

Our Mission

To provide practical and pastoral support to the farming community

Our Values

We listen and understand We connect and empower
We support and value each individual
We offer hope and positivity

Our Approach

FCN is a voluntary organisation and charity. We offer independent, objective and personal support to build resilience and stay strong through changing times.

We aim to provide help before problems arise, as well as supporting those who are experiencing difficulty or crisis.

Our Strategic Priorities

- Help to Improve the health and wellbeing of the farming community
- Support farm businesses through change and build resilience
- Connect the farming community to appropriate support
- Inform future policy decisions by being a champion for the farming community
- Develop the skills, support and duty of care for volunteers delivering our front-line services
- Ensure the financial sustainability of FCN
- Build awareness and engagement of FCN in the agricultural community
- Refine our operations and organisation to stay relevant in a changing industry
- Collaborate to shape and develop future agricultural support services in the UK

Fit for a New Farming Future

Strategic Plan Overview – 2020-2025

Our Strategic Workstreams

1) Developing & Supporting

Produce a comprehensive training, development and support syllabus for existing and new volunteers. Develop a 'tool box' of up to date referral resources/info for volunteers

2) Financial Sustainability

Develop a fundraising and partnerships plan

3) Outreach, Recognition and Engagement

Increase recognition and awareness of FCN nationally. Continue the development of FarmWell. Develop a plan to increase outreach work to livestock markets and other locations

4) Supporting Through Change

Launch 'Time to Plan' initiative – a national project to encourage succession and retirement planning. Investigate Farm Business Mentor facility nationwide to support those in serious distress following new agricultural policies

5) Services and Impacts

Review and develop our helpline services. Review our case management process. Establish a process to evaluate quality and impact of our service offering

6) Champion and Represent

Collect evidence through FCN activities / commission research to inform policy decisions

7) Organisation and Delivery

Conduct a review of FCN's regional structure including succession planning. Relaunch the Business Support Group as Professional Services Support Network

8) Cooperation

Explore opportunities for cooperation with other organisations to better support emerging and changing needs of farming community

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our strategy process. Each of the above workstreams will now be led by a member of the FCN staff team, supported by a small working group.