

Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum policy conference:

Next steps for UK food security

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 19th May 2026

Taking place online



WESTMINSTER
FOOD & NUTRITION
FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **'Reinjecting defence and resilience into food security'**
Professor Tim Lang, Professor Emeritus, Food Policy, Centre for Food Policy, City St George's, University of London
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Strategic approaches to supporting farmers in on-farm climate adaptation**
Dmitry Feoktistov, Sustainability and Climate Change Adviser, National Farmers' Union
- 9.40 **Building resilient food supply chains - domestic production, land use planning, and data-driven decision-making**
role of the Farming and Food Partnership Board | reducing reliance on imported food and critical inputs in the context of global supply disruption | growth opportunities across primary production and processing | supporting sustainable farm incomes and addressing barriers to investment and private finance | diversification strategies and supply chain risk management | strengthening data collection and intelligence to support early warning on supply disruption, climate resilience planning and production decisions | balancing productive agricultural land use with nature recovery, housing delivery and renewable energy priorities under the Land Use Framework for England | improving food and farming infrastructure and spatial planning reform
Brendan Costelloe, Director, Policy and Strategy, Soil Association
Neil Oliver, Deputy Head, Environmental Sustainability, Lloyds Banking Group
Senior representative, food industry
Senior representative, retail
Senior representative, data
- 10.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Priorities for farming productivity and environmental stewardship**
Peter Craven, Head, Agriculture, Natural England
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.15 **Opportunities for agricultural innovation to support food security - regenerative practices, emerging technologies, and support mechanisms for application within farming**
key areas of agricultural innovation, including regenerative practices, plant breeding, alternative and circular proteins, and AI-enabled supply chain tools | priorities for scaling technologies across different farming systems | addressing barriers to adoption | improving access to capital and investment | tackling skills gaps and labour availability across the agricultural workforce | challenges faced by tenant and smaller holdings | role of farmer networks and peer learning in supporting adoption of new technologies
Faye Tomson, Director, FFT Consulting
Professor Simon Pearson, Head, School of Agri-Food Technology and Manufacturing, and Director, Lincoln Institute for Agri-Food Technology, University of Lincoln
Professor Steven Penfield, Strategic Programme Leader, Department of Crop Genetics, John Innes Centre
Senior representative, AI
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 **Practical and strategic approaches to supporting household food security and equity**
improving affordability and availability of food for vulnerable households | role of public procurement, local food strategies and social support programmes | approaches to managing food costs while maintaining nutritional outcomes | reducing the impact of price volatility, supply chain disruption and climate-related pressures | maintaining public trust and confidence in the food system | priorities for supporting long-term stability of the food system
Professor Carol Wagstaff, Professor of Crop Quality for Health, University of Reading; Chair, Bioscience for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Strategy Advisory Panel, UK Research and Innovation; and Principal Investigator, FoodSEqual
Senior speaker confirmed from **The Felix Project**
Senior representative, public health
Senior representative, consumer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 **Next steps for strengthening food security in the UK**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Jessica Lear, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum