Horticultural crops are edible fruit, vegetables, ornamental plants, flowers, and tree nurseries).

Goats

Keeping or rearing goats for fibre, breeding, dairy, or meat production that is not for your own consumption.

Woodland / Agroforestry

Woodland / Agroforestry is the integration of trees into the farming system, while maintaining or enhancing the farm's main agricultural output.

Grassland / Forage only (No animals)

You have no grazing animals yourself, where your main enterprise is mowing, baling hay and/or silage, selling fodder or Grass letting your land to other farmers to graze their animals.

Woodland (Commercial)

Commercial woodland refers to woodland bought for or planted for commercial purposes, such as timber production, it can also include woodland used for recreational activities that generate income. They consist of trees that can be harvested profitably.

Beekeeping (Apiculture)

Keeping bees to produce honey, wax and help pollinate crops.

Camelids

Keeping or rearing animals like llamas, alpacas, and camels for wool, breeding, dairy, or meat production that is not for your own consumption.

Deer

Keeping or rearing deer for breeding or meat production that is not for your own consumption.

Other

If you're part of another Agricultural Sector that is not listed separately. This should only include activities linked to your main farming business.

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Agricultural Sectors: This screen displays the agricultural sectors associated with the business.

Any sectors already recorded (via the Agricultural Sector screen or previous year SAF) will be ticked. User may update the list as needed — changes will automatically update the RPW Online business record.

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Areas of Interest For Farming Connect use only

The following information will be used to best tailor the support made available through Farming Connect.

You can amend the areas of interest by contacting Farming Connect after your registration has been completed.

Select at least 2 areas of interest for your business *

- Agri-environment
- Agri-Tech
- Biodiversity and Habitat Management
- Carbon
- Computer Training
- Diversification
- Grassland
- Improving Animal Health - Testing and advice
- Improving business performance
- Improving Water and Air Quality
- Integrated Pest Management
- Livestock Performance
- Regenerative Agriculture
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Soil Health and Management
- Staff Management
- Succession
- Woodland, Hedge and Boundary Management

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Areas of Interest: These options help Farming Connect tailor training to the business needs.

User can select as many as needed but must select at least **two** to proceed.

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The screenshot shows the RPW Ar-Lein Online registration interface. At the top left is the Welsh Government logo. The header includes 'RPW Ar-Lein Online Rural Payments Wales' and navigation links: 'Your profile', 'Cymraeg', and 'Sign out'. A green navigation bar contains: 'Home', 'CRN Details', 'Land', 'Correspondence', 'Forms', 'Contracts and Small Grants', and 'Woodland Plans'. Below this is a 'Back' link and the title 'Organic Farm Status For Farming Connect use only'. The main question is 'Are you fully organic or are you in organic conversion certified by a recognised Organic Control Body? *'. There are two radio button options: 'Yes' and 'No'. At the bottom of the form area are 'Continue' and 'Back' buttons. A footer contains links for 'Guidance Documents', 'Contact Us', 'Copyright Statement', 'Accessibility Statement', 'Cookies', and 'Privacy'.

Organic Farm Status: Select whether the business is fully organic or in conversion. This must be completed to continue.

This screenshot shows the same registration page as above, but with an error message displayed in a pink box: 'Error! Some data has not been entered or is invalid in the fields highlighted below. Please correct this data before continuing'. The radio button options 'Yes' and 'No' are still present, but the 'Continue' button is disabled. Below the error message, the text 'Enter a valid response' is shown in red. The rest of the page layout, including the navigation bar and footer, remains the same.

User must select and answer to proceed.

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The screenshot shows the 'Eligibility Check' page for Farming Connect. The page header includes the RPW logo and 'Ar-Lein Online Rural Payments Wales'. A navigation bar contains links for Home, CRN Details, Land, Correspondence (with a '25' notification), Forms, Contracts and Small Grants, and Woodland Plans. The main heading is 'Eligibility Check' with a sub-heading 'For Farming Connect use only'. The text states: 'To register for Farming Connect, your business must meet one of the following criteria:'. Two criteria are listed: 'You must have at least 3 hectares of eligible agricultural land in Wales, registered with Rural Payments Wales (RPW), or You must be able to show that your business carries out more than 550 standard labour hours per year on agricultural activities.' Below this, it says 'According to our records:' followed by two bullet points: 'You currently have less than 3 hectares of eligible land registered with RPW, or We have no information about your land.' A question is posed: 'Can your business demonstrate more than 550 standard labour hours on agriculture and ancillary activities per year? *'. There are two radio button options: 'Yes' and 'No'. At the bottom of the form are 'Continue' and 'Back' buttons. A footer contains links for Guidance Documents, Contact Us, Copyright Statement, Accessibility Statement, Cookies, and Privacy.

550 Hour Eligibility: This question appears only for businesses with less than 3ha or where the total land size is unknown.

Supporting evidence of 550 standard labour hours must be provided and verified. If a business cannot demonstrate more than 550 standard labour hours, their registration will be rejected by the Farming Connect service centre.

Acceptable documentary evidence includes:

- **A letter from an accredited accountant** confirming that the business has completed more than 550 hours during the calendar year.

OR

- **Alternative supporting evidence**, which will only be accepted if it provides an equivalent level of assurance. This means the evidence **must be verified by an independent, accredited professional—such as a solicitor**, who has sufficient understanding of the business to confirm that 550 hours of work were completed.

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The screenshot shows the 'Individual Contact Details' page on the RPW Ar-Lein Online portal. The page has a green header with the RPW logo and 'Ar-Lein Online' text. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, CRN Details, Land, Correspondence, Forms, Contracts and Small Grants, and Woodland Plans. The main content area is titled 'Individual Contact Details' and includes a 'Back' link. A paragraph explains that individuals must register their details in addition to business (CRN) details and provides instructions on how to update information. Below this are four sections, each with a label and an 'Update this information' button: Individual Address, Individual Email Address, Individual Mobile Number, and Individual Telephone Number. At the bottom of the form area are 'Continue' and 'Back' buttons. A footer contains links for Guidance Documents, Contact Us, Copyright Statement, Accessibility Statement, Cookies, and Privacy.

Individual Contact Details: This page holds the Individual Information already held in RPW Online. Any blank fields indicate missing data.

If you need to make changes, select "Update this information", which will re-direct to customer details screen. Save your updates in RPW Online and return to the form, the new contact details will automatically appear.

Note: These contact fields might differ from the business details if they live at a different address to the main farm, and / or if they have a separate email, mobile or telephone number.

We recommend reviewing all details carefully.

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The screenshot shows the RPW Ar-Lein Online portal. The header includes the Welsh Government logo, the RPW logo, and the text 'Ar-Lein Online Rural Payments Wales'. A navigation bar contains links for 'Home', 'CRN Details', 'Land', 'Correspondence', 'Forms', 'Contracts and Small Grants', and 'Woodland Plans'. A user profile section shows 'Your profile', 'Cymraeg', and 'Sign out'. The main content area is titled 'Individual Contact Preference' with a sub-header 'For Farming Connect use only'. Below this, there is a message: 'You will need to decide how, in the future, you would like Farming Connect to contact you. Wherever possible, Farming Connect will use the preferred method of contact recorded. However, an alternative method may be used where necessary.' The form contains two sections: 'What is your preferred language? *' with radio buttons for 'English' and 'Welsh'; and 'What is your preferred contact method? *' with radio buttons for 'Email', 'Post', 'SMS (Text)', and 'Telephone'. At the bottom of the form are 'Continue' and 'Back' buttons. A footer contains links for 'Guidance', 'Contact Us', 'Copyright', 'Accessibility', 'Cookies', and 'Privacy'.

Individual Contact Preferences: The two fields required on this page is the preferred language and preferred contact method.

These are specific to the individual and will not affect any contact preferences already set for the CRN. The options selected can be different for the individual and the business.

User must answer both questions to proceed to the next page.

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The screenshot shows the 'Individual Additional Details' registration page for Farming Connect. At the top, there is a header with the Welsh Government logo, 'RPW' (Rural Payments Wales), and 'Ar-Lein Online' (Online). A navigation bar includes links for 'Home', 'CRN Details', 'Land', 'Correspondence', 'Forms', 'Contracts and Small Grants', and 'Woodland Plans'. The main heading is 'Individual Additional Details' with a sub-heading 'For Farming Connect use only'. Below this, there is explanatory text about the CON number and a yellow warning box. A red box highlights the 'Enter your CON number' input field. Below that is a 'What is your sex?' section with radio buttons for 'Female', 'Male', 'Other', and 'Prefer not to say'. At the bottom, there are 'Continue' and 'Back' buttons, and a footer with links for 'Guidance Documents', 'Contact Us', 'Copyright Statement', 'Accessibility Statement', 'Cookies', and 'Privacy'.

Individual Additional Details: This screen captures the personal details and any existing information related to Farming Connect account.

If previously registered with Farming Connect (BOSS), user may enter their **CON number** to link training history. This is optional but recommended if you have completed training within the last 12 months, as it may count toward SFS universal actions.

New users who have not used Farming Connect before can continue without entering a CON number

Where the individual's year of birth is not known, there will be a dropdown for the user to select. They may choose the preferred not to say option if needed.

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Review your Answers

Review and ensure all answers provided are correct before submitting your registration.
If any answer needs to be amended, then use the back button to navigate to the relevant section to amend your answer.

Business Contact Preference For Farming Connect use only
SMS (Text)

Agricultural Sectors
Sheep
Pigs

Areas of Interest For Farming Connect use only
Staff Management
Succession

Are you fully organic or are you in organic conversion certified by a recognised Organic Control Body? For Farming Connect use only
No

Can your business demonstrate more than 550 standard labour hours on agriculture and ancillary activities per year? For Farming Connect use only
Yes

What is your preferred language? For Farming Connect use only
Welsh

What is your preferred contact method? For Farming Connect use only
Email

CON number For Farming Connect use only
Not provided

What is your sex? For Farming Connect use only
Other

Review your Answers: This is the user's final chance to check the details. Ensure all information is accurate before submitting your registration.

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Farming Connect Registration is now only available via RPW Online

Your Farming Connect Registration is Pending. It can take up to 5 working days to be approved. To check the progress, you will need to contact Farming Connect on 03456 000 813.

Registration Pending: After submission, user will return to the RPW Online homepage, where a pending registration banner will appear.

The Farming Connect service centre aims to review registrations within 5 working days.



Your Farming Connect account is available.

Sign in

Registration Approval: If the registration is approved, user can access Farming Connect via RPW Online. This will take the user directly through to their new account.

If the registration is rejected, the user will be able to re-register again via the home page.

Annex 1 – Glossary

Farming Connect	Farming Connect is a Welsh Government-funded program providing knowledge, training, and advisory support to farmers and foresters across Wales.
Sustainable Farming Scheme	A Welsh Government scheme designed to support farmers in the ongoing sustainable production of food whilst addressing the climate and nature emergency. The scheme will replace the Basic Payment Scheme, which will be phased out by 2029.
Universal Actions (UA's)	Core actions within the Sustainable Farming Scheme that all participants are expected to complete.
Universal Action 3 - Benchmarking	Complete an annual assessment using Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) to monitor and improve business and environmental performance
Universal Action 4 – Continuous Professional Development (CPD)	Build existing skills and knowledge through learning and e-learning on a range of subjects
Customer Reference Number (CRN)	A unique number used by RPW Online to identify each customer or business.
GOV.UK - One Login	A new Government login system that allows users to access any government service using the same email address and password. It replaces the Government Gateway Service.
Roles	Types of users in an RPW Online account—Business Members or Non-Business Members. Some accounts (i.e. Sole Traders) may have only one user, which will automatically be a Business Member.
Permissions	Access levels granted to users. The first person to enrol for a CRN via One Login (usually a Business Member) sets up these permissions.
Business Area	The sector or category selected in RPW Online that defines the nature of your business (e.g. Agriculture and Farm Woodland).

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Business Member	Hold a significant position within the business and has Full Access to RPW Online and wish to apply for grant awards, each account must include at least one Business Member.
Non-Business Member	User with administrative access to RPW Online but cannot accept or decline grant awards. The Business Member is responsible for setting the access level for these individuals.
Online Administrator	The person responsible for managing user roles and permissions within a business's RPW Online account. Administrators can invite other individuals associated with the business, to access online services including granting customised access to non-business members.
Full Access	Allows access to all RPW Online functions and can tailor permissions for each user within the business (if applicable).
Custom Access	User-specific access tailored to their role. Excludes permission to accept or decline grant awards.
Restricted Access	View Only access to RPW Online. Users with this level cannot submit claim forms or accept / decline grant awards.
FARMDATA +	A digital tool within Farming Connect used to complete KPI and monitor specific training.
Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	A set of measurable targets (related to the business, livestock, environment or management practices) which can be used to make data driven management decisions.
CON Number	A unique number previously used by Farming Connect to identify individuals. Only existing Farming Connect users will have this number.

Annex 2 – Flowchart

