

Win: Win solution - Creedy help clients use Catchment Sensitive Farming Grant to assist with NVZ compliance

Devon Farm went into an NVZ in 2009. Being a dairy farm with limited slurry storage, it was natural for Mr and Mrs Farmer to be concerned about their compliance. They contacted Creedy Associates and John went out to Devon Farm to help.

One thing he noted was that the cows were fed in an open air yard during the winter, and the runoff from this ran into a dirty water system. Not a problem, except that the run-off from this dirty yard would be classed as slurry, not dirty water, and the slurry store was not sufficient size to take it. Result: They could fail an NVZ inspection.

John suggested covering over the feeding yard, and diverting the roof water to clean drains. He pointed them to the Catchment Sensitive Farming Grant which was available in their area, and put them in touch with the CSF Officer who agreed to fund the new roof.

Because the farm is in a village, a Conservation Area, and a flood risk zone, full planning permission was required with a flood risk assessment. Laura was able to complete the planning application for the new building, including a flood risk assessment to show that the change in water management on the site would not make flooding in the area worse.

Planning permission was confirmed last week and construction will start soon! It was an excellent result, and not nearly as costly as Mr and Mrs Farmer had feared.

If you need help with NVZ compliance or record keeping, or if you want advice on planning applications, give Creedy Associates a call to see if we can help.