

Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum policy conference:

Next steps for novel foods in the UK

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 27th November 2025

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 **Assessing developments, current issues and opportunities for the novel foods sector**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Priorities for research and innovation to build a sustainable food market**
Dr Daniele Leonarduzzi, Senior Scientist and Regulatory Expert, NFX UK
- 9.40 **Key considerations for authorisation reform, funding mechanisms and novel foods regulation**
implications of the FSA's Regulated Products Reform Programme and transition to a public register / removal of 10-year renewal requirements, options for faster approvals and maintaining regulatory confidence / regulatory sandbox for cell-cultivated products, clarity of scope and adapting the model to other categories / roles and coordination across the FSA, FSS and the RIO / aligning the Innovation and Regulation Plan with public health oversight / ministerial decisions on CBD novel foods / expectations for advisory committees and stakeholder input / impact of increased regulatory and R&D funding under the Industrial Strategy and coordination with the Novel Foods Expert Network and gene-edited research grants / evidentiary standards, transparency and practical implementation in authorisations
Professor Anwesha Sarkar, Chair, Colloids and Surfaces, The School of Food Science & Nutrition, University of Leeds; and Project Leader and Co-Director, PERFORM Pillar, National Alternative Protein Innovation Centre
Jessica Burt, Associate, Food Law, Mills & Reeve
Joe Taylor, Regulatory Lead, Hoxton Farms
Senior representative, research
Senior representative, public health
- 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**
Dr Roberta Re, Director, Cambridge Food Science
- 10.55 **International relationships - implications for trade, global competitiveness and investment**
Senior representative, trade
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.20 **Priorities for sector access, support structures, supply chain readiness and consumer trust**
addressing barriers for SMEs and start-ups / assessing the investment climate and business readiness / integration into existing retail and food service networks / practical considerations for distribution and sourcing / strategies for mitigating pressures on ingredients and logistics / clarity and accessibility in public information / improving awareness of production methods / labelling, standards and assurance schemes / health metrics for novel and ultra-processed products / responsibilities across regulation, government and stakeholder groups, including in earning consumer trust / implications of UK-EU SPS alignment for supply chains and market access
Henrietta Sameke, Regulatory Affairs Manager, Holland & Barrett
Amanda Schaible, Senior Associate, Synthesis Capital
Dr Harsh Amin, CEO and Chief Scientific Officer, Ivy Farm Technologies
Senior representative, economics
Senior representative, consumer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.10 **Current priorities and future outlook for the novel foods sector**
Rebecca Lamb, Head, Policy Priorities, Food Standards Agency
Garry Mournian, Head, Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Food Standards Scotland
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**
Dr Roberta Re, Director, Cambridge Food Science
Jessica Lear, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum