

Role: Knowledge Exchange Manager – Wales Dairy

Band: D

Function: Technical Directorate

Banding descriptors: Senior specialist roles that are qualified in their field/s of expertise or qualified by evidenced experience. These roles will be able to contribute and input into new policies/ approaches or design its content. They will be expected to resolve issues and provide solutions.

Contribution to Corporate Business Plan: Contributing and developing

Role purpose: Responsible for the effective execution of elements of the Technical / AHDB knowledge exchange activity plan via the Strategic Dairy Farm Network in Wales. Deliver key operational and activity plan targets in support of the AHDB strategic plan, facilitating highly regarded delivery of the farm excellence programme (Strategic Dairy Farms) and effective co-ordination of KE delivery to dairy farmers across the region, in conjunction with the KE team and Farming Connect.

Key Responsibilities:

- Co-ordinate and deliver KE activity via the Strategic Dairy Farm network in Wales working with the Dairy KE Team and partner organisations.
- Recruit Strategic Dairy Farms across Wales
- Ensure alignment with the GB wide network of SDF and farm excellence activity
- Coordinate the appropriate checks and audits for all new SDF's ensuring compliance with the required standards
- Deliver on farm SDF meetings and associated KE activity, focussed on the Optimal Dairy Systems KPIs
- Build a relationship of trust and respect with participating farmers and partners (primarily Farming Connect) to ensure genuine, joined-up, complimentary and mutually supportive working.
- Deliver project activity within the budget allocated and provide accurate and appropriate accountability to the Senior Manager KE as required.
- Contribute to the wider delivery of high quality effective knowledge exchange services available to all levy payers in the region.
- Providing accurate and appropriate reporting information for monitoring and evaluating the project activity and outputs.
- Liaise with the sector KE team colleagues to ensure KE materials are proactively and positively delivered to levy payers and stakeholders for a given sector.
- Positively embrace cross sector working opportunities to ensure efficiencies and sharing of best practice are delivered.
- Communicate the benefits of AHDB work clearly to industry, liaising across the sector team and AHDB as appropriate.
- Support the Senior Manager KE with an understanding of the industry landscape and technical challenges in the region.
- Where directed contribute to stakeholder engagement on technical issues at a regional level.
- Contribute to feedback mechanisms of levy payer facing activity to inform wider KE and research functions; future priorities and strategy.
- Develop and maintain relationships with a range of internal and external technical / knowledge transfer and associated stakeholders / professionals.
- Take an active and constructive role in Dairy KE team meetings and wider AHDB staff meetings as appropriate.
- Deliver KT information to promote sector and AHDB products and services within the region.

Additional Job Specific Responsibilities:

- A home based role that will be required to travel and work across the designated KE region – Wales.
- Use the AHDB KE Excellence programme to coordinate and deliver Dairy KE across the region
- Be a local contact point to engage with relevant Dairy farmers in the region.
- Identify the needs of relevant dairy farmers in the region.
- Build relationships with appropriate associated and allied industries that serve farmers.
- Working with Farming Connect and others to add value and avoid duplication.
- Use AHDB tools and services to highlight the importance of cost control.
- Record all key interactions on the CRM.
- Liaise with Science team colleagues to provide insight and help deliver regional R&D activity.
- Promote benchmarking as a key business management tool, and take opportunities to improve business resilience and professionalism in GB Dairy farming
- Contribute to reviews of specific knowledge transfer activities, products and services and recommend actions to enhance effectiveness where appropriate.
- Actively participate in actions that foster a collaborative culture within the team; with partners and wider KE team.
- Provide tactical leadership for designated audiences.
- Provide input and feedback to the wider AHDB Dairy team on the views of farmers.
- The post holder will also be expected to carry out any other responsibilities which the Senior Manager KE may require.

Delegated Authority:

- No budgetary responsibility, but will be expected to work within designated budgets.

Knowledge/Experience:

- Knowledgeable/qualified in knowledge exchange sector i.e. dairy.
- Evidence of significant practical experience delivering Technical information.
- Experience of developing and delivering bespoke KE events.
- Highly skilled facilitator.
- Can demonstrate the development and use of creative and innovative KE approaches.
- Excellent farmer communication skills
- Experience of successfully interacting with dairy farmers
- Respected across the industry for running highly regarded meetings
- A detailed understanding of the British dairy industry
- A thorough understanding of the 'best in class' approaches and latest techniques employed by dairy farms across key international milk fields
- The ability to speak Welsh is desirable, but not essential.

Additional Information:

The Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board have been awarded funding through the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the Welsh Government and the European Union to deliver a Dairy Improvement Programme (DIP). One element within the programme is the extension of the Strategic Dairy Farm Network in Wales.