

**Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum policy conference:  
Next steps for animal health, welfare and standards in the UK**

*Timing: Morning, Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025*

**\*\*\*Taking Place Online\*\*\***



*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Dr Danny Chambers MP**
- 9.05 **Addressing issues for animal welfare post-Brexit, and key considerations following the UK-EU deal**  
Senior commentator  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **'Access to veterinary medicines - the need for a UK/EU Veterinary Medicines Agreement'**  
**Donal Murphy**, Deputy CEO and Head, International and Regulatory Affairs, National Office of Animal Health
- 9.35 **Access to veterinary medicines and managing regulatory divergence for Northern Ireland**  
**Dr Sam Strain**, Chief Executive, Animal Health and Welfare NI
- 9.45 **Priorities for animal welfare in trade and consumer policy - regulatory alignment, standards, and transparency**  
*ensuring alignment of regulatory standards | plans to protect domestic animal welfare standards | assessing potential barriers to trade and mitigating risks from lower-welfare imports | priorities for improving the wider agri-food system | key considerations for mandatory animal welfare labelling and enhancing public information | developing a Common Sanitary and Phytosanitary agreement with the EU | improving transparency, traceability, and consumer confidence*  
**Mandy Carter**, Co-Executive Director, Animal Policy International  
**Anthony Woolich**, Partner, Blake Morgan  
**James West**, Chief Public Affairs Manager, Compassion in World Farming  
Senior representative, consumer  
Senior representative, retail
- 10.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Assessing government preparedness for animal disease outbreaks - surveillance, investment, and system-wide coordination**  
**Rich Sullivan-Jones**, Director, Defra Value for Money Audit, National Audit Office  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Dr Danny Chambers MP**
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Lord Trees**, Co-Chair, APPG for Animal Welfare
- 11.15 **Supporting farmers in improving welfare standards on farms, key priorities for new trade deals, and tackling biosecurity risk**  
**Catherine McLaughlin**, Chief Advisor, Animal Health and Welfare, National Farmers' Union  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Next steps for improving biosecurity, disease control, and supporting animal health and welfare on farms**  
*key considerations for disease control development | tackling Bovine TB following the new TB eradication strategy | supporting the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway and wider farming systems reform | addressing stakeholder concerns around poultry breeds, overcrowding, and intensive production | opportunities for utilising innovation | implementing surveillance measures | strategic options for supporting farm-level welfare | implications for the National Food Strategy and 25-year farming roadmap*  
**Sarah Tomlinson**, Lead Veterinary Science Expert, Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board  
**Dr Robert Hyde**, Assistant Professor, Computational Biology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Nottingham  
**Professor Paul Wigley**, Professor, Animal Microbial Ecosystems, Bristol Veterinary School, University of Bristol  
Senior representative, food sector  
Senior representative, farming  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for animal health - capacity for surveillance, strengthening response, and veterinary medicine supply**  
Senior representative, policy  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**  
**Lord Trees**, Co-Chair, APPG for Animal Welfare  
**Jessica Lear**, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum