

Norfolk County Council: Four Norfolk County Council farms available for tenancy

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Date: Tuesday, 22 January 2019, 11:40 GMT

22 January 2019

Four Norfolk County Council farms available for tenancy

Links to images of the four farms at end of release

Tenants are being sought to take on four Norfolk farms as 465 acres of Norfolk County Council's 16,900-acre County Farms portfolio is available to let.

Two of the farms are located near Hilgay and Southery in the west of the county, and two near Mautby in the east. Land at the two farms in the west is currently under arable rotation and there are no restrictions on the farms' use. With the two farms near Mautby, applications will only be accepted for Paston Farm that are wholly or predominantly livestock based, and for Upper Wood Farm that aim to establish a care farm enterprise. Three of the farms also include a range of farm buildings.

Cllr Barry Stone, Chairman of Norfolk County Council's Business and Property Committee, said: "These farms present opportunities for people at all stages of their farming career and reinforce Norfolk County Council's commitment to sustain and create rural employment throughout the county.

"We are particularly excited at the prospect of adding a third care farm to the County Farms estate, which already has two farms that use farming practices very successfully to provide therapeutic services. Through care farming, the estate can support vulnerable people to live their lives independently and to the fullest extent possible."

Viewings for the four tenancies are being held in mid-February and attendance at the viewing day is compulsory for those wishing to apply. Please note that viewing of farm buildings and premises is strictly prohibited outside of the viewing day (unless from the public highway), as is entering the farmland.

Farm viewings are being held between 10am and 4pm on:

- Tuesday 12 February – Ashcroft Farm, Southery
- Thursday 14 February – Fen Farm, Ten Mile Bank, Hilgay
- Friday 15 February – Paston Farm, Mautby
- Friday 15 February – Upper Wood Farm, Mautby

To help with the application process, Norfolk County Farms, in conjunction with Anglia Rural Consultants, is running a training course over two days (20 and 27 February). It is specifically designed to assist new entrants and those unfamiliar with producing a business plan.

Duncan Slade, County Farms Manager, said: "There is often intense competition for a farm tenancy as not many are available so it's important that applicants consider the tenant selection criteria carefully to give themselves the best chance of being successful. Potential tenants need to have a robust business plan while demonstrating that they are capable and

the best able to take on the farm and make it work.”

Further particulars for each farm, application details and information about the training course can be found at www.norfolk.gov.uk/countyfarms. The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Thursday March 14, 2019.

Notes to editors

Image credits

- Fen Farm, Paston Farm, Upper Wood Farm – please credit Joe Casey Photography
- Ashcroft Farm – please credit Norfolk County Council

County Farms

Norfolk County Council’s County Farms estate currently extends to more than 16,900 acres of farmland across the county of Norfolk. It is the third largest county farms estate in the UK behind Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire.

The estate is split into 61 individual estates ranging in size from seven acres to 3,457 acres and provides farming opportunities for more than 145 tenants with average farm size of 120 acres.

The estate provides a means of entry into farming for people wishing to farm on their own account as well as opportunities for existing farm businesses on the estate to grow and expand.

Use of County Farms ranges from the growing of traditional arable crops such as wheat, barley, potatoes and sugar beet, through to more unusual uses, including the production of essential oils, two care farms, pheasant rearing businesses, selling of rare breed meat, plant nursery, and several horse liveryes.

www.norfolk.gov.uk/countyfarms

For political comment

Cllr Barry Stone (Conservative), Chairman of the Business and Property Committee, on 07434 905963

Cllr Colleen Walker (Labour) on 01493 782272

Cllr John Timewell (Liberal Democrat) on 07769 651123

For further information please contact:

Communications Team at Norfolk County Council

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Email: pressoffice@norfolk.gov.uk

Attachments


- Ashcroft Farm, Southery [Ashcroft Farm, Southery](#).
- Fen Farm, Hilgay [Fen Farm, Hilgay](#).
- Paston Farm, Mautby [Paston Farm, Mautby](#).
- Upper Wood Farm, Mautby [Upper Wood Farm, Mautby](#).

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