



Eating Better in the Nations
A policy review

This report

The implementation of healthy and sustainable diets across the four nations of the UK needs to be underpinned by joined-up national policy which supports our farmers, protects our environment and ensures equal and fair access to healthy and sustainable food. This resource has been developed for those working on food policy in the UK; it provides an overview of food policy across the four nations, mapping progress against actions from the Eating Better Better by Half roadmap, while offering an initial view of cross-nation opportunities and action areas.

The aims of this resource are threefold:

- To benchmark national governments on their food and farming policies in order to identify areas of best practice, encourage innovation and drive progress towards food system transformation.
- To provide an overview of food policy across the UK for those working in the policy sector.
- To highlight areas of action for national and UK wide collaboration between policy makers, grassroots actors, and NGOs.



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Key messages



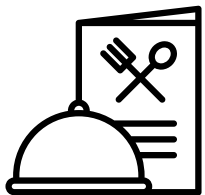
Devolution is the key to unlocking UK food system reform

Each of the four nations have their own unique food history and cultures, with bottom-up and unique examples demonstrating that change is possible. Devolution has meant that Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have the capabilities to enact ambitious food policy reforms to mainstream healthy and sustainable diets. Devolved food policy can therefore be unique to each nation, whilst at the same time driving a race to the top within the UK in food policy reform. In order for the four nations of the UK to realise this potential, all Governments must individually align agricultural, climate, land-use, and food policy, while coordinating with the UK government, local authorities and grassroots actors.



Healthy and sustainable diets are out of sync in the nations, and policy is doing little to help

Poor diets are endemic across the nations and obesity levels are high. In all four nations, policy to rectify this focuses almost exclusively on health, failing to incorporate sustainability goals into dietary guidelines. Whilst there is progress in some aspects of policy across the different governments of the UK, overall there is still a lot more to be done to achieve 20% reduction in meat and dairy consumption by 2030 as recommended by the Climate Change Committee, and for a transition to 'better' meat and dairy. Given the widespread use of the Eatwell Guide, there is an opportunity for a coordinated, UK wide approach to aligning dietary guidelines and school food standards to meet both sustainability and health goals.



Food Strategies are needed to realign all aspects of the food system

Scotland has the Good Food Nation Act, and Wales has made some progress and ambition on addressing critical food-related challenges. Meanwhile action in Northern Ireland and England has stalled or been found wanting. Comprehensive strategies for integrating new agricultural schemes and climate targets into food policy are needed across the board. Our farmers and crofters need funding and support to transition toward nature and climate friendly farming methods, while joined-up food policy can help us improve the health and sustainability of household diets, public food procurement and food in schools. Government policy should support and amplify grassroots food system reform, whilst combining with local level policy development where applicable. This is an area where exchange of best practice between devolved governments could progress grassroots action UK wide.

Headlines across the nations

Scotland:

- Scotland has the **most comprehensive cross-departmental food and farming strategy** of any of the UK's four nations.
- Sustainable diets remain undefined in government policy, an omission which is reflected in the **lack of advice regarding sustainable food** in dietary guidelines.
- The Scottish Vision for Agriculture sets a scene for an **ambitious conversion to nature friendly farming**, yet better integration with wider climate and food policy is needed.

Wales:

- Wales currently **operates without a national food strategy**, or a definition of healthy and sustainable diets. Implementing both should be a matter of top priority.
- The Welsh Government has recognised the power of local food cultures through a **UK leading piece of funding for cross-sector food partnerships**. The impact of this funding could be enhanced by advancing the promised Community Food Strategy.
- The new Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023 is a vital step towards food system transformation. The Welsh Government has launched a **national development framework** in an effort to balance competing land-use pressures, although further clarity is needed on how well it integrates with the **Sustainable Farming Scheme** and other planning instruments.

England:

- The **Food Strategy White Paper has done little** to increase the health and sustainability of diets in England.
- The **Environmental Land Management Schemes** present an exciting opportunity for nature friendly farming; if facilitated correctly significant progress could be made on better meat and dairy. However, **the funding and support currently offered to farmers is inadequate for delivery of these goals**.
- The combination of a lacking food strategy, no land-use plan, and missing targets for sustainable diets in climate change policy, poses **a risk that the potential benefits of new agricultural schemes will not be realised**.

Northern Ireland:

- A **National Food Strategy is currently under development**, however momentum has been lost owing to political uncertainty.
- The Agricultural sector in Northern Ireland is set for significant change under the **upcoming future farming policy**. As such, integration of food and agricultural policy is vital in order to support the farming sector while enabling healthy and sustainable diets.
- The **creation of an overarching land-use strategy is a vital step needed** to balance the competing pressures of land, food and climate.

Introduction

Eating Better

Eating Better is a movement for change of sixty organisations working to accelerate the transition from producing and eating too much meat and dairy to a fairer, healthier and more sustainable food system that is better for animal welfare and for nature.

The power of our alliance comes from our breadth, diversity and expertise. From environmental and animal welfare charities to public health and social justice, we're working together to create a fair and sustainable food environment, where everyone has access to healthy, affordable and nutritious food.

Why the nations?

Food and farming is largely a devolved matter in the UK, but until recently, this was not a hugely active area for the four nations. Following the UK's exit from the European Union (EU), food and farming policy across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales has seen areas of both substantial divergence and continuity as devolved governments develop and enact policy in the absence of EU legislation. This devolved governance presents an opportunity for national governments to lay-out and enact far reaching policy which capitalises on the opportunities, and addresses the challenges, within each national food system.

The four nations have diverse cultural, demographic, natural, socioeconomic, and political characteristics. These characteristics influence the food we grow, process, trade and eat. Understanding, learning from, and developing the landscape of food policy across the UK is a needed and vital step towards achieving equal and fair access to healthy and sustainable diets. Through examining the emerging food policy in each of the four nations, the unique food cultures and systems in each can be strengthened through UK wide learning, collaboration and development.

Why focus on government actions?

Ensuring everyone has access to a healthy diet that does not cost the earth is a critical priority across the UK. A better food environment for people needs a more holistic approach to policy making, one that brings together governmental departments with shared interests and embeds a requirement for promoting sustainable production and consumption across government. National governments also have a range of policy measures that can scale and replicate grassroots action on food, transforming the food environment from the ground up.

Eating Better roadmap actions

The Better by Half roadmap outlines the way to less and better meat and dairy, **providing 24 actions to be taken across 5 sectors** to create an enabling environment to drive the necessary transformation in eating habits. The roadmap represents a collaborative effort between all organisations in the alliance, from public health bodies to farmers, to outline and advocate measures that will deliver healthy and sustainable diets.

This report maps each of the four nations by way of **six key government action areas** within Eating Better's Better by Half roadmap.

This report incorporates government actions from the roadmap **based on the extent of devolved authority involved in their development and implementation**. In instances where the national government holds jurisdiction over policies impacting change, the corresponding actions are included, while those managed at a UK-wide or local authority level are excluded.



Deliver a cross-departmental food and farming strategy



Sustainable and healthy dietary guidelines underpin all policy development



Normalise sustainable diets through public procurement



Mainstream progress in school food



Rebalance agricultural policy towards plant production and better meat and dairy



Develop an integrated land-use plan



Scotland

Wales

Northern Ireland

England

Policy review

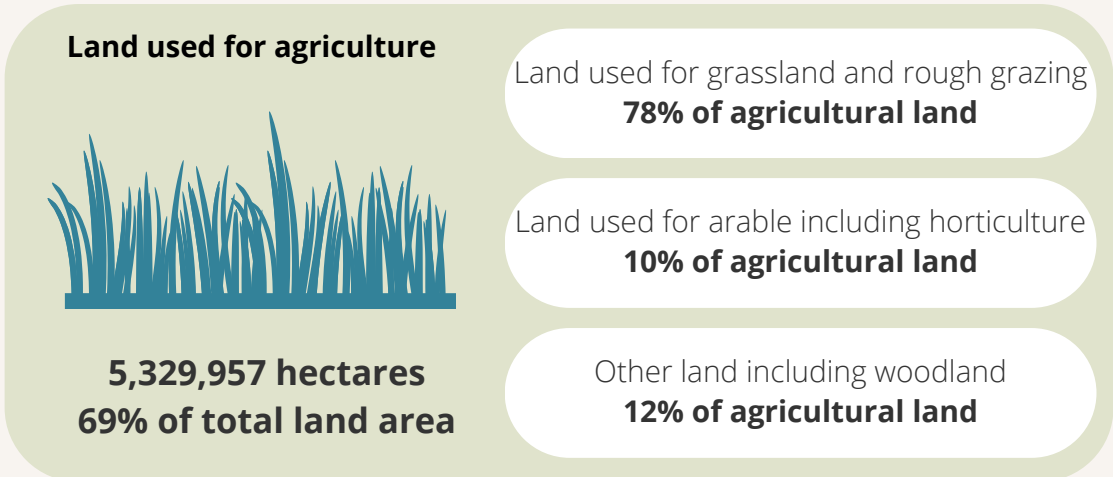
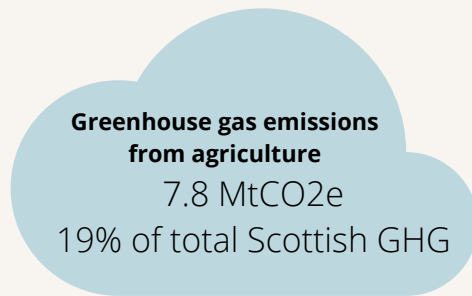
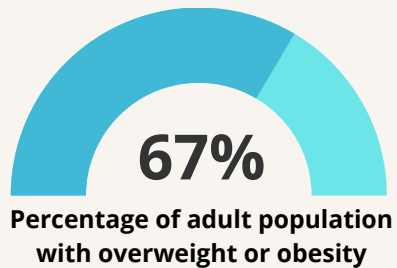
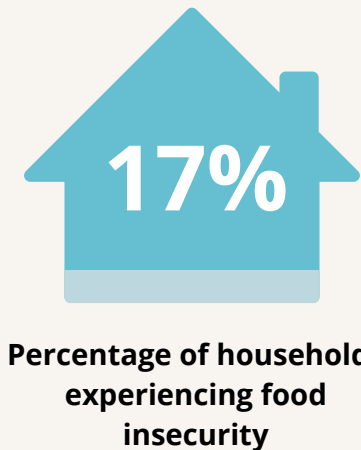
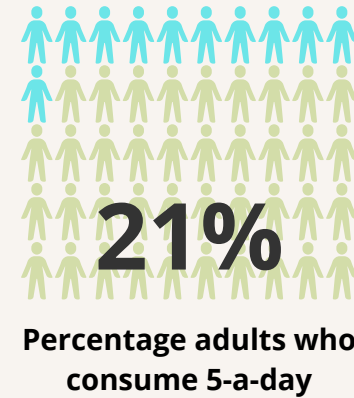
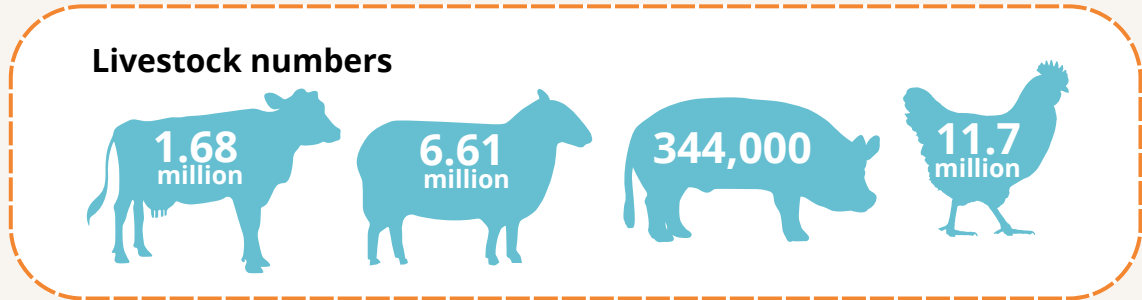
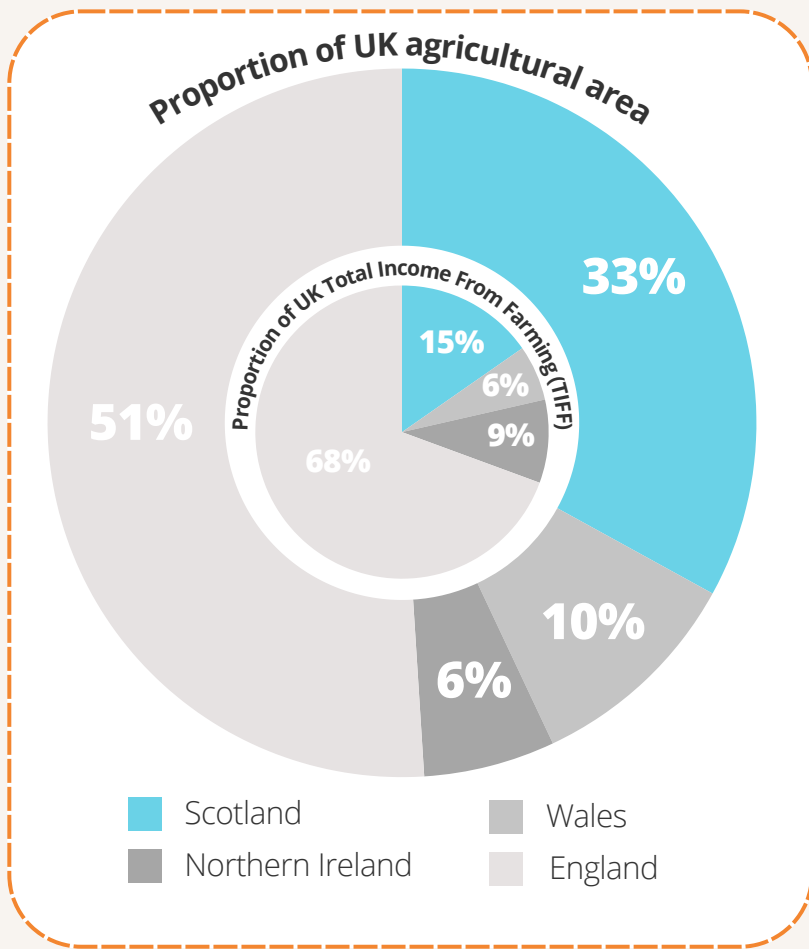
Scotland

