



Welsh Capital Production and Efficiency Grant

Customer guide to eligible cattle and sheep handling equipment

Scheme currently open

Applications opened on 28 July 2026 and can be made through RPW Online while the scheme remains open. This guide is based on Welsh Government guidance published 29 July 2026 and checked on 8 September 2026.

Key funding figures

- Up to **40% of eligible expenditure**, excluding VAT.
- Minimum grant award: **£500 per application**.
- Maximum grant award: **£15,000 per Customer Reference Number (CRN), per financial year**.
- More than one application may be submitted, subject to the annual cap and scheme rules.
- Funding is competitive. Applications are scored and higher-scoring applications are prioritised.

How the grant is calculated

The payment is normally 40% of the lower of the actual invoiced cost or Welsh Government's published reference cost. Paying more than the reference cost does not increase the grant above the published maximum.

Do not order before approval

The customer must receive a Grant Award Letter and accept it through RPW Online before purchasing or ordering the equipment. Equipment bought beforehand is not eligible.

Official Welsh Government links

General scheme guidance:

<https://www.gov.wales/capital-production-and-efficiency-general-guidance-html>

Full technical specification:

<https://www.gov.wales/capital-production-and-efficiency-technical-guidance-html>

How to apply using RPW Online:

<https://www.gov.wales/capital-production-and-efficiency-using-rpw-online-apply>

Cattle handling equipment

Farming Solutions Ltd can design and supply systems to meet the published specifications, subject to the final selected equipment and site requirements.

Eligible investment item	Reference cost (ex VAT)	Maximum grant
Cattle fixed handling system	£12,401	£4,960
Cattle mobile handling system	£17,259	£6,903
Cattle crush	£4,399	£1,759.60
Hydraulically or pneumatically operated squeeze cattle crush	£11,807	£4,723
Cattle head scoop	£708	£283
Cattle Auto ID shedding/drafting gate	£13,104	£5,242
Automatic cattle weighing equipment	£8,711	£3,484
Electronic weigh system	£938	£375.20
Weigh bars/platform	£1,217	£487
EID handheld device	£1,098	£439
Cattle calving gate	£706	£282
Cattle temporary isolation pen	£714	£286

Fixed cattle handling system - minimum specification

- A safe holding area and race-way handling facility connected to a cattle crush.
- Two metal holding pens providing capacity for a minimum of 25 cattle aged over 24 months. The published wording does not say 25 cattle in each pen; confirm the proposed layout with RPW if capacity is material to the application.
- Circular forcing pen with a minimum 3m radius and side covers preventing cattle from seeing to the side.
- Sheeted straight or curved race, 3m-5m long, with a closure gate fitted in the race.
- Fully galvanised or powder-coated metal construction.

Cattle system specifications

Mobile cattle handling system

- Race and cattle crush with an internal width of at least 720mm.
- Crush sides must open to give access to the animal.
- Pen for a minimum of 25 cattle aged over 24 months.
- Integrated road-legal trailer.
- Rump bar operated from outside the crush and race.
- Full-length adjustable head yoke and galvanised or powder-coated metal construction.

Cattle crush categories

A standard cattle crush must have an internal width of at least 720mm, a full-length adjustable head yoke, opening sides, and an anti-backing facility operated from outside the race.

For the higher-value hydraulic/pneumatic category, the crush must have powered squeeze adjustment, an auto-reset head yoke, access to both sides and an externally operated anti-backing facility. Manually operated squeeze systems are not eligible under this higher-value item.

Weighing, EID and drafting

- Electronic weigh indicators must record individual weights, track liveweight gain and connect to a computer or mobile device.
- Weigh bars/platforms must be compatible with the crush and electronic weigh system.
- An Auto ID shedding gate must be hydraulically or pneumatically operated, linked to an EID/computer system, work automatically with digital weighing and draft cattle into at least two groups.
- Automatic cattle weighing equipment must include a platform with race/holding area, an EID reader and remote weight monitoring/recording.

Quotations and claims

Every eligible item should be separately identified on the quotation and invoice. A detailed manufacturer or supplier specification should show how each requirement is met.

Sheep handling and EID equipment

Mobile sheep handling systems have deliberately been excluded from this Farming Solutions guide.

Eligible investment item	Reference cost (ex VAT)	Maximum grant
Sheep fixed handling system	£3,790	£1,516
Sheep handler	£4,199	£1,680
Sheep electronic weigh scales	£2,837	£1,134.80
EID panel reader for sheep identification	£1,808	£723
EID handheld device	£1,098	£439
Electronic weigh system	£938	£375.20
Weigh bars/platform	£1,217	£487
Auto EID drench gun	£795	£318
Sheep conveyor	£14,434	£5,773.60
Sheep temporary isolation pen	£351	£140

Fixed sheep handling system - minimum specification

- Gathering pen, forcing pen, race, drafting gate and side pens.
- Ability to fit a footbath.
- Suitable for a minimum of 100 sheep.
- Fully galvanised or powder-coated metal construction.

Sheep handler

The handler must be a crate or clamp-style unit capable of efficient dagging, dosing and sorting. For sorting, it must release sheep through a drafting gate, and it must be fully galvanised or powder-coated.

Sheep electronic weighing

The eligible item is an electronic weigh crate with a digital weigh system that records individual animals, tracks liveweight gain and is compatible with EID. Where an electronic weigh indicator is purchased separately, that reader can be used with this item.

EID, application and customer checklist

EID and treatment equipment

- A handheld EID reader must use RFID, record individual weights, treatments, births and movements, and export data to computer software or a cloud application.
- A sheep panel reader must read HDX and FDX-B tags, include an antenna, connect to a weigh scale and be fixed to a sheep handling system.
- An Auto EID drench gun must communicate wirelessly with a weigh head, automatically adjust dose according to weight and download treatment reports.

Before applying

- Check the exact item and minimum specification in the current Welsh Government technical guidance.
- Ensure the applicant has a Welsh Government CRN and meets the land or labour eligibility requirements.
- Check that delivery can be completed within the deadline stated in the Grant Award Letter.
- Do not order, buy, part-exchange or pay a deposit before the Grant Award Letter has been offered and accepted.

When claiming

- Purchase new equipment only and pay for it in full.
- Keep itemised invoices, detailed specifications and bank evidence showing cleared payment.
- Ensure all equipment is on the holding and, where applicable, installed and operational by the deadline.
- Retain the required records and equipment for the periods set out in the grant conditions.

Ask Farming Solutions for a compliant specification

We can provide an itemised equipment quotation and supporting specification to help demonstrate how the proposed cattle or sheep handling system meets the published requirements.

Farming Solutions Ltd

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Livestock handling, disease control and biosecurity

Important notice

This is an independent customer guide prepared by Farming Solutions Ltd; it is not an official Welsh Government publication or a guarantee of grant funding. Welsh Government/Rural Payments Wales makes all eligibility and payment decisions. Scheme rules, dates, reference costs and specifications may change. Customers should check the live guidance and obtain confirmation from RPW before ordering.

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