

UTASS BRIEFING: 22ND JANUARY 2024

BPS DELINKED PAYMENTS

The RPA sent all eligible farmers a “Delinked Payment Information Statement” during November and December. This shows the amount of BPS paid in each of the reference years 2020, 2021 and 2022. It is important to check that the amount stated for each year, matches what you were actually paid. The average of these reference payments will be the figure which future payments will be calculated from as BPS is phased out. *Don't get too excited by the reference amount as the 2024 payment will be 50% of this amount.*

The Delinked statement should not be confused with the 2023 BPS remittance advice and claim statements received around the same time.

This is what your delinked statement will look like:



Reference data

Example of a part of page 2

Amount types	2020 amount (€)	2021 amount (£)	2022 amount (£)
BPS gross value	€ 14,242.59	£18,231.32	£19,510.43
Greening gross value	€ 6,217.72		
Young Farmer claim value	€ 0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total value	€ 20,460.31	£18,231.32	£19,510.43
Euro to Sterling exchange rate (2020)	0.89092	Not applicable	Not applicable
Total gross values in Sterling	£18,228.50	£18,231.32	£19,510.43
Total reference data	£55,970.25		

KEY FIGURES TO CHECK

Reference amount

Example of a part of page 3

The table below shows the total BPS 2020, 2021 and 2022 gross values added together. This value is divided by 3 to give an average figure which is your reference amount.

Calculation	Value
Total reference data (sum of BPS 2020, 2021 and 2022 gross amounts)	£55,970.25
Divided by 3 to give an average	£18,656.75
Delinked payments reference amount	£18,656.75

YOUR 2024 PAYMENT WILL BE 50% OF THIS FIGURE

Please turn over for more information...

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BPS DELINKED PAYMENTS... continued

To be eligible for delinked payments a valid BPS application had to be submitted in 2023. If you haven't received a Delinked Payment Information Statement, or believe that the information shown on it is incorrect, it is important to contact the RPA on 03000 200 301. The deadline for queries is **29th February 2024**. The RPA are intending to make delinked payments automatically without the need for any application form. It is also possible to transfer a delinked payment to another business/SBI number.

SHEEP AND GOAT ANNUAL INVENTORY

This should have been done by 31st December 2023 but better late than never.

SFI UPDATE

Stephen Barclay, the Defra minister, delivered an update on the progress of the Agricultural Transition Plan at the beginning of January. This included a review of current SFI and CS payments, which will be automatically applied to existing agreements, as well as new SFI actions to be introduced during the summer. The offer for farms that are all permanent grassland is still inadequate though there will be a maintenance payment for drystone walls. HLS payments have yet again been excluded from the review as Defra are keen for those with HLS extensions to convert to CS before 2028.

UTASS will be arranging meetings through our "Farm for the Future" programme to outline the changes and additions to environmental schemes. The programme, delivered in partnership with the Royal Countryside Fund, is free and includes other information events and one-to-one advice for signed up farmers.

For further advice and assistance please call Richard or Charlotte on 01833 641010

Please turn over for more information...