Summary

Scotland has the most comprehensive cross-departmental food and farming strategy of any of the UK's four nations. Upon publication of the upcoming Local Food Strategies and the development of the Good Food Nation plan, we should see better integration of mechanisms, such as utilising public procurement, which mainstream healthy and sustainable diets. However, sustainable diets remain undefined in government policy, an omission which is reflected in the lack of advice regarding sustainable food in dietary guidelines. The Scottish Government's vision for agriculture sets the scene for an ambitious conversion to nature friendly farming, yet specific targets for reducing agricultural emissions are missing. In order for agriculture to drive the transition to healthy and sustainable diets and the full impact of the Good Food Nation Act to be realised, Scotland needs to see stronger development and integration of agricultural, climate and food policy.



The food system in Scotland



Food policy in Scotland



Deliver a cross-departmental food and farming strategy

National food strategy: Yes

Local food strategy: Under development

The [Good Food Nation Act \(Scotland\) 2022](#), passed into law in 2022, goes some way towards implementing a cross-departmental food and farming strategy, but it also has significant gaps in terms of aims and a lack of targets. The Act requires the creation of a crosscutting national Good Food Nation plan, to be produced every five years. Public bodies, for example health boards and local authorities, have a duty to write and implement their own Good Food Nation plans. To provide oversight, an independent Scottish Food Commission will be created, but as yet there are few details of who will be on it or when it will launch.



Sustainable and healthy dietary guidelines underpin all policy development

Sustainable diets definition: No definition in government strategy

Guidelines on red and processed meat intake: 70g is advised, maximum should not exceed 90g. There is no official recommendation on white meat consumption

[Food Standards Scotland \(FSS\)](#) is a non-ministerial department of the Scottish Government. It is responsible for implementing and monitoring food and feed standards for Scotland. Under the [2021-2026 strategy](#), FSS aims to operate under the vision of a safe, healthy and sustainable food that benefits and protects the health and well-being of everyone in Scotland. Despite the implementation of the Good Food Nation Act, there is no official definition of a sustainable diet in the published work of FSS or in Scottish Government policy.

Dietary advice provided by FSS, including a ['healthy eating tutorial'](#), relies on the [Eatwell Guide](#) and is consistent with its messaging. The ['Scottish Dietary Goals'](#) are also used by the Scottish government to direct policies which aim to improve diet in the population, for example by setting nutrition criteria for school food. Both the goals and [FSS messaging](#) around recommended diets are entirely focused on health, with the only mention of sustainability coming from vague mentions in the [Eatwell Guide](#). With regards to 'red meat and processed meat', the goal is 'no increase in intake', which contrasts with the explicit intake reduction goals that apply to sugar, salt and fat.



Normalise sustainable diets through public procurement

Public procurement strategy for domestic supply: Working on increasing spend on local produce, no target has yet been set.

The Scottish government recently published its first [Public Procurement Strategy for Scotland: 2023 to 2028](#), which includes references to whole-life costing and the climate crisis. However, the only explicit reference to food is a brief mention of 'food security' and 'ensuring high standards of animal welfare and sustainable production and waste reductions' to 'improve community health, wellbeing and education'. Overall the strategy does not articulate a joined-up coherent vision of sustainable and healthy public food procurement.

Procurement has been focussed on supporting local economies and local suppliers. The Scottish Government's 2021 '[Local Food for everyone: a discussion](#)' sets out a comprehensive programme of actions to support local food. Pillar Three of the scheme aims to harness public sector procurement to benefit Scottish businesses. Within this is the commitment to update '[Catering for Change: buying food sustainably in the public sector](#)', published in 2011, to incorporate feedback from local authorities and public sector procurement groups.

The Scottish Government provides funding for the [Food for Life](#) campaign run by the Soil Association, which now operates across 17 local authorities in Scotland, supporting the provision of more locally sourced, healthier food being served in schools. Food for Life is currently running a [Public Sector Expansion Pilot](#) in Glasgow, aiming to expand into new public sector settings.

Progress in local and sustainable sourcing is not consistent across the country, and measures need to be taken to address [national level barriers](#) to its implementation. However, there are some great regional examples of progress on sustainable procurement. [East Ayrshire Council](#) and [South Lanarkshire Council](#) are often used as examples of best practice for their success in sourcing locally, although adequate budgets are a key part of delivering this successfully.





Mainstream progress in school food

Universal Free School Meals: Yes, for the first 5 years of primary with commitments to extend.

Fruit and Vegetable requirements primary school: At least 2 portions (40g each) vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements primary school: Maximum 175g per week, of which no more than 100g can be processed.

Fruit and Vegetable requirements secondary school: At least 2 portions (80g each) vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements secondary school: Maximum 230g per week, of which no more than 130g can be processed.

Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) are provided for the first 5 years of primary school. In the [2023-2024 Programme for Government](#) there are commitments to prepare schools and infrastructure for the rollout of universal free school meals to children in the last two years of primary education by the end of 2026.

School food standards in Scotland are set on the [Nutritional Requirements for Food and Drink in Schools \(Scotland\) Regulations 2020](#), which took effect in 2021. The regulations are the result of an update to align standards more closely to the Scottish Dietary Goals. The revision to the standards included an increase in fruit and vegetable portions and introduced limits on meat.

Goals pertaining to increasing the locality and sustainability of school food are realised through the funding of [Food for Life](#). A [Working Group](#), including several regional councils, has been formed to ensure that all opportunities presented by the rollout of free school meals, including local and sustainable procurement, are capitalised on.





Rebalance agricultural policy towards plant production and better meat and dairy

Agriculture Act: Under development

The Scottish Government introduced an [Agriculture Bill](#) in September 2023. The Bill introduces a new framework of support for agriculture upon the replacement of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Proposed measures are designed to deliver the Scottish [Vision for Agriculture](#), which was published in March 2022. The vision is designed to enable Scotland to take its place as a 'global leader in sustainable and regenerative agriculture'. The vision states that the immediate priority is to focus on the sectors which emit the highest greenhouse gas emissions, and names livestock production as a key example.

Scotland's current Climate Change Plan (CCP) targets a [24% reduction](#) in agriculture sector emissions by 2032 based on 1990 levels. A delayed update to the CCP is due to go before the Scottish Parliament in early 2024, defining any revisions, more ambitious or otherwise, to this target figure. As it stands, there is an absence of specific targets within the Agriculture and Rural Communities Bill as to how the government intends on meeting these reductions.

The proposed approach seeks alignment with the EU's new CAP as part of a wider political strategy to remain broadly aligned with EU legislation. The Bill proposes to introduce payments across four tiers, capturing direct payment, climate and ecological objectives. The first tier of funding is structured around an area-based payments system, similar to that offered under the CAP. During the ongoing consultation stage, the Bill has been [criticised](#) for this, alongside its lack of clarity on support offered to small scale producers, new entrant farmers, and those working in the horticulture sector.



Develop an integrated land-use plan

Aforestation targets: 18,000 ha per year by 2024-2025

Land use strategy: Yes

Land faces increasing demands from a wide range of objectives, including food production, flood protection and decarbonisation. The Scottish Government has a statutory duty to create and update a Land Use strategy for Scotland under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Section 57. The latest iteration is the third [Land Use Strategy \(2021-2026\)](#), which sets out the government's vision, objectives and policies to achieve sustainable land use. It is intended to complement other key government strategies to tackle and mitigate climate change and nature degradation, including the Climate Change Plan, the [Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme \(SCCAP\) 2019-2024](#) and the [Environment Strategy](#).

The current strategy includes targets for afforestation (18,000 hectares per year by 2024-25) and peat restoration (to achieve 250,000 hectares by 2030). Current rates of tree planting are around [10,000 ha annually](#), and while Scotland performs better than the rest of UK, it has missed targets for the last two years and overall planting has been fairly flat since 2019.

In principle, the Land Use Strategy intends to pursue a joined-up approach across different land use needs, and national, regional and local priorities. Indeed, the document makes frequent reference to 'integrated' and 'holistic systems' in how it frames the strategy. However, there is concern among some groups that it could be a [missed opportunity](#) for a truly ambitious and coherent strategic land use plan.

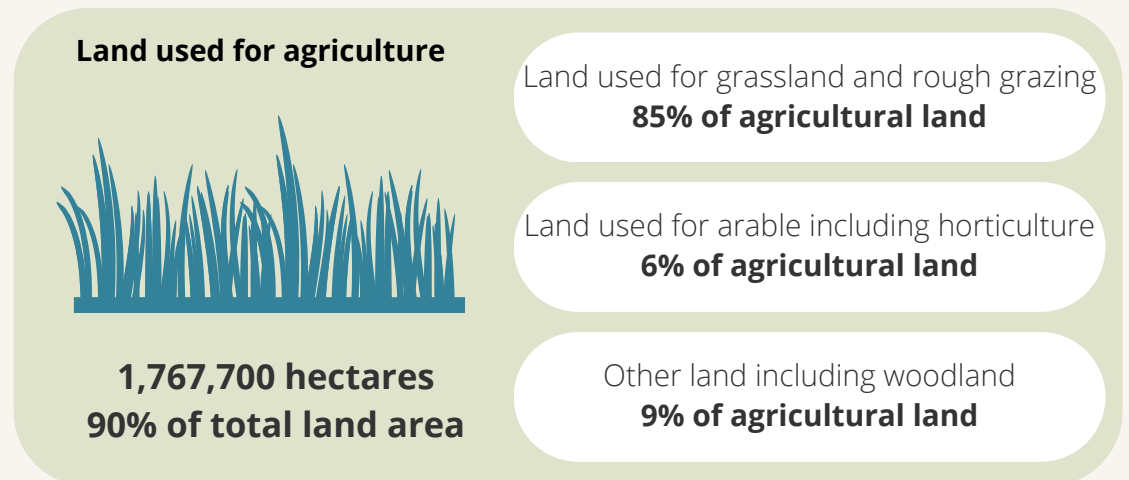
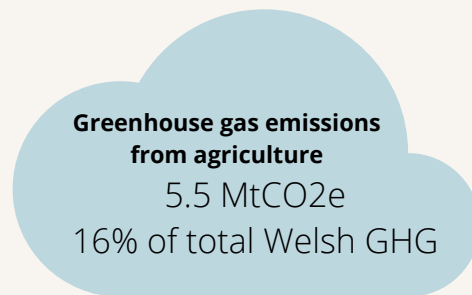
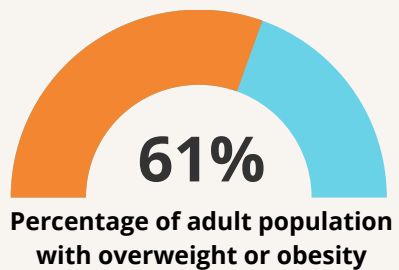
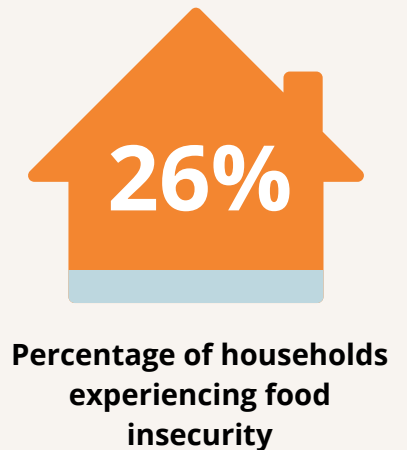
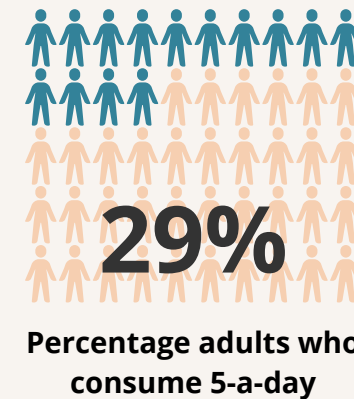
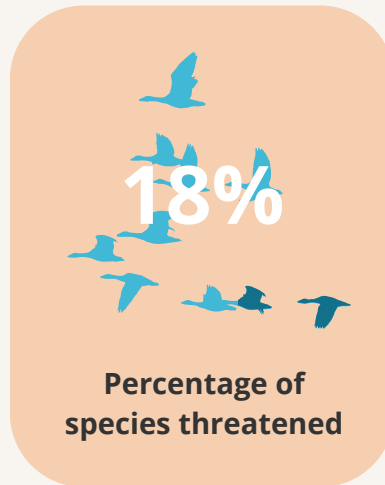
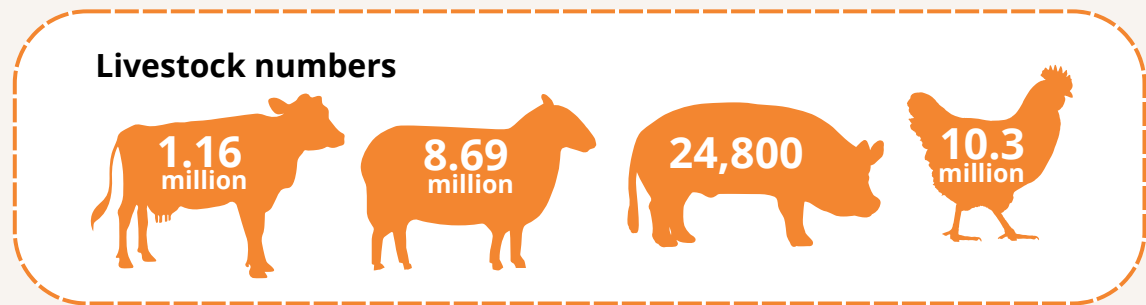
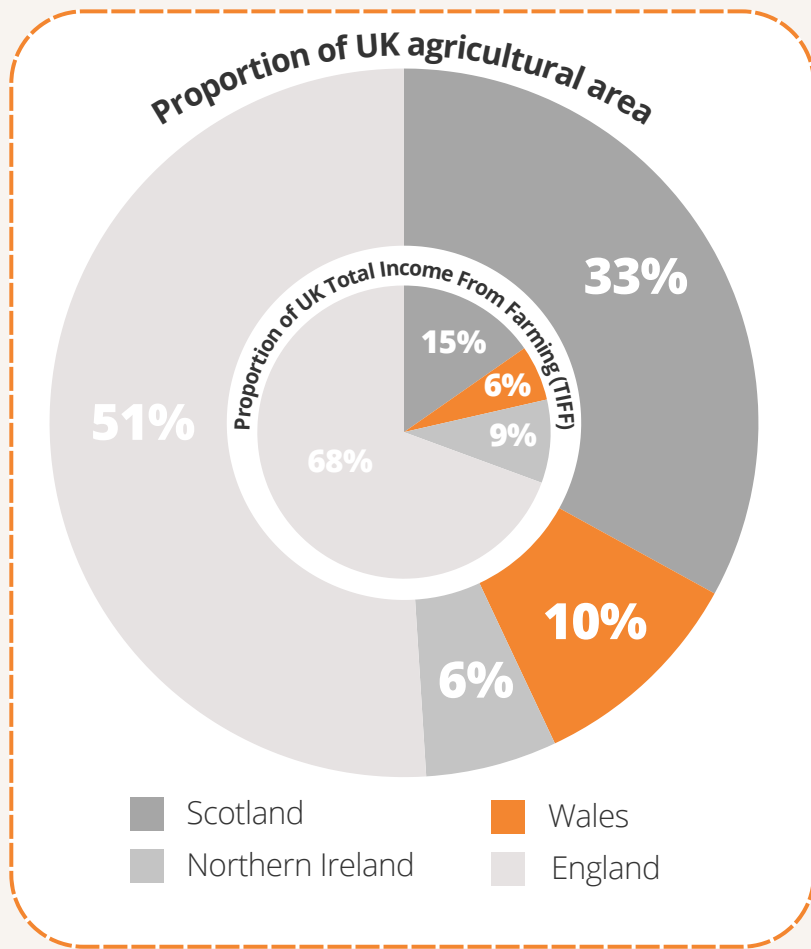
Wales

Summary

Upon defeat of the Food (Wales) Bill, Wales continues to operate without a national food strategy or a definition of healthy and sustainable diets. However, the Welsh Government has recognised the power of local food cultures through a landmark piece of funding for cross-sector food partnerships, and through the development of the community food strategy (although it has not been published and there are stakeholder concerns around its delay). Effort is being made to increase the locality of food procurement, but there is a lack of clarity and ambition surrounding the environmental standards required in public sector contracts. Equally, health and sustainability need to be better integrated into the public sector; universal free primary school meals present an exciting opportunity for the Welsh Government to act on this. Development and implementation of the Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023 will be vital for food system transformation, including progress on local procurement. The competing pressures on Welsh land need to be balanced with an overarching land use strategy, especially if the benefits delivered by environmental land management under the future Agriculture Act are to be realised.



The food system in Wales



Food policy in Wales



Deliver a cross-departmental food and farming strategy

National Food Strategy: No

Local Food Strategy: Under development

Wales is currently operating without an overarching strategy on food, with the last version, Food for Wales, Food from Wales, expiring in 2020. The Food (Wales) Bill was brought forward as a Private Members' Bill in 2021. The aim of the Bill was to provide a holistic, coherent framework within which future food policy could be developed. Modelled on aspects of Scotland's Good Food Nation Act, it would have required public bodies to advance food goals, established a Welsh Food Commission, required Welsh Ministers to prepare and publish a national food strategy, and required local bodies to make and publish local food plans. The vote to progress the Bill was held in May 2023 and was narrowly defeated.

In its Stage 1 report of the Bill, the Senedd's Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee proposed 17 recommendations to be taken forward by the Welsh government that cover the dual scenarios of the Bill failing or succeeding. The degree to which these recommendations will be acted upon is yet unknown.

The Programme for Government 2021-26 includes the commitment to develop a Wales Community Food Strategy to encourage the supply of locally sourced food in Wales and to develop a national model for regulation of animal welfare. Several stages of consultation and research have been conducted, although it has not been published and there are stakeholder concerns around its delay. The Welsh Government have also expressed their support for community level action on food through the allocation of £2.5 million of funding for the development and support of cross-sector food partnerships in every local authority area.





Sustainable and healthy dietary guidelines underpin all policy development

Sustainable diets definition: No definition in government strategy

Guidelines on red and processed meat intake: 70g is advised, maximum should not exceed 90g. There is no official recommendation on white meat consumption

The Welsh government uses the [Eatwell guide](#) as a basis for 'healthy diets' advice. [Healthy Weight Healthy Wales](#) is the long-term strategy implemented by the Welsh Government to prevent and reduce obesity. It includes four national themes: healthy environments, healthy settings, healthy people, leadership and enabling change. The plan is intended to help support a green recovery and generate changes to the way people move and eat. Beyond this, [Nutrition Skills for Life](#) is a Wales-wide programme led by public health professionals and dieticians with the aim of capacity building, training and skill development to support access to healthy, affordable and sustainable food for the people of Wales. Beyond the mentions of sustainability in the [Eatwell Guide](#), there is no government issued dietary advice or policy around sustainable diets.



Normalise sustainable diets through public procurement

Public procurement strategy for domestic supply: Working on increasing spend on local produce, no target has yet been set.

The [Well Being of Future Generations Act \(2015\)](#) provides the overarching framework for socially, economically and environmentally sound public procurement in Wales. The recent [Social Partnerships and Public Procurement Act \(2023\)](#) builds on this, providing a means to enhance the well-being of the people of Wales through social partnerships, fair work, and socially responsible public procurement. The Act encourages local authorities to shift from a 'low cost equals best value' approach, to one which allows all aspects of sustainability to be included in the best value outcome and encourages investment in the Foundational Economy through shortening supply chains and purchasing Welsh products.

The Welsh Government has commissioned [research](#) on Welsh public sector spending on food and drink and the proportion of this spend allocated to supporting Welsh businesses. Alongside this, the Welsh Government has also released "[Buying Food Fit for the Future](#)", an online procurement resource for all food contracts and framework agreements, designed to increase accessibility to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

However, there is currently a lack of policy applying the Social Partnerships and Public Procurement Act (2023) to food procurement. Public bodies are advised to place an increasing amount of weight on 'quality' over 'price' when designing and awarding procurement contracts; however, there is very little guidance available as to the definition of 'quality' when it comes to food and production methods.



Mainstream progress in school food

Universal Free School Meals: Yes- being rolled out for all primary school children

Fruit and Vegetable requirements primary school: At least 1 portion (40g each) vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements primary school: Meat must be served on at least 2 days a week

Fruit and Vegetable requirements secondary school: At least 2 portions (60g each) vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements secondary school: Meat must be served on at least 3 days a week

Wales is currently rolling out Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) for primary children in the first three years of primary school, expanding to all primary age school pupils by 2024.

School Food Standards in Wales are set out in the [The Healthy Eating in Schools \(Nutritional Standards and Requirements\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2013](#). Within [Healthy Weight Healthy Wales](#), the Welsh Government has committed to reviewing and updating these standards in line with the latest nutritional standards and guidelines.

Meat must be served at least twice a week in primary schools, and at least 3 times per week for secondary. 'Meat products' must be served no more than twice a week.

The '[Food and Fun](#)' school holiday enrichment programme is an initiative to support food and nutrition education, physical and mental well-being for children during summer holidays. It is administered by the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and has around £5m of funding for 2023 to deliver the programme to schools across Wales.



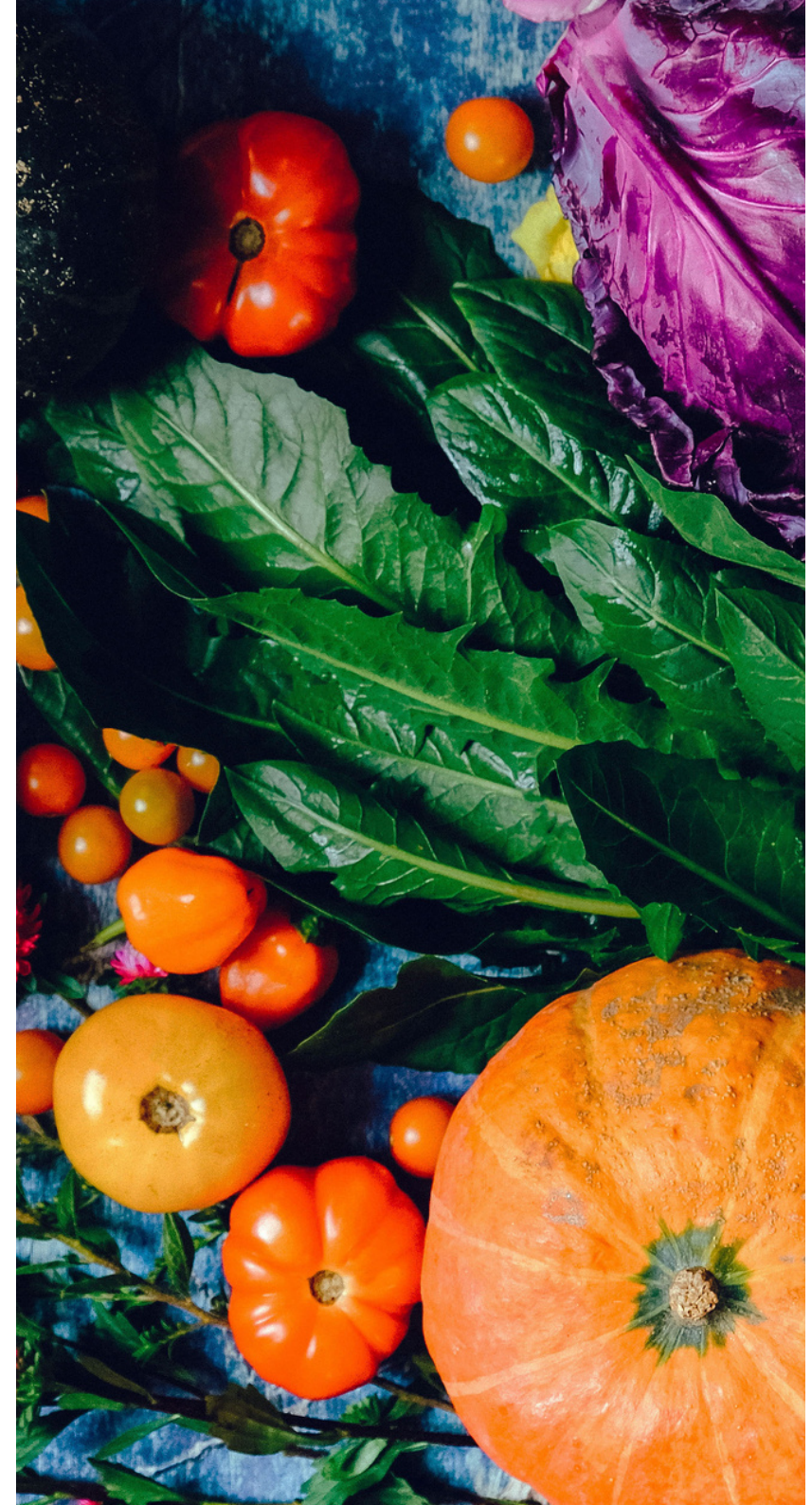
Rebalance agricultural policy towards plant production and better meat and dairy

Agriculture Act: Yes

The newly implemented [Agriculture \(Wales\) Act 2023](#) is designed to support farmers and sustainable food production. The Act will underpin the delivery of the [Sustainable Farming Scheme](#). The new scheme, set to be rolled out in 2025, outlines the post-Brexit agricultural strategy to transform the Welsh landscape and farming sector. It includes key objectives to produce food sustainably, mitigate and adapt to climate change, and maintain and enhance the resilience of Welsh ecosystems. The scheme will see the introduction of a three tiered approach to farming subsidies through Universal, Optional, and Collaborative Actions for farmers. National Minimum Standards for agriculture were proposed in the Agriculture White Paper (2020), however focus on the Sustainable Farming Scheme has resulted in no further announcements on minimum standards.

In 2022, the Welsh Government ran the [Organic Conversion Scheme](#) to support producers across Wales to convert to organic production. As of January 2024, the Welsh Government has committed to provide Organic Support Payments to fully-certified organic farmers during transition to the Sustainable Farming Scheme. This follows months of uncertainty regarding the support due to be offered to organic producers alongside reductions in the overall Rural Affairs budget (2024-2025).

Given topographic and climatic constraints, the Welsh agricultural sector is heavily reliant on livestock agriculture. The lack of domestic horticulture has been [identified](#) as a key constraint across the food system, particularly with regards to localising public procurement. In 2022, the Welsh Government opened [The Horticulture Development Scheme](#) to existing commercial horticultural producers across Wales. New horticultural startups have also received support through the ongoing [Small Grants - Horticulture Startup scheme](#).





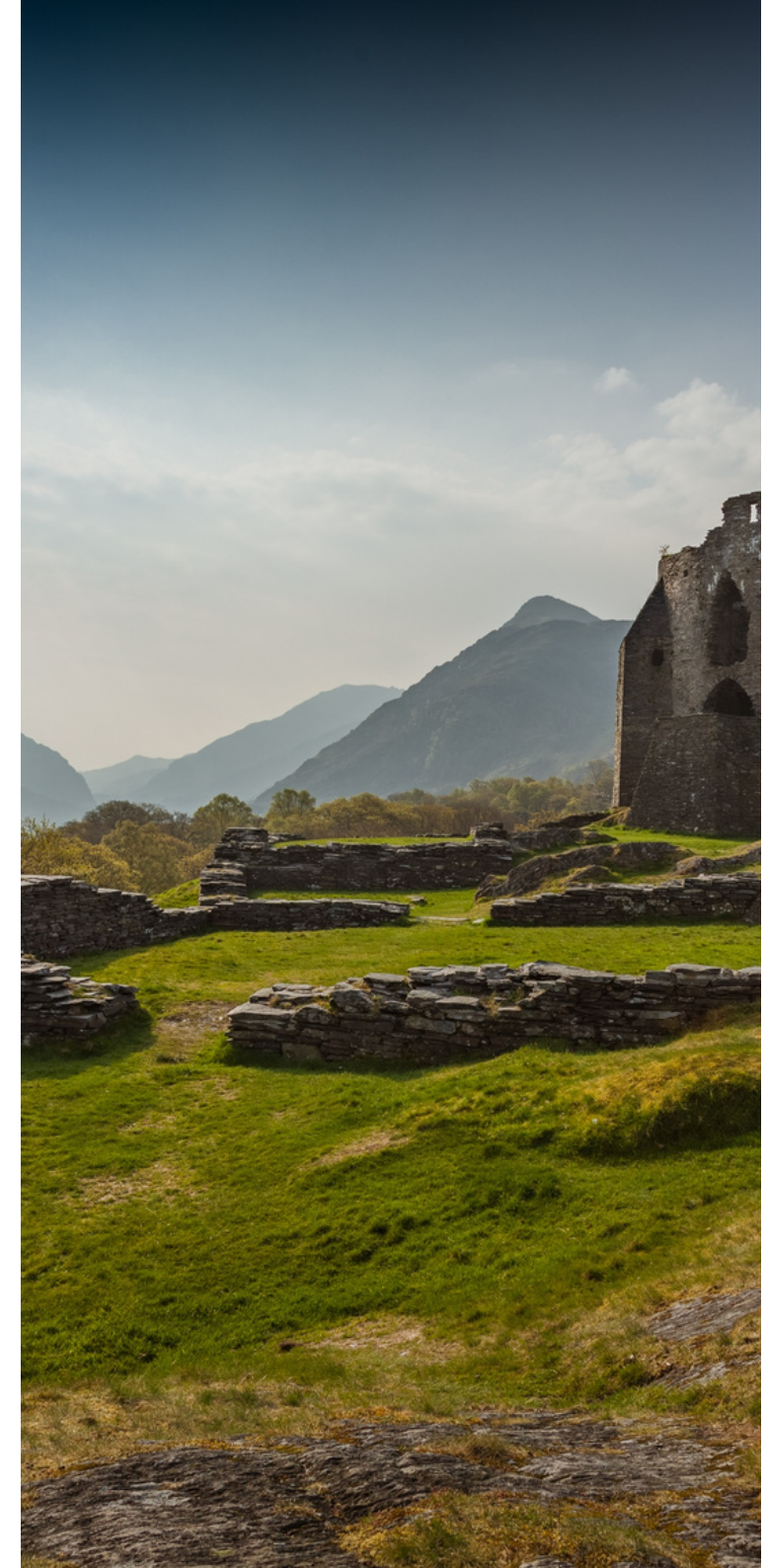
Develop an integrated land-use plan

Afforestation target: Plant 180,000 ha of trees by 2050

Land use strategy: No

The [Future Wales – the National Plan 2040](#) is a national framework designed to direct development and land use in Wales until 2040. The framework is non-statutory, however all subsequent strategic and local plans are required to conform to its policies. It addresses key national priorities within land-use and the planning system including achieving carbon neutrality and climate resilience, developing strong ecosystems and furthering green infrastructure. While the document establishes a foundation for making high-level development decisions, it lacks the detail and targeted approach of a fully developed land-use strategy. In order to facilitate an agroecological land-use transition, implementation of other planning instruments, such as Area Statements and Strategic and Local Development Plans, is needed. It is currently unclear how the framework shapes agricultural support to help deliver landscape-scale features identified in Area Statements and Strategic and Local Development Plans.

The Welsh Government's vision for agricultural land use is set out in the [Sustainable Farming Scheme](#), underpinned by the [Agriculture \(Wales\) Act 2023](#). The Scheme is designed to address four Sustainable Land Management objectives: to produce food in a sustainable manner, to mitigate and adapt to climate change, to maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide, and to conserve and enhance the countryside and cultural resources, promoting public access and engagement with them. Within these objectives, the Scheme prioritises habitat creation and agroecological land management by farmers and landowners. It requires 10% of the farm to be covered by trees (managed in line with the UK Forestry Standard) and 10% for managed biodiversity habitats (maintained or created).



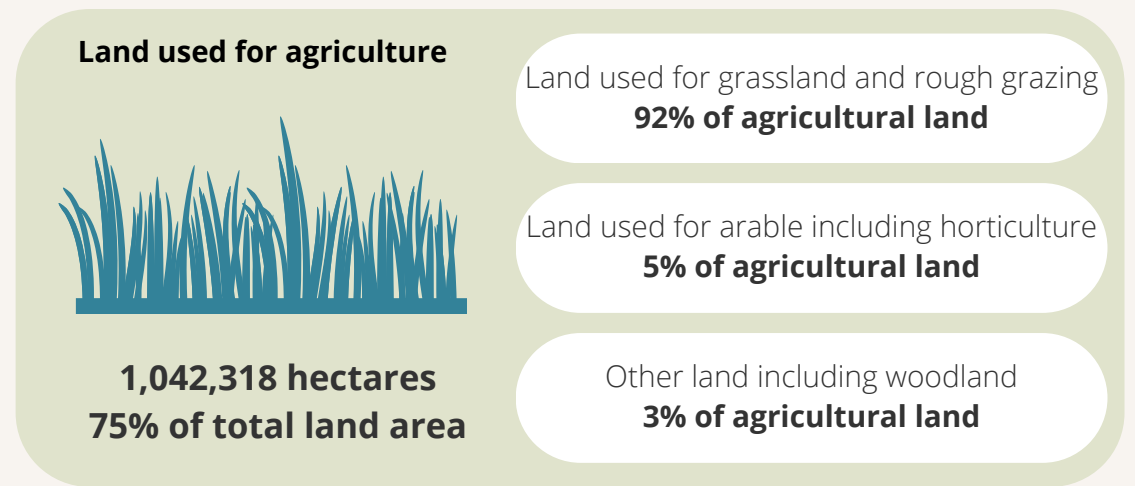
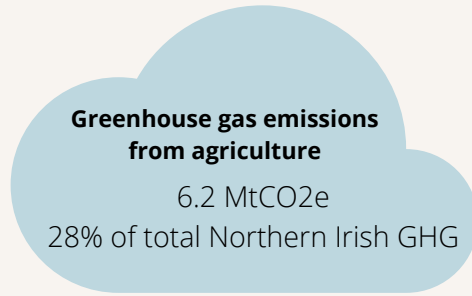
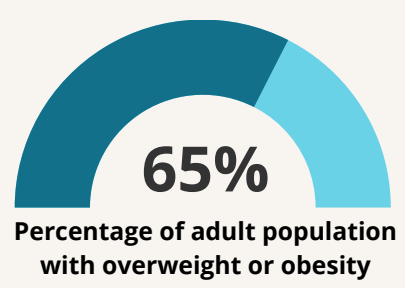
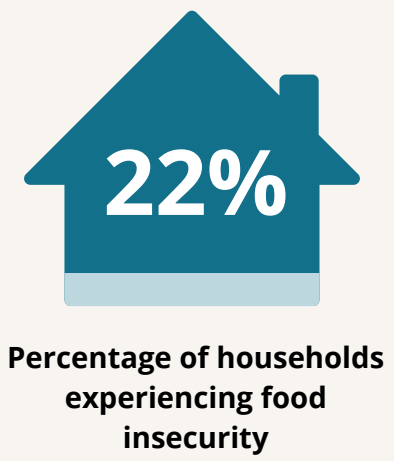
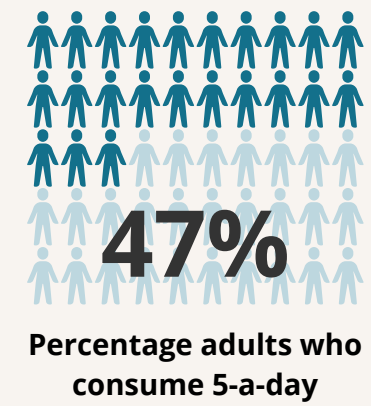
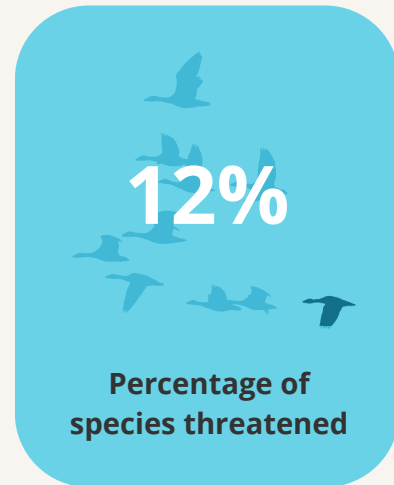
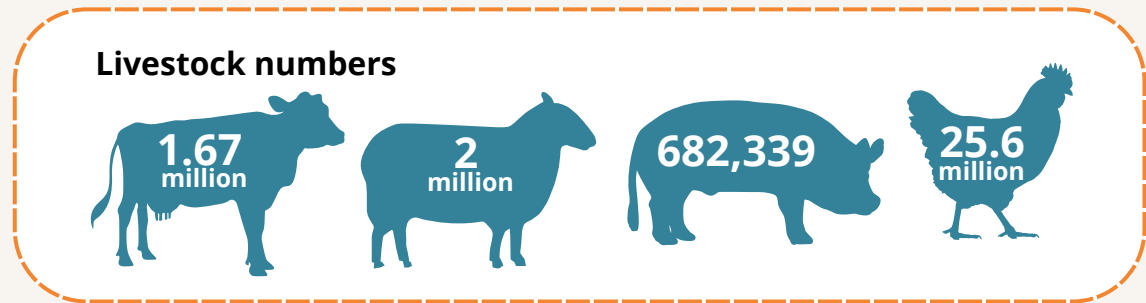
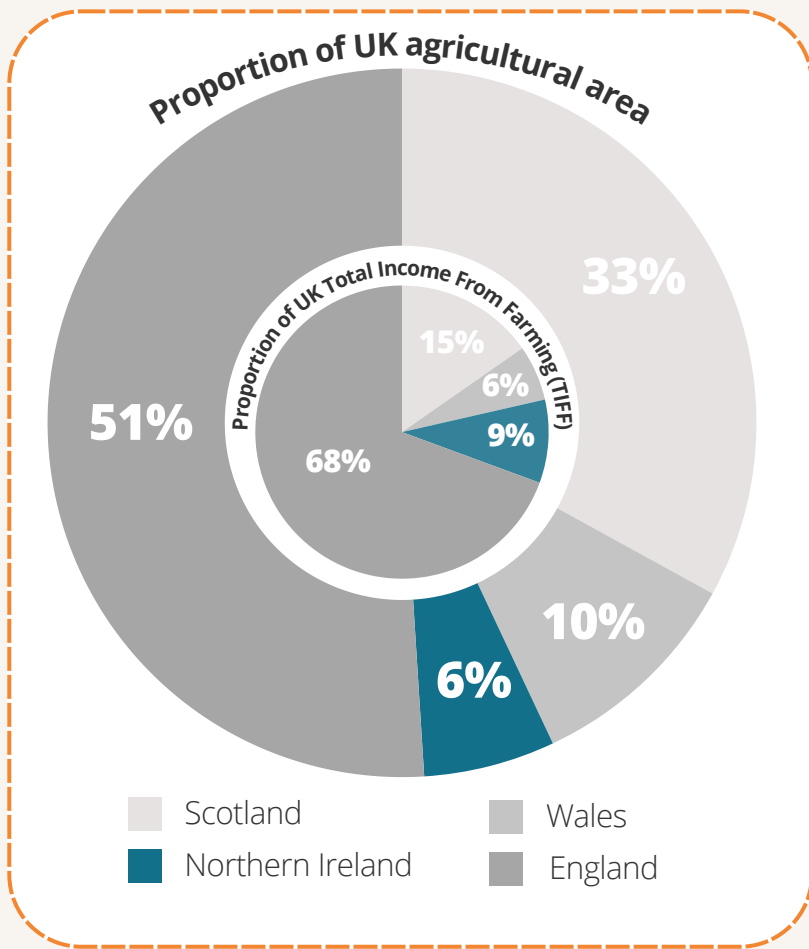
Northern Ireland

Summary

In order for healthy and sustainable diets to become normalised in Northern Ireland, progress needs to be made on the currently stagnating Food Strategy Framework. While progress on sustainable procurement has been proposed, again it is reliant on development of the overarching food strategy. There is scope for great improvements to be made on school food, through the introduction of healthy and sustainable guidelines and increased access to free school meals. The Agricultural sector in Northern Ireland is set for significant change under the upcoming future farming policy. As such, integration of food and agricultural policy is vital in order to support the farming sector while enabling healthy and sustainable diets. Given the prevalence of livestock agriculture in Northern Ireland, combined with the degree of reduction needed in greenhouse gas emissions, the creation of an overarching land-use strategy will be vital in balancing the competing pressures of the land and food system.



The food system in Northern Ireland



Food policy in Northern Ireland



Deliver a cross-departmental food and farming strategy

National Food Strategy: Under development

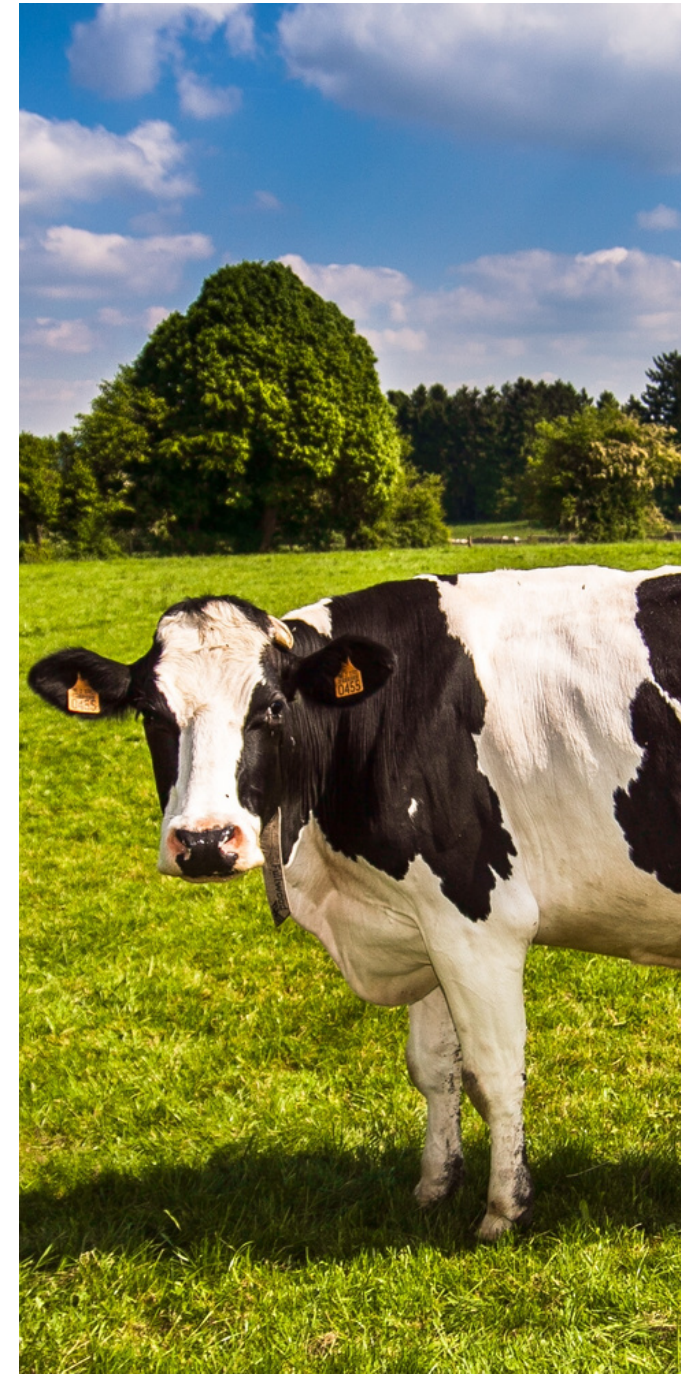
Local Food Strategy: No

A NI Food Strategy Framework is currently being developed, through which DAERA have set out their intention to tackle national food policy from a whole-government approach. The Framework sits within the (draft) Green Growth Strategy and Delivery Framework, a multi-decade strategy, designed to balance climate, environment and the economy in Northern Ireland.

The framework document marks a shift in language and attitude in the NI Assembly, from 'going for growth', export-focussed strategy to sustainability through innovation. Currently, 77% of all food and drink produced in NI is exported. As such, realigning the food system with the needs of the population will require a significantly different approach to food and farming. The Framework focuses on six strategic priorities: enhancing the connection of well-being and food, building sustainable economic prosperity, promoting food culture, protecting and enhancing natural resources, encouraging food education and building resilience into the supply chain.

The majority of those who reviewed the framework during the consultation stage were in favour of its main themes and priorities. However, it was highlighted that the scale and scope of the framework should be expanded to encompass more ambitious transitions for the sector such as the health and environmental standards of imported food. Given the relative scale of the NI livestock sector and its associated emissions, the lack of reference to specific greenhouse gas emissions targets, specially methane and nitrous oxide, is also a concerning omission.

A consultation was held at the end of 2021, but little to no progress has been made in advancing the Food Strategy Framework with the deadlock in Stormont since May 2022.





Sustainable and healthy dietary guidelines underpin all policy development

Sustainable diets definition: "Are protective and respectful of biodiversity and ecosystems, culturally acceptable, accessible, economically fair and affordable; nutritionally adequate, safe and healthy, while optimising natural and human resources" [NI Food Strategy Framework](#)

Guidelines on red and processed meat intake: 70g is advised, maximum should not exceed 90g. There is no official recommendation on white meat consumption

Northern Ireland uses the Eatwell Guide for guidelines on healthy and sustainable diets. The [Food Standards Agency](#) (FSA) is responsible for advising ministers on nutrition.

In line with the UK wide Sugar Reduction and Reformulation Programme, the FSA have implemented the [Making Food Better](#) programme, designed to support food businesses to reduce the calorie, sugar, saturated fat and salt content of the food they produce, sell or serve, as well as reducing portion sizes to help consumers make healthier choices.

In 2022, The FSA, [Public Health Agency](#), and [SafeFood](#) jointly produced updated [Nutritional Standards for Catering in Health and Social Care](#). Updates included increasing the recommended amount of fruit, vegetables, and wholegrains, while decreasing the amount of saturated fat, salt and processed meats.

Beyond the definition provided in the Food Strategy Framework, there is no government issued policy or advice on sustainable diets.



Normalise sustainable diets through public procurement

Public procurement strategy for domestic supply: Aiming to increase spend on local produce, no target has yet been set.

There is a significant gap in food procurement policy. The overarching policy position - the [Northern Ireland Public Procurement Policy](#) - was approved by the Northern Ireland Executive over 20 years ago. As of June 2022, [Public Procurement Policy Note 01/21](#), mandates that tenders must include a minimum of 10% of the total award criteria to score social value. However, this applies only to service and construction contracts.

The NI National Food Strategy suggests the implementation of Foundational Projects to foster immediate collaborative working upon adoption of the framework. Integrating existing public procurement policy into the framework is mentioned under five of the 6 key strategy priorities. However, responses to the Strategy consultation revealed ambitions for more specific targets on local procurement. The Strategy also contains no indication of the environmental or nutritional standards that the locally sourced food would have to meet.



Mainstream progress in school food

Universal free School Meals: No

Fruit and Vegetable requirements primary school: At least 1 portion of vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements primary school: Red meat must be served on at least 2 days a week, maximum 3 days a week. Meat products may be served once a week maximum.

Fruit and Vegetable requirements secondary school: At least 1 portion of vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements secondary school: Red meat must be served on at least 3 days a week, maximum 4 days. Meat products may be served twice a week maximum.

There is no universal free school meal provision in Northern Ireland, and free meals are determined on a means-tested basis.

Overarching policy on school food is set by the [Food in Schools Policy 'Healthy Food for Healthy Outcomes'](#) launched in 2013, however the [Nutritional Standards](#) for school food have not been updated since 2008. These standards were reviewed, including a public consultation in 2020, and a [draft revision](#) has been published. The update would see an increase in the amount of fruit and vegetables required. The updated standards are yet to come into force due to a lack of funding and the deadlock in Stormont.



Rebalance agricultural policy towards plant production and better meat and dairy

Agriculture Act: No

In response to the UK Agriculture Bill and devolved responsibility, DAERA set an “environmentally sustainable agricultural industry” as one out of four key outcomes and long-term goals. The [2022 Future Agricultural Policy Framework Portfolio](#) sets the way forward for NI agricultural policy following the UK’s exit from the European Union. The framework has been developed as a Foundation Programme under the umbrella of the developing [Green Growth Strategy for Northern Ireland](#). Based on consultation, DAERA has structured the framework on four main outcomes: increased productivity, environmental sustainability, improved resilience, and responsive supply chains.

Further [consultation](#) on policy proposals developed from the Framework resulted in the publication of 54 policy decisions on the [Future of Agricultural Policy for NI](#). Included within this is the provision of a Farm Sustainability Payment, designed to take over from the CAP Basic Payment Scheme as an area based, safety net payment to all farms enrolled in the scheme. Also included is a ‘Beef sustainability package’ aimed at increasing productivity and reducing emissions through increased efficiency; a ‘Farming with Nature Package’ aimed at reversing biodiversity loss by creating and restoring habitats; and a host of ‘Farming for Carbon measures’ to encourage lower carbon emission farming practices.

In June 2022, the NI Assembly passed the [Climate Change Act \(Northern Ireland\)](#), the last of the UK nations to do so. The Act requires the development of 5-year Carbon Budgets and corresponding Climate Action Plans to meet net zero GHG emissions by 2050. The [Consultation](#), released in mid 2023, proposes emissions reduction of 48% by 2030, with Carbon Budget 1 2023-2027 set at a level which sees a 33% average annual reduction. Among many actions recommended by the [Committee on Climate Change](#), meeting this target would require a reduction in livestock numbers of almost a third, the widespread adoption of low-carbon farming practices and increased farm productivity. In the [Consultation](#), DAERA states that the Future Agricultural Policy Programme can deliver in line with the emissions reductions in the CCC advice pathway for the agriculture sector, over 2023-2027. This means that agricultural emission reductions in Carbon Budget 1 will be achieved without reductions in the numbers of breeding animals but with a focus on reducing the number of older, non-breeding animals on-farm through improvements in animal productivity. It is proposed that the [Beef Sustainability Package](#) and a [Ruminant Genetics Programme](#) will play a major part in this increased efficiency.



Develop an integrated land-use plan

Land use strategy: No

Afforestation targets: 18 million trees by 2030 creating 9000 ha of woodland

Despite the publication of the Climate Change Act (NI) and the Green Growth Strategy for NI, there is currently no integrated land use strategy for NI, nor is one under development. The [Future Agricultural Policy Decisions for NI](#) states that DAERA will develop a land use policy during the next mandate, but provides no further details.

To reach net zero through the CCC's Balance Pathway, Land Use and Land Use Change and Forestry in NI is required to achieve a net emissions reduction of 97% by 2050 compared to 1990 baseline levels. The pathway sees significant increases in hedgerow creation and agroforestry, for which DAERA plans to use as a guideline for the development of the 'Farming With Nature' package of Future Agricultural Policy. However, in light of significant actions recommended by the CCC, the [Kendal review](#) of the NI agri food sector highlights the absence of an overarching land use strategy as a serious barrier to food system transformation and wider climate goals.

Afforestation goals are set within the DEARA Forests for our Future programme and target the creation of 9000 ha of new woodland through the planting of 18 million trees by 2023. Thus far, DEARA has allocated [£6.4 million](#) of grant aid to support over [100 landowners](#) to plant all types of woodland, creating over [850 ha](#) of new woodland.

