

## LIV1 Considered Livestock Placement

### Why is this good for water quality?

#### The aim

This option can significantly improve water infiltration rates in soil reducing soil erosion and runoff to watercourses. This is primarily because livestock grazing can lead to soil compaction, poaching, and reduced vegetation cover, all of which negatively impact infiltration. By removing livestock, soil compaction decreases, and vegetation cover can increase allowing for greater water infiltration.

### Why is this good for my farm?

Considered livestock placement can reduce parasite burden and improve long-term forage quality. It can also boost grazing efficiency, helping animals get more from the pasture. This can lower the need for supplementary feeding and veterinary treatments, saving both time and money whilst enhancing livestock welfare.

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**Payment Rate: £250/ha/yr**

### Specification

- Livestock must be transferred from an area of poor infiltration and or poaching.
- The area must have been identified, tested and agreed with the advisor, evidence must be provided using the EA ALERT tool.
- Animals should not be moved back to the area until conditions unlikely to cause poaching have been met, these conditions must be agreed with agricultural advisor.
- Infiltration will be tested annually, the area must stay in place over wetter periods until infiltration has improved.
- Consider stacking with soil heath or structure options
- Livestock numbers need to be adjusted to match available area, the area receiving the livestock should not suffer from poaching because more animals are located there.
- Visual Evaluation of Soil Structure (VESS) scoring must be completed to evidence chosen areas
- A 5-year (2025-2030) agreement, annual payment and evidence collection.
- Applicants are expected to complete the action in a way that could be reasonably expected to achieve the actions aim.

### Evidence to apply

- Mapping to show areas covered
- Infiltration test images
- Soil samples prior to removal
- VESS score images

### Evidence to claim

- Soil samples in later years of the agreement, 2028 or 2029.
- Images to show livestock exclusion if part of field