

Woodland Restoration Scheme (WRS) 2025/26

Expression Of Interest (EOI)

How To Complete Guidance

Produced by the Welsh Government

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Woodland Restoration Scheme Expression of Interest (EOI)

How to Complete Guidance

Important Notice:

These instructions will give you step-by-step guidance on how to complete your Woodland Restoration Scheme Expression of Interest (EOI).

The Welsh Government produces this Guide in Welsh and English as required under the Welsh Government Welsh Language Scheme. Should you require a copy of this guide in the alternative language, you can access it from gov.wales/rural-grants-payments by selecting the language switcher at the top of the page and re-opening the document.

If you are encountering problems or are unable to access our website, please contact the RPW Online Helpdesk on 0300 062 5004.

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SECTION 1 - GETTING STARTED

RPW Online Home Page

Log into your RPW Online Account - enter your User ID and Password in the boxes and click the **Log In** button.

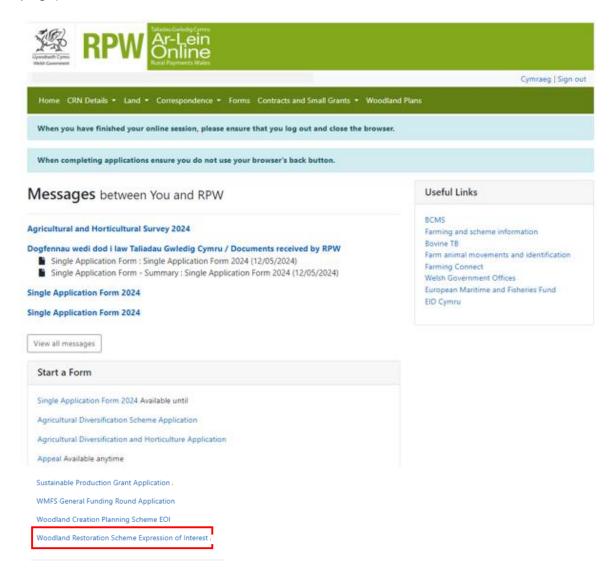


If you are encountering problems or are unable to access your online account, please contact the RPW Online Helpdesk on 0300 062 5004.

Once logged in to your online account the RPW Online 'Homepage' will appear. This page will show information and messages you have received or sent, as well as being able to start and submit any available Applications.

Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI

To start your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI, click the required link under the 'Start Applications and Claims' area as shown (you may need to scroll to the bottom of the page):



SECTION 2 - WHAT SCREENS WILL I SEE AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

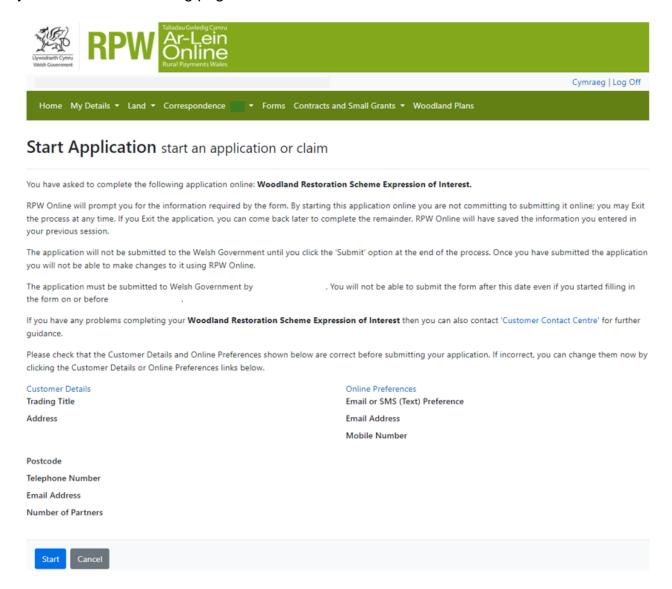
Overview of Navigation Controls

This is an overview of the Navigation controls on each page that you will need to use in order to complete your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI:

Cymraeg English	Located on the left side of the page where applicable. This will allow you to choose the language your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI is displayed in.
Help 🔞	Located at the top right of each page where applicable. This button will show/hide on screen tips to help you complete your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI.
<pre> <pre> Next ></pre></pre>	Located at the top and bottom of each page where applicable, these buttons will allow you to move forwards and backwards between pages of your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI.
₽rint	Located at the bottom of each page where applicable, this button will allow you to Print a snapshot of your EOI in its current state. Important note : Printed copies of your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI will not be accepted for submission.
♀ View Map	Located at the bottom of each page where applicable, click this button to open an interactive map of your currently registered fields.
■ Save	Located at the bottom of each page where applicable, click this button to save any changes made. Clicking this button will also check to see if changes made are acceptable.
▲ Exit	Located at the bottom of each page where applicable, click to exit your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI. Changes are saved automatically.
✓ × 0	These indicators appear next to each section of your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI, on the left side of the page.
•	The green tick appears when entries made in a section are acceptable.
×	The red cross appears where a required section/page hasn't been viewed yet, or if there are errors that need to be corrected.
•	The blue Information icon appears where an Information message has been triggered due to a change made on the form.

Start Application Page

Once you have selected the 'Woodland Restoration Scheme Expression of Interest' link you will see the following page.



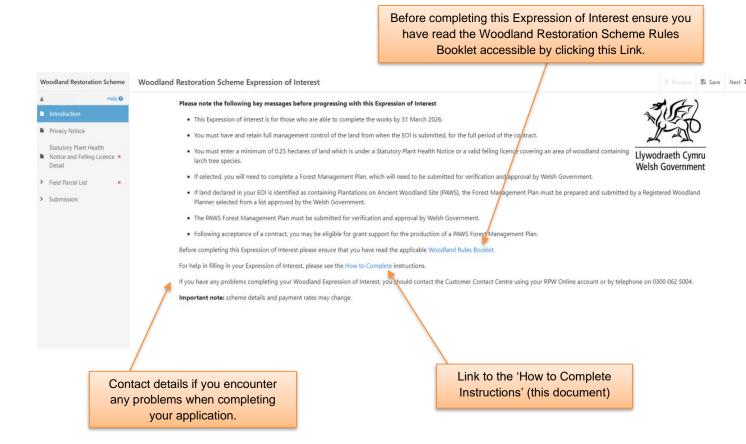
Before commencing, please check that the details shown are correct. If needed, you can make changes by clicking the 'Customer Details' link or the 'Online Preferences' link.

If the details shown are correct, select the 'Start' button. This will take you to the Introduction screen for the Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI.

Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI Introduction Page

This page provides key messages about the Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI. Please ensure you read them thoroughly before you begin.

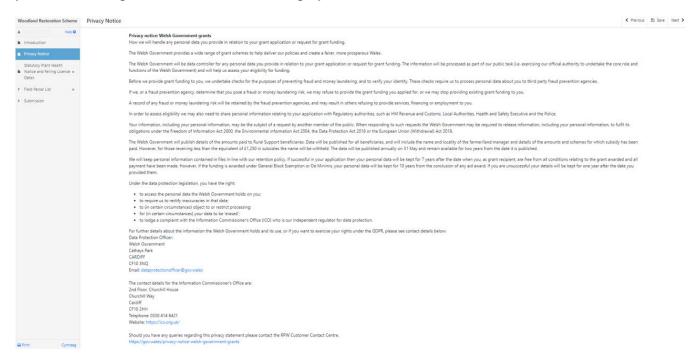
It also provides an Internet link to the Woodland Restoration Scheme Rules Booklet on the Welsh Government website.



Once you have read and understood the Woodland Restoration Scheme Rules Booklet and Key Messages click 'Next' to advance to the next screen of the Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI.

Privacy Notice: Welsh Government grants

This page provides information on how Welsh Government handle any personal data you provide in relation to your grant applications or request for grant funding. Please ensure you read through the information thoroughly.