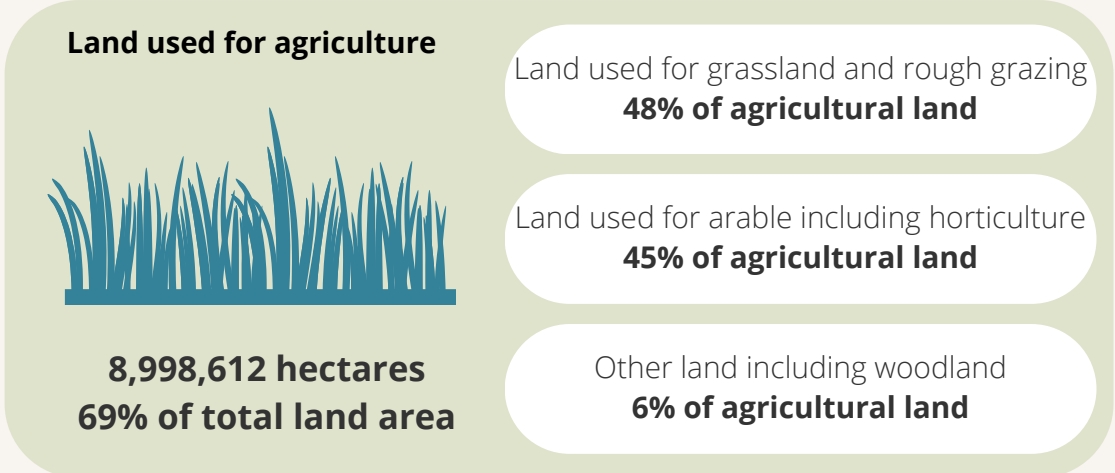
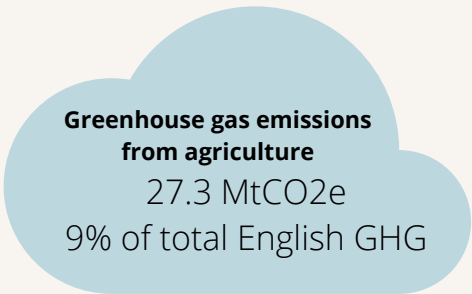
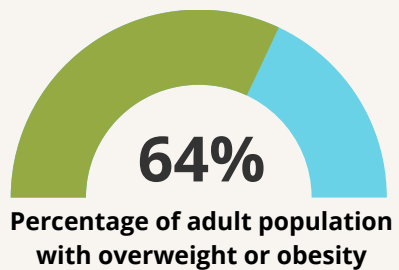
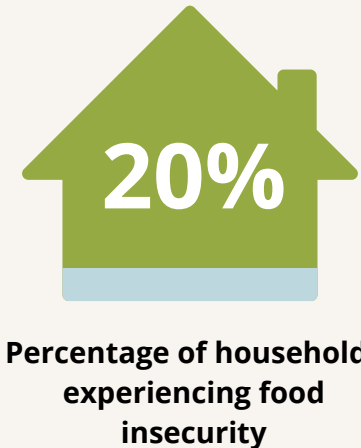
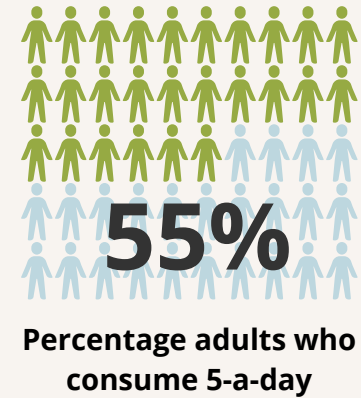
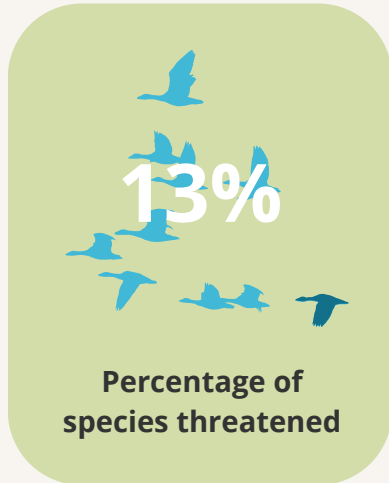
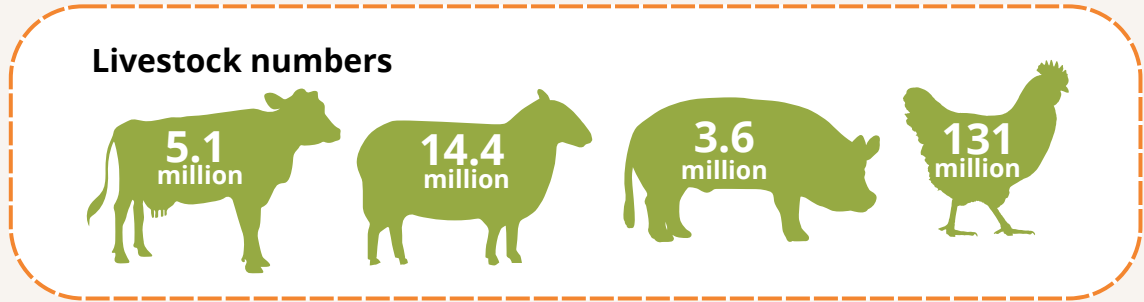
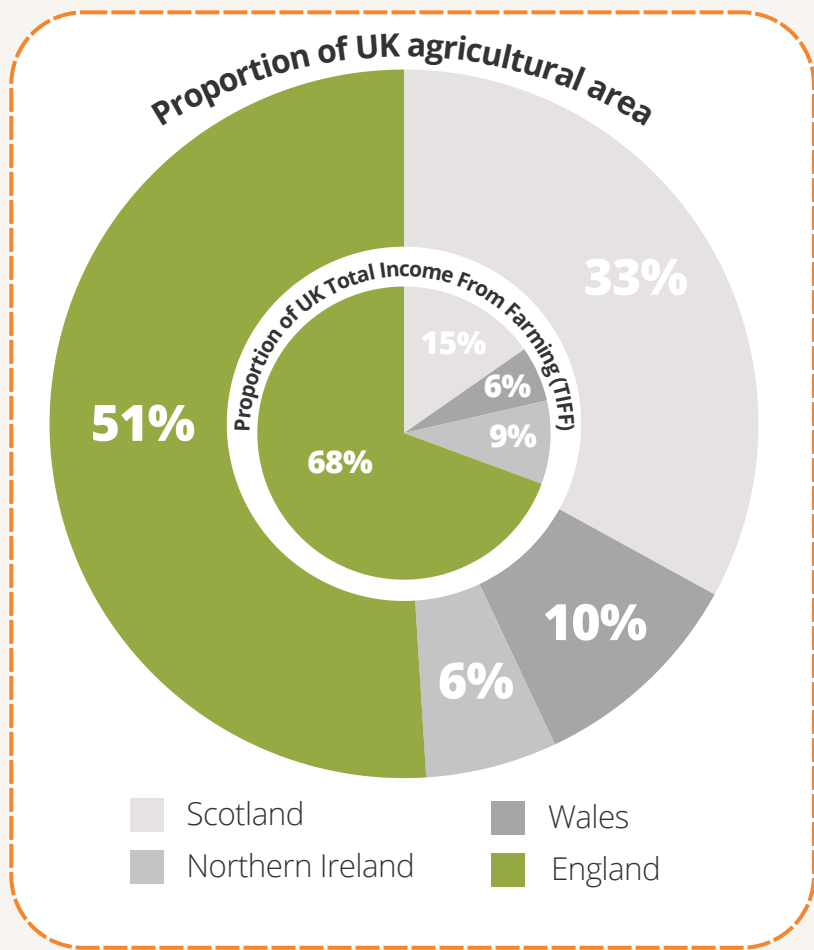
England

Summary

The Food Strategy White Paper has done little to increase the health and sustainability of diets in England. While some progress has been made to update food buying standards for public procurement, transitioning to less and better meat and dairy makes few, if any, appearances in school food standards or dietary guidelines. In theory the Environmental Land Management Schemes present an exciting opportunity for nature friendly agriculture in England; if facilitated correctly significant progress could be made on better meat and dairy. However, the current rollout of the scheme has seen confusion, unequal benefits for farmers and insufficient allocation of resources and funding. To compound this, the failure to implement the National Food Strategy alongside no land-use plan, and missing targets for sustainable diets in climate change policy, poses a risk that the potential benefits of ELMs will not be realised. In fact, the lack of integration between supply side and demand side policies in England stands as a significant barrier to the creation of an enabling environment for sustainable and healthy diets.



The food system in England



Food policy in England



Deliver a cross-departmental food and farming strategy

National Food Strategy: In-part

Local Food Strategy: No

In June 2022, the UK Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) published its [Food Strategy White Paper](#) for England in response to the independent review, [the National Food Strategy](#), by its lead food adviser, Henry Dimbleby.

Welcome proposed measures being taken forward are the development of a new land use framework (although heavily delayed), a call for evidence on using feed additives to reduce methane emissions and the launch of the [Food Data Transparency Partnership](#). The strategy's focus on alternative protein innovation as an opportunity for growth is another positive step, although limited in ambition. However, the UK Government's Food Strategy stops short of adopting the ambitious evidence-based policies proposed in the review, focussing instead on further consultation and technology reliant fixes.

Overall, the Food Strategy leaves critical areas untouched, from addressing inadequate access to healthy food, to childhood obesity. It is unclear what the long term impact may be, as the strategy lacks binding commitments or targets, or a robust framework that a Food Bill would have provided to enshrine recommendations into law.



Sustainable and healthy dietary guidelines underpin all policy development

Sustainable diets definition: No definition provided in government strategy
Guidelines on red and processed meat intake: 70g is advised, maximum should not exceed 90g. There is no official recommendation on white meat consumption.

Dietary policy in England is under the remit of the UK's Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) and utilises the Eatwell Guide as the basis for dietary guidelines.

England does not have a definition of a sustainable diet within, or underpinning, policies. Beyond the Eatwell Guide, sustainable and healthy diets are afforded little consideration in policy development. The National Food Strategy shied away from driving reductions in meat consumption and ensuring that public policy supported a transition to sustainable diets. Dietary focus is still rooted in meeting basic nutrition recommendations.

There is no specific requirement to vet policies on the impact they would have on access to a 'sustainable and healthy diet'. Beyond public health policy, as set out in [Public Health England 2020-2025 strategy](#), healthy diets are afforded little consideration in policy development.



Normalise sustainable diets through public procurement

Public procurement strategy for domestic supply: Proposed 50% procurement from local sources

Government Buying Standards for Food and Catering Services (GBSF) are mandatory for NHS England hospitals, and other contracting authorities (e.g. schools, universities, local authorities) are strongly recommended to apply these standards. In mid-2023, the UK's largest public procurement organisation, the Crown Commercial Service, launched 'Buying Better Food and Drink'. This agreement aims to support sustainability, food quality and welfare standards by allowing small and medium sized enterprises to access government contracts which meet the GBSF. It also aims to cut food and packaging waste, reduce food miles, invest in local communities and improve equality and diversity, and reduce modern slavery risks. The initial contract value is set at £100 million over a 4 year lifespan, a relatively small proportion of England's yearly food procurement spend. The scheme is set to be reviewed after the initial 4 year trail.

As part of the Food Strategy, in 2022 a consultation on updates to the GBSF was published. The proposed updates focus on three areas: Food sourcing, healthy and sustainable menu choices, and sustainable catering services. Included within these categories are the requirements for at least 50% food spend to be on food produced locally and at least 20% of spend to be on food certified to higher environmental production standards, for example certified LEAF or organic. A reduction of meat intake is disappointingly absent from changes to dietary guidelines or menu choices, and whilst an important tool, local food does not always equate to sustainable or healthy food.

Regardless of the outcome of the consultation, in the absence of binding commitments or extra funding for contracting authorities not bound to the GFBS, e.g. schools, universities and local authorities, the impact this will have is unclear.



Mainstream progress in school food

Universal free School Meals: Reception, year 1 & 2

Fruit and Vegetable requirements primary school: At least 1 portion of vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements primary school: Red meat or poultry must be served on at least 3 days a week, no maximum. Meat products may be served once a week maximum.

Fruit and Vegetable requirements secondary school: At least 1 portion of vegetables and 1 portion of fruit with each meal

Meat requirements secondary school: Red meat or poultry must be served on at least 3 days a week. Meat products may be served twice a week maximum.

UFSM are available for all primary school pupils for the first three years. However, unlike in Scotland and Wales, no commitments have been made to expand UFSM to other school age pupils.

School food standards in England require more meat dishes and less fruit and vegetables than other UK nations, and are the only standards in the UK to not impose a maximum meat serving.

To some degree the UK Government has recognised the poor diet related health outcomes for children in England, implementing schemes such as Better Health, Healthier Families. However, the current school food standards show a lack of joined-up thinking, failing to capture the role that school food can play in the provision of a healthy and sustainable diet.

Compliance with the Standards is poorly monitored; only 25% of state schools in England are known to be complying. The UK Government's current policy priority is ensuring that School Food Standards are being complied with, particularly meeting the nutritional recommendations for children, given the poor compliance rates at present. A compliance pilot is underway across 18 local authorities across England as part of the levelling-up agenda. Run by the Food Standards Agency and the Department for Education, the key aim of this pilot is to identify and test new approaches to support schools across England to comply with the existing School Food Standards.





Rebalance agricultural policy towards plant production and better meat and dairy

Agricultural Policy: Yes

As part of the [Agricultural Transition Plan](#) 2021-2027, untargeted, area based Direct Payments of the EU's CAP will be phased out and instead grants and ongoing subsidy payments will be offered to support on-farm productivity, environmental outcomes and animal welfare. The aim of these future payments will be to improve farm productivity, adopt innovative technology and practices and to improve climate, environment and animal health and welfare. Despite detailing how the Transition Plan fits in with [The 25 year Environment Plan](#) and Net-Zero climate adaptation plans, no mention of rebalancing agricultural policy toward plant production, or reducing livestock numbers is made.

The centrepiece of new agricultural policy for England is the [Environmental Land Management scheme](#) (ELMs) which is replacing the EU's CAP subsidies and consists of the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI), Countryside Stewardship (CS), and Landscape Recovery. Through ELMs, farmers are paid to provide 'public goods', including improved water quality, biodiversity, climate change mitigation and animal health and welfare. If implemented correctly, with sufficient funding and investment into social capital for farmers, ELMs has the potential to shift agriculture in England towards the production of better meat and dairy. However, ELMs is currently failing to deliver on these goals and has been widely criticised on the basis of insufficient allocation of funds, uneven benefits between farm types and locations, and lack of support offered to farmers. Loud calls have been made for improvements to the scheme.

The Food Strategy does not contain measures to rebalance agricultural production in England towards more plants. Despite recommendations from the Climate Change Committee (CCC), there is no explicit aim to reduce meat and dairy production, instead there is a focus on investment and innovation to limit the environmental consequences of meat-heavy agriculture. This approach is shared in the [Net-Zero Strategy](#), [Carbon Budget Delivery Plan](#), and the [Third National Adaptation Program](#) which outlines the Government's Agricultural Action Plan. The [Carbon Budget Delivery Plan](#) leans heavily on both efficiency based fixes, such as methane suppressing feed products, and nature based solutions, such as improving soil health. Development of sustainable protein production is listed as a policy which 'could' be delivered. Equally the Third National Adaptation Program champions ELMs, but makes no reference to increasing plant production, or reducing livestock production or consumption. The failure to mention sustainable diets in agricultural and climate transition plans displays a lack of consideration as to how the benefits of better meat and dairy produced under ELMs can be incorporated into the whole food system.

