

**Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum policy conference:  
Next steps for agricultural policy in the UK**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2026

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



**WESTMINSTER  
FOOD & NUTRITION  
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Baroness McIntosh of Pickering**
- 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  
**Gavin Lane**, President, Country Land and Business Association  
Senior representative, adoption
- 10.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Baroness McIntosh of Pickering**
- 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 | key considerations for the European Partnership Bill and proposed SPS alignment*  
**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