



The Surrey Farming Cluster

Annual Report

April 2025 – April 2026

Introduction

This is the first Annual Report of The Surrey Farming Cluster, covering the period from April 2025 to April 2026. It has been a foundational year for the cluster: we brought local farmers together to shape a shared vision, established the governance and communication structures needed to sustain the group, and delivered a programme of farm tours and workshops. This report summarises the events we held, the actions we took to establish the cluster, and our finances over the year.

Aims of the Cluster

- Increase farming business resilience (accessing funding opportunities, support schemes etc.)
- Knowledge sharing and learning
- To be Surrey's farming voice
- To be a fun and supportive, self-reliant, self-governing collective, supporting all of Surrey's farmers

Events

4 June 2025 — Cluster collaboration workshop at Hampton Estate, to decide what we want from a Surrey Farming Cluster *(30 attendees)*

1 October 2025 — Farm tour hosted by Will Elliott at Whitley Manor Farm *(40 attendees)*

29 January 2026 — Farm tour hosted by Bill Peters at Pitchfont Farm *(30 attendees)*

10 February 2026 — “Fix Your Soil” workshop with Niels Corfield, hosted by Chris Mighall at Sandhills Farm *(15 attendees)*

Establishing the Cluster

Over the course of the year, the cluster took several key steps to put itself on a firm footing:

- A WhatsApp group was established as the cluster's main channel for communication and has grown to 120 members.
- A steering group was formed to guide the cluster's direction (listed below).
- A bank account was set up for the cluster.



- The cluster received £2,471 in FIPL funding to cover facilitation time, website creation and event catering.

Steering Group

Name	Role / Farm
Molly Biddell	Facilitator
Angus Stovold	Lydling Farm
Adrian Joy	Joy Farms
Cassie Blackwell	Somerset Farm
Tim Hopkin	Norney Farm
Sarah Thiele	FIPL Representative

Finance

The cluster set up a dedicated bank account during the year. Our main source of income was FIPL grant funding, which covered facilitation time, the creation of our website, and catering for events.

Item	Amount
FIPL grant funding received	£2,471

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Surrey Farming Cluster in its first year — our host farmers, workshop speakers, steering group members, and all 120 members of our WhatsApp community. We look forward to building on this foundation in the year ahead.