Social Farming Support Service Update September 2022

Update September 2022

This bulletin covers the July - September period of 2022, and this update will detail how the Social Farming Support Service for Northern Ireland is continuing to support farmers and promote Social Farming. Please visit the Social Farming section of the Rural Support website: www.ruralsupport.org.uk or follow Rural Support on social media (Twitter: @RuralSupport; Facebook: Rural Support) to keep up to date on developments. You can also contact the Social Farming Support Service on the details below.

Office: 028 86760040
Email: socialfarming@ruralsupport.org.uk

SoEngage Plus Project



SoEngage Plus project partners in Romania

To conclude the two-year SoEngage+ project Aoibeann and Clodagh attended a transnational two-day meeting in Romania. This meeting finalised any edits with resources available and discuss of dissemination events planned for September and October for all project partners.

You can find all available resources and training on the SoEngage Plus website here - https://www.soengage.eu/

Social Farming Training

On August 23rd 9 Social Farmers completed a one-day Emergency First Aid at Work training course. The training took place in Portadown and incorporated both theory and practical lessons. First aid training is a mandatory requirement for all our Social Farms, with each farm committing to providing a safe farm environment for their participants.

On September 26th HSENI hosted further Health & Safety training and guidance for our Social Farming group. This training was following HSENI Social Farming inspections which took place at each farm over the summer months.

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www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Social Farming Quarterly Discussion Group Meeting

On Wednesday 14th September we held the quarterly discussion group meeting online via Zoom. A successful evening discussing best practice in Social Farming and upcoming events/opportunities.

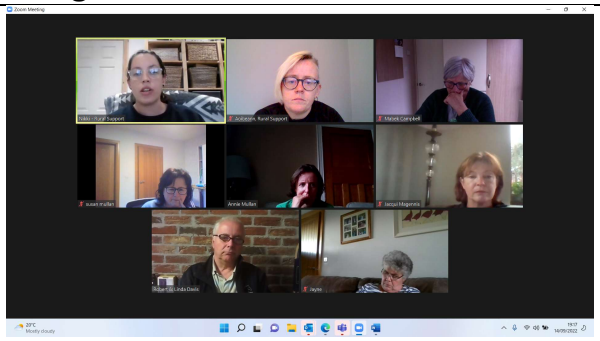


Photo of meeting attendees

BBC Radio Interview – Social Farming Awareness Week



Participants being interviewed by Elaine

Ahead of Social Farming Awareness Week Elaine Mitchell from BBC Radio visited Annagh Social Farm to interview their participants about their experience of Social Farming. Participants enjoyed showing Elaine around the farm and the activities they get up to on a weekly basis.



Simon and Jennifer being interviewed by Elaine



Placement student from Germany being interviewed by Elaine

Social Farming Standards

On August 1st we held a workshop for the next set of Social Farms to complete their application to the Social Farming Standards panel. We will be working through our farm group in order of delivery priority in the coming months providing support where needed to complete the process. On August 19th the first four farms were awarded the Social Farming Standards badge. Well done to everyone at Yellow Road Farm, Annagh Farm, Butterlope Farm and Gortilea Farm!



Butterlope Farm – Annie & Vinnie



Gortilea Farm - Karen



Yellow Road Farm - Marie



Annagh Farm – Simon & Amy



All farms with panel members Peter and Camilla, and Elizabeth DAERA



All farms with Nikki and Aoibeann

Please get in touch with Rural Support to learn more about Social Farming

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