

# Farm Profitability Review Recommendations

## Valuing food and farming

- 1 and 2: measure the value of primary and secondary processing in GDP and reassess the full value of farming
- 3: Include natural capital national accounting framework and in the assessment of the UK economy

## Resilience and viability

- 4: provide a scheme for those that have not accessed SFI previously, focussed on resilience options
- 5: assess the most cost-effective way to deliver the SFI
- 6: apply the 'Active Farmer Principle' to schemes to ensure the Farming Budget only goes to farmers

## SOILSHOT + NATURE

- 7 and 12: establish 'SOILSHOT + NATURE taskforce' for a new green financing funding stream, metrics for insetting and offsetting, and a high integrity option in BSI standards
- 8 and 9: develop consistent metrics for insetting to ensure Scope 3 agreements can be equitable and high integrity, and insetting and offsetting for nature outcomes
- 10 and 32: mandate nature reporting for corporate businesses in the UK via TNFD
- 11: establish a 'Whole Farm Approach' to building soil health, restoring fertility, cutting emissions and increasing resilience

## Partnership approach

- 13-15: establish the 'Great British FARM Advisory Board' (GBFAB) to increase and track progress of sales of British raw ingredients across the 4 markets, including growing exports by 30% by 2030

- 16: ensure the 'Circular Economy' is considered at all levels of farming policy, to cut costs and increase revenue for farmers

### British brand

- 17 and 19: support Trade & Agriculture Commission's (TAC) recommendations on global standards and ensure GBFAB engages with TAC to understand implications of trade deals on market share of British raw ingredients
- 18: protect Agriculture and Food as 'sensitive sectors', as set out in the UK Trade Strategy
- 20: ensure British branding is underpinned by assurance by updating the retailers' voluntary principles and extending to out-of-home

### Supply chain fairness

- 21: reduce unfair supply chain practices by extending the remit of GSCOP and GCA, bringing both within Defra, and enshrining the 'Golden Rules' in law
- 22: establish an enhanced market monitoring function to bring together data on prices across the supply chain

### English food culture

- 23: update 'Buying Standards for Food and Catering Services' to cover all sectors to set consistent standards on provenance and embedding dynamic procurement
- 24: establish 'Food and Drink England' for closer relations with farmers and local government and to champion English food producers and our national food culture

### Sustainable FARM Service

- 25: develop the Sustainable FARM Service, for a more simple and consolidated system for technical advice, like Teagasc in Ireland
- 26 and 27: develop a coordinated approach, involving BBSRC, Innovate UK and industry, for goal-oriented, scaled and sectoral priorities for commercial research bids

### People, labour and skills

- 28: include agriculture in STEM education and encourage careers in food and farming, through the Food Strategy
- 29: establish 'Agri-Growth Hubs' as collaborative farmer networks in regions or river basins
- 30: unlock growth by government working with Agri-Growth Hubs and FED Groups to build relationships between farmers and local authorities
- 31: establish further voluntary groups across 93 catchments in England working with farmer led voluntary Farm Environmental Delivery Groups (FED Groups)
- 33: implement the recommendations from John Shropshire's review into labour shortages in the food supply chain
- 34: extend the Seasonal Worker Visa Scheme to nine months to cover the whole season

### Tenancy

- 35: consider giving the Commissioner for the Tenant Farming Sector statutory powers (like the GCA and GSCOP) and encourage long term tenancies through review of key tax reliefs

### Tax incentives, grants and investment

- 36: consider if farm businesses operating as sole traders or partnerships should be eligible to claim full expensing allowances on plant and machinery
- 37: assess whether farm businesses are able to benefit from capital allowances as intended and if tax relief meets the specific circumstances of farmers
- 38: develop a soft loans offer at 0% interest through the British Business Bank for new entrants, young farmers and business expansion to scale farm businesses
- 39: target and extend Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) funding to Agri-Growth Hubs
- 40: review the current model for grant delivery to reduce the cost burden on farmers and streamline approval
- 41: make productivity funding open to more farmers and growers with the level of funding proportionate to the size of business

## Planning

- 42 and 44-46: Develop a 'National Planning for Food Infrastructure Blueprint' that is implemented through the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), with enough resource in the Planning Inspectorate, to ensure food production is prioritised in the planning system and removes duplication in implementing regulation by Defra Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs)
- 43: remove muck/slurry spreading requirements from planning process where it's duplicative to pre-existing permitting
- 47: extend the PDR allowance beyond 1000 metres squared for livestock buildings to achieve better animal welfare and environment outcomes

## Energy and connectivity

- 48: ensure extended PDRs for on-farm wind turbines and reservoirs are made available for farm businesses
- 49: ensure District Network Operators are driving uptake of existing technology in rural areas to improve connectivity and infrastructure

## Water

- 50 and 52: consider farm businesses and embedding the Agri-Growth hubs and the FED Groups when implementing the Cunliffe review recommendations
- 51: embed an evidence-led partnership approach with the farming industry where water abstraction for food production is needed
- 53: Ensure that extended PDRs for on farm reservoirs are made available

## Regulation

- 54: undertake a review of regulation to assess its effectiveness and cost on agriculture
- 55 and 56: In line with the Corry Review, consider reforming regulation to make it outcomes focussed, risk (rather than hazards) based, with fit for purpose approvals for biological crop protection; and ensure regulators are considering cost of compliance on farms
- 57: minimise the bureaucracy and resulting cost of FSA official controls for small abattoirs