



# Farming Rathcroghan

## Newsletter Summer 2020

### Project update

Farming Rathcroghan was publicly opened in mid-July 2019 during a meeting held in Scott's Pub. During this meeting Rathcroghan farmers were invited to submit applications to join the project. There was a great response from local farmers with a total of 59 applications received, which was well above expectations. All 30 project places were immediately filled. In order for interested farmers in the area to stay involved with the project, additional project places on a training level were created. All farmers that had applied and fulfilled project criteria were offered a training place and will be invited to all training sessions, discussion groups and other events associated to the project.

This year we are working with 8 pilot farmers in the project. These farmers are testing out project actions and providing feedback on both actions and project processes. This will ensure that we are ready for the roll out to all project farmers in 2021. These pilot farms encompasses 35 archaeological features, out of which 10 are National Monuments, as well as a number of other natural features such as swallow holes, ponds and streams.

The project actions being trialled this year involve monument protection, reduction of ground interference and poaching, protection of vulnerable water sources and biodiversity enhancement.

### Project training sessions

Two training sessions will take place this year. In respect to the health and safety guidelines regarding to COVID19, the initial training session will be in the form of a training package. This training package will cover the structure of the project, including farm management plans, what is expected of participants and payments. This will be sent out to project participants in late August 2020.

Later in the Autumn, subject to the national status regarding COVID19, an outdoor training session will be held, covering archaeology management and demonstrating the project score-cards that will determine farm payments.

Farming Rathcroghan Project is a European Innovation Partnership (EIP) funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.

### Keep in touch with us

Follow us on twitter: @RathcroghanAGRI

Coming soon: [www.farmingrathcroghan.ie](http://www.farmingrathcroghan.ie)

The project website will provide information about the project and the management of archaeology. It will also provide access to project documentation such as annual reports and terms and conditions.



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