A Horticulture Strategy for England was committed to in the 2022 UK Government Food Strategy, but then revoked in 2023 which was seen by many as a missed opportunity in enabling dietary reform and wider economic benefits. The need for a horticulture growth plan was reiterated in the House of Lords Horticultural Sector Committee's 2023 [report](#).



Develop an integrated land-use plan

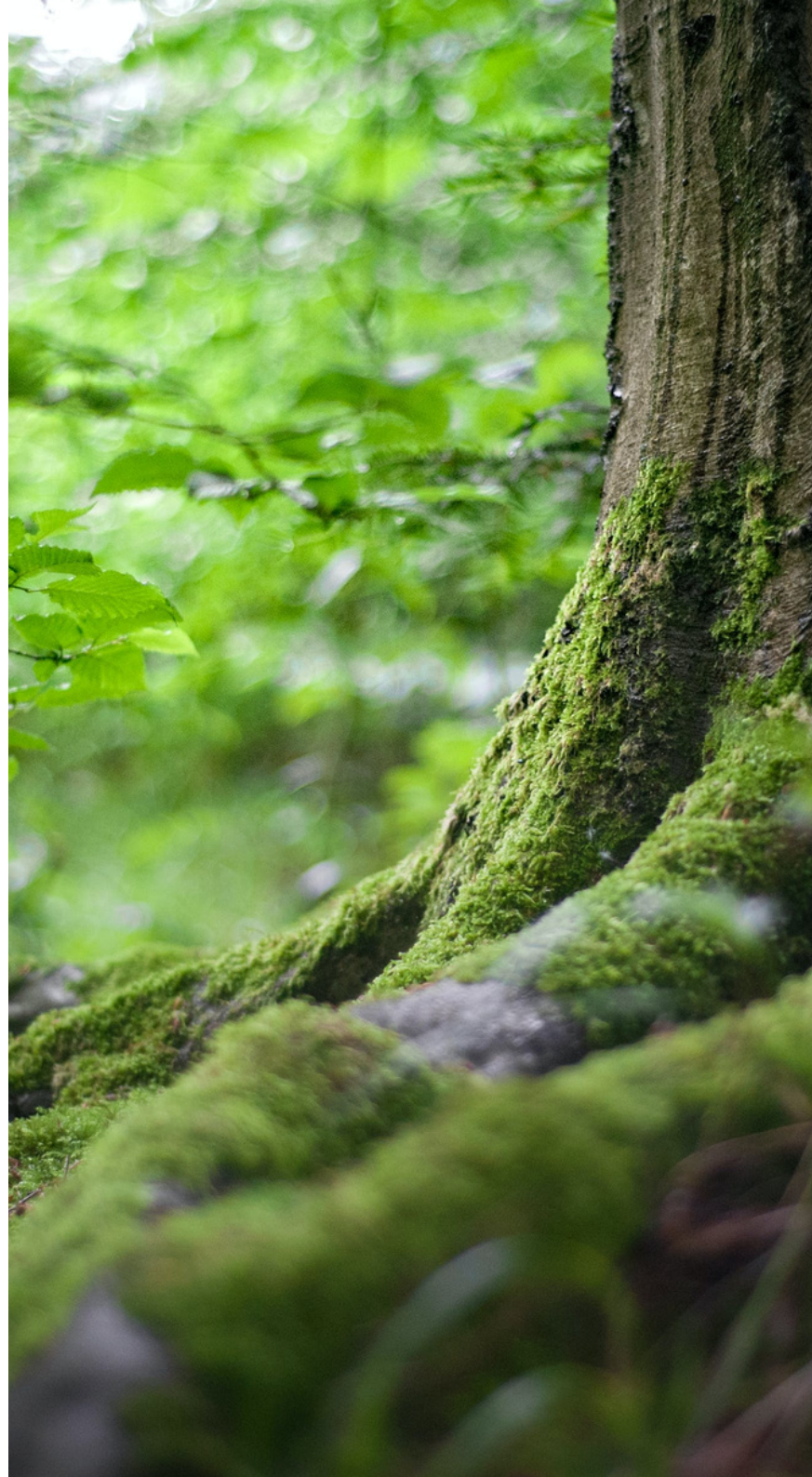
Land use strategy: No

Afforestation targets: UK target of 30,000 ha by 2025, England to treble tree planting rate

The UK Government's National Food Strategy acknowledges the role of land use change in meeting net-zero targets, and requires DEFRA to publish a land use framework in 2023, which it failed to do. Alongside the dropping of the horticultural strategy in 2023, there is a lack of policy related to reforming land use as part of food system reform

ELMs is the driver by which the Government is proposing to balance the competing pressures and realise the win-wins of food production and environmental goals. Included within the three schemes are various incentives to protect the ecosystems most valuable in their contribution to nature, for example peatland and woodland. The UK Government has not yet set out a definitive target for England's contribution to the UK ambition of 30,000 ha of woodland by 2025, however it has committed to treble the rate of tree planting in England by 2025. The Tree Planting Action Plan highlights the significant contribution that agroforestry can make to meeting this target, and wider environmental goals.

The National Land Data Programme has conducted pilot schemes to support the design and development of a local land use framework and develop the land use dialogue between policy makers, land use modellers, government and academia. The aim is to explore and demonstrate how data and modelling can better support land use decision making at different scales in the UK. The findings and recommendations have been published in Finding Common Ground and are due to be used to inform the upcoming Land Use Framework, although that has been heavily delayed.



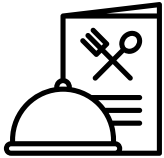
Summary



Devolution is the key to unlocking UK food system reform



Healthy and sustainable diets are out of sync in the nations, and policy is doing little to help



Food strategies are needed to realign all aspects of the food system

Eating Better, through this report, aims to provide a springboard for further engagement with food and farming organisations across the four nations of the UK to catalyse efforts in bringing about more ambitious changes to reforming our diets. By assessing against our roadmap, the Eating Better alliance and wider stakeholders can celebrate progress and identify areas of improvement across the UK. There is real momentum at a grassroots level in delivering real, tangible change to the types of food we are producing and eating in the UK. If done correctly, government policy, through the roadmap actions assessed in this report, has the potential to play a vital role in supporting those efforts and creating a coordinated effort at governmental level.

Appendix

Definitions

Percentage of UK agricultural area	<u>Total agriculture area</u> (excluding common ground) per nation as a percentage of <u>total agricultural land</u> (excluding common ground) in the UK.
<u>Total income from farming</u> .(TIFE)	The total profit from all farming businesses on a calendar year basis. It measures the return to all entrepreneurs for their management, labour and capital invested.
<u>Land used for agriculture</u>	The area of land on agricultural holdings in each nation of the UK. This includes all sole rights land including, planted, fallow and set aside arable land, temporary grassland, permanent grassland, sole right rough grazing, and other land. Excludes common ground.
<u>Land used for grassland and rough grazing</u>	Temporary grassland/ grass under 5 years, permanent grassland/ grass over 5 years, and rough sole right grassland. Excludes common grazing.
<u>Land used for arable including horticulture</u>	All arable land including fallow, set aside and planted. Includes horticulture (vegetables and fruit grown in the open, hardy nursery stock and glasshouse).
<u>Other land including woodland</u>	On farm woodland, buildings and on-farm land not used for agricultural purposes.
<u>Total number cows</u>	All cows and calves.
<u>Total number sheep</u>	All sheep and lambs.
<u>Total number pigs</u>	All pigs and piglets.

<u>Total number poultry</u>	All chickens (hens, pullets, breeding fowl, broilers), turkeys, geese, ducks and other fowl. A 'pullet' is a young hen that is under 1 years of age, and has not started laying eggs yet. A broiler is any chicken that is bred and raised specifically for meat production.
<u>Percentage of species threatened</u>	Percentage of species which fall under the IUCN Red List Categories of Vulnerable, Endangered, and Critically endangered, classifying them as being threatened with extinction from Great Britain. For methods see State of Nature report 2023.
Percentage of households experiencing food insecurity	Percentage of respondents to the <u>Food and You</u> survey (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) and the <u>Trussell Trust Hunger in Scotland</u> survey (Scotland) that were classified as having 'low' or 'very low' food security. Where <u>low food security</u> is characterised by reductions in dietary quality and variety, and <u>very low food security</u> is characterised by disruptions in eating patterns and a reduced food intake.
<u>Percentage of adult population with overweight or obesity</u>	Percentage of the adult (16 years of age or above) population living with obesity or overweight, where obesity is defined as having a Body Mass Index (BMI) 30 or above, and overweight is defined as having a BMI between 25-30.
<u>Percentage adults who consume 5-a-day</u>	Adults refer to individuals over 16 years of age, and a portion of fruit is defined as 80g of fruit or vegetable.
<u>Meat product</u>	"Processed products resulting from the processing of meat or from the further processing of such processed products, so that the cut surface shows that the product no longer has the characteristics of fresh meat" Retained EU Regulation 853/2004. Can include but is not limited to burgers, sausages and any shaped or coated meat based product eg chicken nuggets and goujons.

Appendix

Data

Indicator	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	England
Percentage of UK agricultural area	<u>33%</u>	<u>10%</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>51%</u>
Percentage of UK total income from farming	<u>15%</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>9%</u>	<u>68%</u>
Total income from farming (£)	<u>791,000,000</u>	<u>322,000,000</u>	<u>456,000,000</u>	<u>3,552,000,000</u>
Land used for agriculture (ha)	<u>5,329,957</u>	<u>1,767,700</u>	<u>1,042,318</u>	<u>8,998,612</u>
Percentage of total land used for agriculture	<u>69%</u>	<u>90%</u>	<u>75%</u>	<u>69%</u>
Percentage of agricultural land used for grassland and rough grazing	<u>78%</u>	<u>85%</u>	<u>92%</u>	<u>48%</u>
Percentage of agricultural land used for arable incl. horticulture	<u>10%</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>45%</u>
Percentage of agricultural land used for other land including woodland	<u>12%</u>	<u>9%</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>6%</u>
Number of cows	<u>1.68 million</u>	<u>1.1 million</u>	<u>1.7 million</u>	<u>5.1 million</u>
Number of sheep	<u>6.61 million</u>	<u>8.69 million</u>	<u>2 million</u>	<u>14.4 million</u>
Number of poultry	<u>11.7 million</u>	<u>10.3 million</u>	<u>25.6 million</u>	<u>131 million</u>
Number of pigs	<u>344,000</u>	<u>24,800</u>	<u>682,339</u>	<u>3.6 million</u>
GHG emissions from agriculture (MtCO ₂ e)	<u>7.8</u>	<u>5.5</u>	<u>6.2</u>	<u>27.3</u>
Percentage of species threatened	<u>11%</u>	<u>18%</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>13%</u>
Percentage of total GHG from agriculture	<u>19%</u>	<u>16%</u>	<u>28%</u>	<u>9%</u>
Percentage of households experiencing food insecurity:	<u>17%</u>	<u>26%</u>	<u>22%</u>	<u>20%</u>
Percentage of adult population with overweight or obesity	<u>67%</u>	<u>61%</u>	<u>65%</u>	<u>64%</u>
Percentage of adults who consume 5 a day	<u>21%</u>	<u>29%</u>	<u>47%</u>	<u>55%</u>

Appendix

References

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[Eating Better](#) is a movement for change of sixty organisations working to accelerate the transition from producing and eating too much meat and dairy to a fairer, healthier and more sustainable food system that is better the environment, our health, for land use, animal welfare and social justice.