# Preparing for a meeting with your bank manager

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## **Overview**

- Succession
- Recent activity
- Financial Products
- Securing credit: the application process
- Common weaknesses





#### **Agricultural Succession - Scenarios**



- Identified successor & succession process has begun
- No identified successor and children have chosen not to farm
- Successor identified but no formal process or managerial input from the successor – parents retain all control



## **Agricultural Succession**

- Have an honest & open conversation
  - Existing debt
  - Planned debt
  - Living expenses
  - Distribution of assets
  - Other siblings
  - True feelings





Bank needs to understand who is liable for the debt



## Activity

- 1. Land sale/purchase
- 2. Milking parlours TAMS grant
- 3. Robotic systems confined
- 4. Stock funding
- 5. Poultry
- 6. Pig sector





## **Financial Products**

- **1. Overdraft** (4-8%)
  - Heart of the business
  - Should revert to credit
  - Statements interesting insights
- 2. Stocking loans/Credit line (4-8%)
  - 12 month facility
  - Revolving facility
- **3. 5 10 year facilities (**4-6%)
  - Cows, grazing infrastructure, pig, poultry cap ex
- 4. Land purchase (4-6%)
  - 10 20 years





### Pricing

- Cost of funds + Margin (e.g. 0.58% + 4%)
- Cost of funds vary across institutions
- Secured v unsecured lending
- Typically greater than €50k
- Solicitor fees
- 'Three way close'
- Arrangement fee (1% of loan)





#### **Appetite & Repayment Capacity**

- Appetite Statements
  - Risk appetite
- Debt Service Capacity (DSC) e.g. 1.2, 1.5, 1.8
- Variance in milk price, beef price, pig price etc





#### **Planning is crucial**





Blend of experience & youth



## **Emerging structures**

- 1. Partnerships
- 2. Limited companies
- 3. Share farming
- 4. Lease arrangements
- 5. Contract rearing
- 6. Hybrids

#### Be informed



#### **The Application Process - Bank Requirements**

- 1. Agri Lending Application Form
- 2. KYC Documents (Proof of Identity, Address, etc.)
- 3. Farm Business Plan
- 4. Repayment Capacity
- 5. Bank Statements
- 6. Security (Loan to Value 70%)
- 7. Borrower Contribution
- 8. Outside Professional Advice
- 9. Acknowledgement of Bank's Terms and Conditions & associated fees

#### Make sure you are in control



#### **Common weaknesses in applications**

- Poor preparation for meeting
  - "I never really worked out my costs of production"
- "I don't have time to analyse my accounts"
- "I'll happily look after the technical side but I just don't like the financial side"
- Lack of timely, relevant information
- Present all the facts
- Understand your proposal
- Have your homework done!



## For the advisor

• Seek to understand all the detail

Not always easy

- Repayment capacity key
- Interest only max 24 months
- Stress testing the budget
- Realistic assumptions
- Contingency plan (20%)
- Past performance is a great indicator of future performance