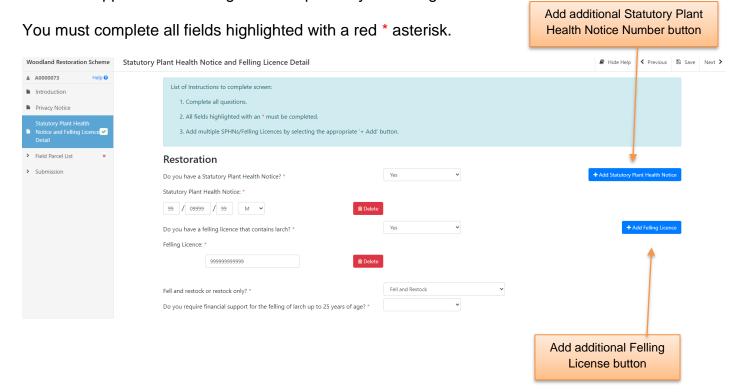
Once you have read and understood the Privacy Notice: Welsh Government grants, click 'Next' to advance to the next screen of the Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI.

Statutory Plant Health Notice and Felling Licence Detail

On this page you must specify details of your Statutory Plant Health Notice and/or Felling Licence.

- If you answer 'Yes' to the question 'Do you have a Statutory Plant Health Notice (SPHN)?', a box will appear for you to enter your SPHN number.
- If you answer 'Yes' to the question 'Do you have a felling licence that contains larch?', a box will appear for you to enter your felling licence number.

An additional question has been added to the Woodland Restoration EOI 'Do you require financial support for the felling of larch up to 25 years of age?'.



You must submit your Statutory Plant Health Notice and/or Felling Licence in support of your Expression of Interest.

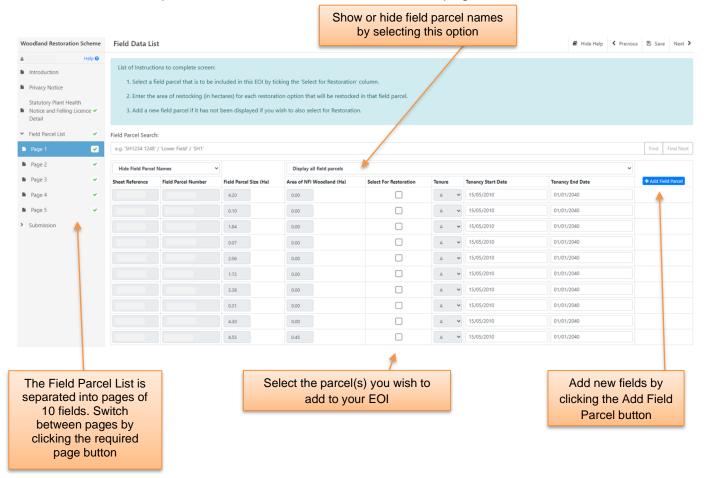
An EOI will not be considered for selection until the supporting documentation has been received.

If you wish to complete one EOI covering more than one Statutory Plant Health Notice and/or Felling Licence you will need to complete this page but you will also need to submit all Statutory Plant Health Notices and/or Felling Licences in support of your EOI.

Field Parcel List

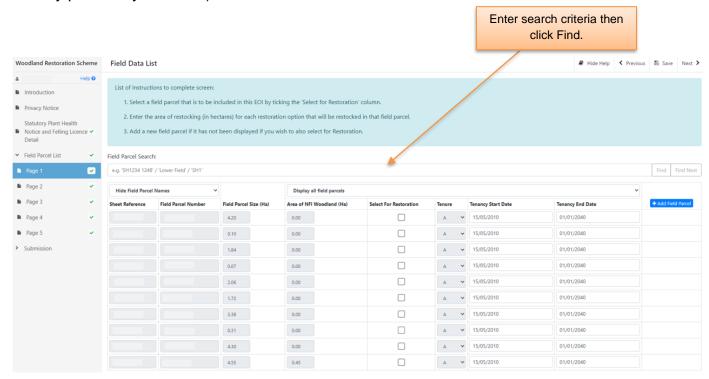
This screen will form the basis of your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI. All Field Parcel details that the Welsh Government holds for you at the time of Expression of Interest will be displayed for your CRN.

