

In 2019, Anglian Water funded five events in partnership with Championing the Farmed Environment (CFE). CFE is a **partnership which supports farmers to deliver environmental benefits within a productive farm business under five main themes; 1) air 2) soil 3) water 4) wildlife and 5) carbon.**

The events were developed with Anglian Water's team of **Catchment Advisors** and **feedback from farmers.** The key speaker was Nuffield Scholar, Andrew Howard who did his scholarship on *'The potential for companion cropping and intercropping on UK arable farms'* who had reduced his fertiliser and pesticide inputs on farm by 40% whilst retaining yields through use of intercrops, no till and cover crops.

Also at each event, was an Anglian Water summary of the **local catchment issues and water connectivity in that catchment,** and a representative from the Environment Agency who presented about the planned abstraction licence changes and how these will affect farmers. The event also included presentations from local CFE coordinators on the role of CFE and the Farming Advice Service on Cross Compliance and Basic Payment Scheme changes.



Feedback received from the events **was really positive** with farmers coming to the event particularly to hear Andrew Howard speak, with one farmer suggesting it was *'the best CFE event yet'* and had *'excellent technical content from all the speakers'*. The format of the events was also praised for being *'concise'* and fitting a lot of good quality discussion in around a morning session.

**Andy Howard, Nuffield Scholar,** said of the events: *'the events ran well and the fact they were well attended seems to underline that there is an interest in changing farming practice'*.

For more information, or to find our local Anglian Water Catchment Advisor, please email

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