

REPORT OF THE  
**Executive Member for Countryside, Culture and Communities**  
PART II

**1. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY FARMS ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22**

- 1.1 On the 13 July 2022, the Executive Member for Recreation, Heritage and Rural Affairs noted the first annual Hampshire County Farms report and newsletter which provided an update on progress made in 2021/22 to incorporate the new County Farms policy priorities into operational practice.
- 1.2 On 19 March 2021, the Executive Member for Recreation, Heritage, Countryside and Rural Affairs approved the new County Farms Policy and noted that an annual performance report to monitor policy implementation would commence in 2022. The first annual Hampshire County Farms report sets out progress made in the 2021/22 year. Progress has principally been centred around the key issue of new lettings, an important first stage in the lifecycle of a county farm holding. A new letting and tenant selection process has been both agreed and extensively tested during this first implementation year, culminating in the letting of six farms to new entrant farmers from Spring 2022.
- 1.3 Other notable estate achievements have included the formation of farmer cluster groups (the Winchester Downs Cluster and the Winchester to River Test Cluster), comprising of ten county farms. These cluster groups were established to deliver joined up and enhanced biodiversity benefit within the wider landscape. Several community events were also hosted by tenants during the year, including Pumpkin Pastures at Brooklands Farm Fordingbridge and educational visits at South Stoke Farm, Kings Worthy.
- 1.4 Significant steps have also been undertaken to improve the profile and identity of Hampshire County Farms as a service. This has included its movement within the CCBS structure from Property Services to the Natural Environment and Recreation branch to facilitate better, more joined up leadership and support across the County Council's rural estate.

Further details can be found at the link below:

[Executive Member for Recreation, Heritage and Rural Affairs - 13 July 2022 Decision Day](#)

**COUNCILLOR RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER**  
**Executive Member for Countryside, Culture and Communities**