

Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum policy conference:

Next steps for agricultural policy in the UK

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 10th September 2026

Taking Place Online



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Assessing current challenges facing the UK farming sector and implications for improving farm profitability**
Baroness Batters, Lead, Farming Profitability Review
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Priorities for growth, sustainability and resilience in UK agriculture**
Senior representative, farming
- 9.40 **Assessing farm support schemes - delivery, access, and investment**
SFI, ELMS Capital Grants, the Farming Equipment and Technology Fund, and Farming Innovation Programme | SFI linkage to food production | application of the Active Farmer Principle | the SFI £100k annual payment cap and implications for different business structures | coordination, transparency, and administrative simplicity | application processes, scoring frameworks, and inspection regimes | support for farm business viability, succession planning, and integration of environmental outcomes with productive farming | strengthening confidence in long-term scheme stability | equitable access for tenant, upland, and smaller farms | eligibility rules and landlord consent requirements | incentivising adaptation and adoption of sustainable farming practices | the role of private finance
Martin Hanson, Head, Agriculture, HSBC
Georgina Wallis, Head, Environmental Services, Hutchinsons
Lynette Steel, Farm Policy Adviser, Tenant Farmers Association
Senior representative, land manager
Senior representative, adoption
- 10.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.35 Break
- 10.45 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 **Strengthening fair trading - regulatory oversight, monitoring, and enforcement across supply chains**
Senior representative, regulation
- 11.00 **Supply chain fairness, competitiveness, and access to domestic and international markets**
enforcement of supply chain codes | the Statutory Review of the Groceries Code Adjudicator | coordination with the Agricultural Supply Chain Adjudicator | price transmission, retailer bargaining power, and distribution of costs | wider cost pressures on investment confidence and supply chain resilience | equitable participation for tenant and smaller farms across different production systems | competition with imported agricultural products | Farming and Food Partnership Board priorities | increasing access to global markets | options for supporting farmers with pricing negotiations | improving farmer access to market data
Neil Shand, CEO, National Beef Association
Will Allen, Policy Manager, International Meat Trade Association
Laura Mackain-Bremner, Partner, Clarke Willmott
Alex Gowen, Head, Policy and Economics, Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board
Senior representative, retail
- 11.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Priorities for the forthcoming farming roadmap - options for supporting productivity, farm business viability, and rural economic resilience**
balancing food security, net zero commitments and biodiversity recovery | managing productivity and land use priorities alongside nature recovery and climate targets | food production as a public good | implications of the Land Use Framework for England and proposals for a Land Use Unit | agriculture development under the National Planning Policy Framework | coordination between land use, water quality and nutrient management policies | governance, cross-departmental coordination and policy coherence | aligning environmental initiatives with long-term rural economic resilience | implications of sector growth plans for horticulture and poultry | expanding agri-tourism and on-farm diversification | inheritance tax reform, business structures, succession planning and continuity | clarity on sequencing of reform
Caroline Millar, Sector Lead, Scottish Agritourism
Vicki Hird, Strategic Lead, Agriculture, The Wildlife Trusts
Senior representative, planning
Senior representative, farm business
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for agricultural policy**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Jessica Lear, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum