

# THIS IS A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

## Can you provide practical help to farmers affected by Covid-19?

The current coronavirus crisis is affecting all of us and we are all keen to support those most in need in our communities. The farming community has always looked out for its neighbours and will undoubtedly be continuing to do so during this difficult time.

Alongside neighbourly support, the key farming organisations in Herefordshire felt that the County should develop a pool of volunteers. We would then propose to draw from this pool in an emergency situation, should additional support be needed by someone who is unable to tend to their own farm because of self-isolation, or because all of their staff have been required to self-isolate. Support will be for a limited time period only, we hope up to a maximum of 14 days, at which time more permanent support would be established.

The volunteer directory will be hosted by Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy [www.borderchaplain.org](http://www.borderchaplain.org), on behalf of the participating organisations, which also includes the NFU, Herefordshire Federation of Young Farmers, Herefordshire Rural Hub, Herefordshire Council and the police.

If you would like to volunteer please email Nick Read of Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy on [agchap@btinternet.com](mailto:agchap@btinternet.com) who will send you a volunteer form to complete, which will require:

- Your name and address, and confirmation that you are between the ages of 18 and 65.
- Telephone
- e-mail
- Details of any relevant experience including the type of livestock and machinery you have worked with and relevant certification

NB. Copies of the forms are also available on the websites of participating organisations.

Nick can be contacted on 07973 361055 if you want to discuss this.

If you are a farmer requiring assistance during the current crisis you can contact one of the above organisations, or Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy by email ([agchap@btinternet.com](mailto:agchap@btinternet.com)) or phone (07973 361055).

Thank you everyone and please remember to stay safe and self-distance!