An overview of the options available on the Field Parcel List page is shown below:

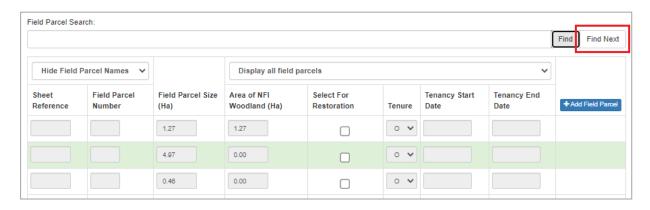


Field Parcel Search Facility

This facility enables you to search for individual field parcels that form part of your EOI. You may search by the field number or by the name of the parcel (assuming this has already previously been set).



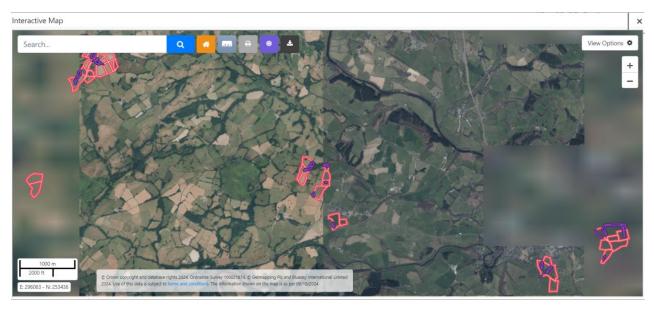
If the search criteria entered is found, then the field is highlighted as shown, or you may continue searching for your search criteria by clicking the 'Find Next' button:



View Map Facility

At the bottom of each page there is a button to view the interactive map of your holding. This map will highlight all fields currently registered to you in our systems and allow you to check for field parcel numbers, permanent features and manually measure areas.





In the top right area of the screen are the **View Options** – you can use these options to toggle Aerial Photography, Permanent Features and Field Parcel Labels.

You may zoom in and out of the map using your mouse scroll wheel, or use the + and - buttons situated beneath the View Options box.

To measure an area, click the tool. With each left click of the mouse you will drop a 'node'. The measurement between dropped nodes will be shown in Metres, until you join the last node with the beginning node, where the area in Hectarage will be shown along with the perimeter measurement in Metres:



SECTION 3 – SELECTING FIELD PARCELS FOR MY EOI

Sheet Reference

This is the Ordinance Survey Map Sheet Reference.

Field Number

This is the National Grid Reference.

Field Size (Ha)

This is the current geographical area of the field parcel held by the Welsh Government. The field size will be the same as that submitted on your annual SAF.

Area of NFI Woodland (Ha)

This is the area of woodland recorded for the field parcel by the Forestry Commission, under the National Forestry Inventory (NFI).

Select For Restoration

A tick must be placed in this box for each field parcel you wish to include in your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI.

Total Area of Restocking (Ha)

This is the total area you have specified to restock for a parcel.

Tenure

This box shows the type of tenure you have on the field, e.g. whether you own the field, are renting in, or renting out. A full list of Tenure codes is shown on page 17.

Tenancy Start Date

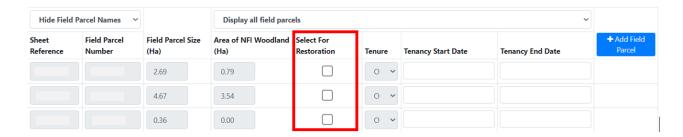
If the field is subject to a tenancy agreement, this is the tenancy start date held by the Welsh Government.

Tenancy End Date

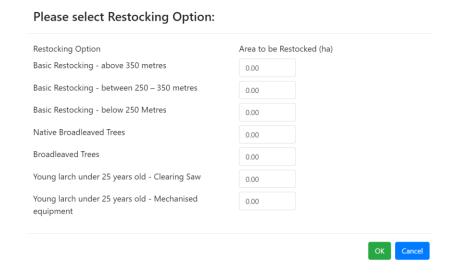
If the field is subject to a tenancy agreement, this is the tenancy end date held by the Welsh Government.

Apply for Woodland Restoration Scheme

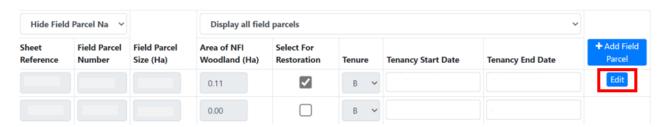
You will need to indicate each field parcel to be included in your EOI by placing a tick in the box 'Select For Restoration'.



On selection of a field parcel, a pop up box will appear allowing you to specify the area to be restocked. Click 'Ok' when done.



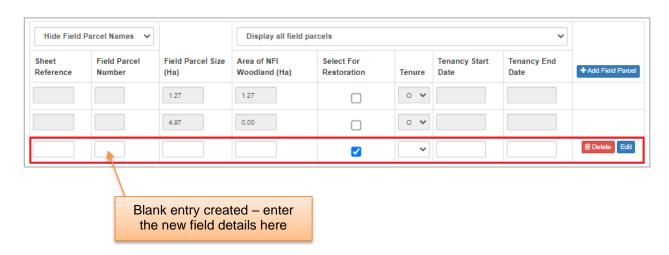
If you wish to Edit any of the restocking areas you have input, you can select the 'Edit' button as highlighted below.



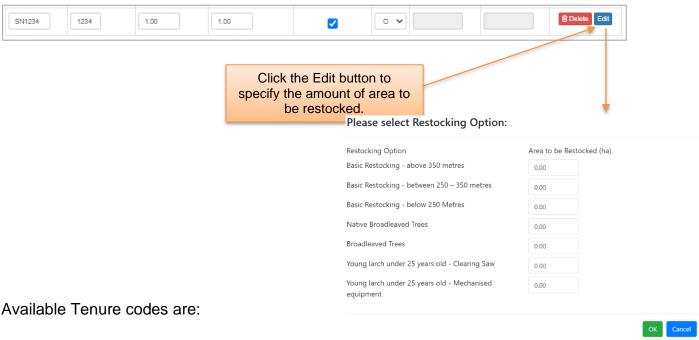
How do I add further field parcels to my EOI?

If you wish to add further field parcels, select + Add Field Parcel

Once you have selected this button, a blank entry will be created at the end of the Field Parcel List.



You will need to enter Sheet Reference, Field Parcel Number, Field Parcel Size (Ha), Area of NFI Woodland and Tenure information for each field added. You will also need to enter the Area of Restocking by clicking the 'Edit' button.



- A Full Agricultural Tenancy
- **B** Farm Business Tenancy
- C Unwritten Tenancy
- D Grazing Licence
- O Owned

Note that the Tenancy Start and End Date fields must be completed when you indicate Tenure type A, B, C or D in the Tenure box.

How do I delete fields I've added to my EOI?

If you wish to delete a field that you have manually added to your EOI, click in Delete



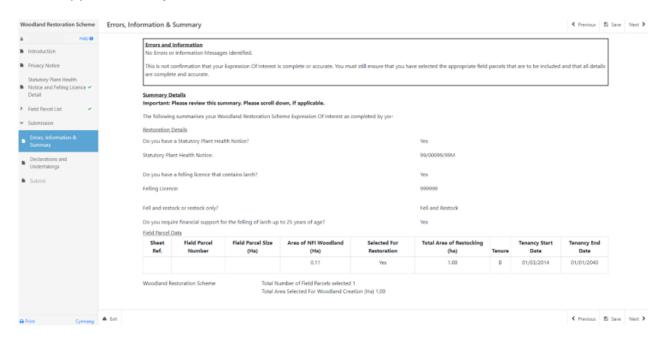
This will 'grey out' the field and render it removed from your EOI. If you have made a mistake you can 'Undelete' the field by clicking 'Undelete' which will make the deleted field active again.



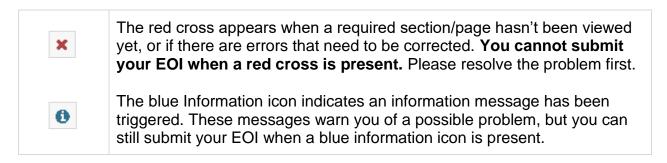
Once you have selected parcels to enter into the scheme, and/or added additional parcels, click 'Next' to be taken to the Submission section.

SECTION 4 - SUBMITTING YOUR WOODLAND RESTORATION SCHEME EOI

The first page is the Errors, Information & Summary page, which holds all the details you have supplied within your EOI.

