

# [Detailed guide: BPS 2018](#)

*Updated:* We've added updated guidance about land cover eligibility checks on common land.

## Latest news

### Commons eligibility checks

We've published updated [guidance](#) about land cover eligibility checks on common land.

### Hot and dry weather conditions in England

We've published [guidance](#) for farmers experiencing difficulties meeting rural grant and payment scheme requirements due to the recent hot and dry weather conditions.

### BPS applications are closed

You can no longer make a BPS application for 2018.

### Rural Payments service

Some parts of the service are unavailable, so you cannot make changes which may affect your 2018 application. Read more about what you can do using the [Rural Payments service](#).

### Countryside Stewardship

Apply for the Countryside Stewardship (CS) Arable Offer. Find out more about the Arable Offer on [GOV.UK](#).

### Wet weather derogation announced

George Eustice, Minister of State, announced in May a relaxation (derogation) of the crop diversification rules following wet weather. Read more information about [the derogation](#).

## Scheme rules and other guidance

- [Basic Payment Scheme: rules for 2018](#)  
(PDF, 2.79MB, 127 pages)

find out how the scheme works

- [BPS Key dates 2018](#)

(PDF, 129KB, 1 page)

shows important dates in the BPS scheme year

### **Other guidance and forms:**

- [BPS 2018 land use codes](#)

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[Greening workbook for 2018](#)

(PDF, 2.75MB, 11 pages)

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[Winter varieties of Brassica crops](#)

(PDF, 337KB, 3 pages)

for 'crop diversification'

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[Young and new farmer form](#)

(PDF, 226KB, 8 pages)

- [The guide to cross compliance in England 2018](#)

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[How to claim BPS online in 2018](#)

(PDF, 3.79MB, 61 pages)

gives information about applying using the Rural Payments service

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[How to claim BPS online in 2018 – checklist](#)

(PDF, 592KB, 3 pages)

use this checklist to remind you what you need to check, change and confirm, before you submit your application in the Rural Payments service

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[How to claim BPS online in 2018 – troubleshooting questions](#)

(PDF, 705KB, 6 pages)

gives an overview of the most common problems and where to find more information in the 'How to claim BPS online' guidance above

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[How to apply for BPS using a paper form in 2018](#)

(PDF, 1.32MB, 67 pages)

gives information about using the BP5 application form to apply

### **Continuation booklets (for paper applications):**

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[BP5 continuation booklet – Part C: Field data sheet](#)

(PDF, 628KB, 12 pages)

- [BP5 continuation booklet – Part D: Greening: ecological focus areas \(EFA\)](#)  
(PDF, 626KB, 8 pages)
- [BP5 continuation booklet – Part E: Common land grazing rights](#)  
(PDF, 611KB, 8 pages)

## Payment queries from previous years

If you have a query about a previous BPS payment that you've received, please fill in a [BPS payment query form](#) and send it to RPA. Then carry on with your 2018 application, declaring your land as it is on 15 May 2018.

## Commons eligibility checks

Read everything you need to know about [land cover eligibility checks on common land](#).

## Rural Payments service

You can use the [Rural Payments service](#) to:

- register for rural payments
- update your personal and business details
- give someone else (like an agent) permission to act on your behalf
- view your BPS 2018 application summary
- view your BPS entitlements
- view and print digital maps of your land parcels
- view your previous year's claim
- apply for Countryside Stewardship, including the Arable Offer.

At the moment you cannot:

- transfer entitlements
- transfer or remove land
- edit land use online
- add or delete commons rights
- apply for BPS

## Forgotten your online password?

If you're logging in with a Customer Reference Number (CRN) and have forgotten your password, you can create a new one from the [sign-in page](#).

Click 'Having trouble signing in?' then 'create a new one'.

If you can't remember your CRN, call RPA on 03000 200 301.

## **How to use the Rural Payments service – help is available**

Onscreen 'Help' in the service to guide you if you get stuck. Or you can read and print a copy of all the

[onscreen Help](#)

(PDF, 2.39MB, 52 pages)

Our [videos](#) also show you how to use the service.

## **Planned maintenance of the Rural Payments service**

There are times when the Rural Payments service is unavailable because of essential planned maintenance and updates.

Check [Rural Payments: registering and updating your details](#) to keep up to date about availability of the Rural Payments service.

## **Contact RPA**

Email

[ruralpayments@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ruralpayments@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Helpline

03000 200 301