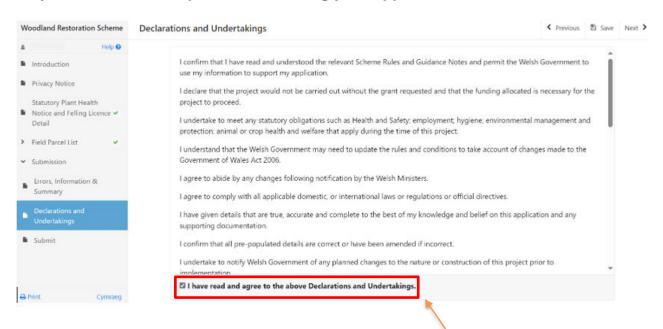


Any problems found with your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI will be shown in the 'Errors and Information' box at the top of the screen. You can go back to previous pages of your EOI to check and correct problems by selecting the 'Prev' button, or selecting the appropriate page on the left hand side of the page. An indicator will appear next to each page with problems:



Declaration and Undertakings

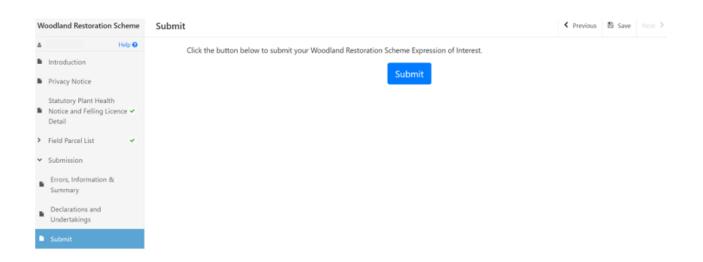
Please ensure that you have read the Declarations and Undertakings carefully and fully understand them prior to submitting your application.



Once you have read the Declarations and Undertakings you will need to tick the box marked 'I have read and agree to the above Declarations and Undertakings'. Once done, select 'Next' to be taken to the Submit screen.

Submission Page

Click to Submit your Expression of Interest.



The following submission message will be generated:



SECTION 5 - WHAT TO DO FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSION

A summary of your completed Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI will be added to the 'Messages' page on your RPW Online account under the title "Documents received by RPW". Ensure you check the information submitted thoroughly. If any of the information shown is incorrect, please reply to the Message detailing your concerns. You should do this as soon as you discover any incorrect information.

Supporting documentation

Ensure you provide all relevant supporting documentation with your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI. If you are able to submit your supporting documents online, you should use your 'Messages' page to do this ensuring you set the subject of your message to "Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI Supporting Information". Attach all your supporting documents to this one message so that it can be managed under one Message Reference Number.

For guidance on how to use your 'Messages' page, please go to <u>gov.wales/rural-payments-wales-rpw-online</u>:-

- Select the 'RPW Online Guidance' link.
- Select either 'Customers' or 'Agents/Farming Unions', then choose 'Messages' from the list of step-by-step instructions.

If you are unable to submit your supporting documents online, please ensure that your supporting documents are received by the Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI closing date.

Withdrawing your Application

If you wish to withdraw your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI after you have submitted it online, you should go to your 'Messages' page. Select the existing message received when you submitted your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI. Write your request for withdrawal (attaching any relevant information) to this one message so that it can be managed under one Message Reference Number.

For guidance on how to use your 'Messages' page, please go to <u>gov.wales/rural-payments-wales-rpw-online</u>:-

- Select the 'RPW Online Guidance' link.
- Select either 'Customers' or 'Agents/Farming Unions', then choose 'Messages' from the list of step-by-step instructions.

Amendments and Additions

After you have submitted your Woodland Restoration Scheme EOI, you may need to make amendments and/or additions to your EOI. You should use your 'Messages' page to do this. Select the existing message received when you submitted your EOI then attach details of your amendment and/or additional documents (if relevant) to this one message so that it can be managed under one Message Reference Number.

For guidance on how to use your 'Messages' page, please go to <u>gov.wales/rural-payments-wales-rpw-online</u>:-

- Select the 'RPW Online Guidance' link.
- Select either 'Customers' or 'Agents/Farming Unions', then choose 'Messages' from the list of step-by-step instructions.