



What food supply chain businesses need from the next Scottish Government

Productivity | Sustainability | Competitiveness

How we support Scottish food supply chains

The Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC) represents businesses across key sectors within the supply chains that feed the nation.

We represent the businesses that supply Scottish farmers, growers and the aquaculture sector with the animal feed, fertiliser, seed, crop protection products and advice services that are essential to producing food.

We also represent the companies that trade crops and agricultural commodities nationally and globally,

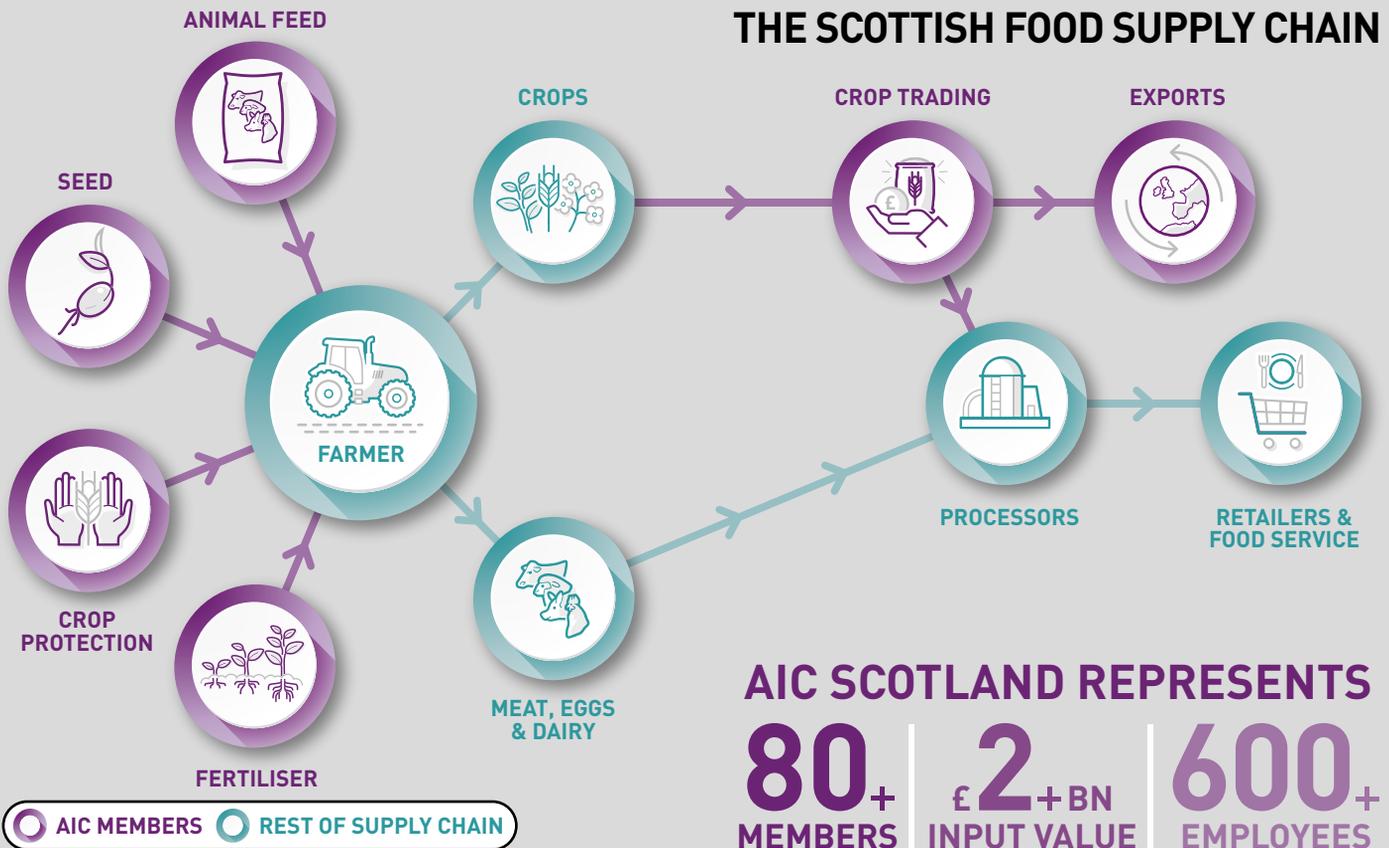
underpinning three of Scotland's major exports in whisky, salmon and Scotch beef.

AIC is a UK-wide voice for the businesses providing the products, services and trade assurance schemes that are vital for the secure supply of, and cast-iron confidence in, our country's food, drink, and animal feed. We are also active members of European trade associations and closely follow European and international policy issues.

We are a recognised, knowledgeable and respected partner of the Scottish Government, Ministers, Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) and Peers across all parties. We work collaboratively with stakeholders to help shape policy that supports a productive, sustainable, and competitive future for our food supply.



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Key Facts and Figures

AIC has over **80 full** and **associate Member** businesses operating across Scotland



The agri-food supply input value in Scotland is over **£2 billion**



Over **600** people employed by AIC Scotland Member businesses in the UK



£19 billion: Turnover of the food and drink sector in Scotland



123,000 people are employed across the food and drink supply chain in Scotland



Over **66,000** people are employed on agricultural holdings in Scotland



* sources: AIC membership facts and figures
www.gov.scot
www.foodanddrink.scot

AIC Scotland's Election Priorities

1 Sustainable Scottish food strategy

A focus on delivering the Scottish Government's "High Quality Food Production" objective, backed by measurable growth targets and further development of food and drink policy through the Food Commission and the Good Food Nation Plan, working closely with industry partners and Scotland Food and Drink.

2 Long-term sector stability

A commitment to long-term stability through a ring-fenced, multi-annual agricultural budget, with a real-terms increase on the current £660m to support rising costs and delivery expectations. Scotland's farming sector is central to delivering for food security, climate, nature and rural jobs.

3 Targeted agri-food investment

Support for development and investment across the supply chain to meet Climate Change Plan targets, underpinned by clear, measurable objectives and effective baselining. This includes recognition of the vital contribution AIC Members make in tackling climate and biodiversity challenges.

4 Science-led innovation

Increased investment in relevant, industry focused R&D through the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (ENRA) Research Programme and other bodies, to provide practical, scalable solutions that support climate-and nature-friendly food production on an economically sustainable basis.

5 Recognition of AIC Standards

Full recognition of AIC's supply assurance schemes and professional registers, which reinforce food safety, customer confidence and the provision of trusted, technically robust advice to farmers and supply-chain stakeholders.

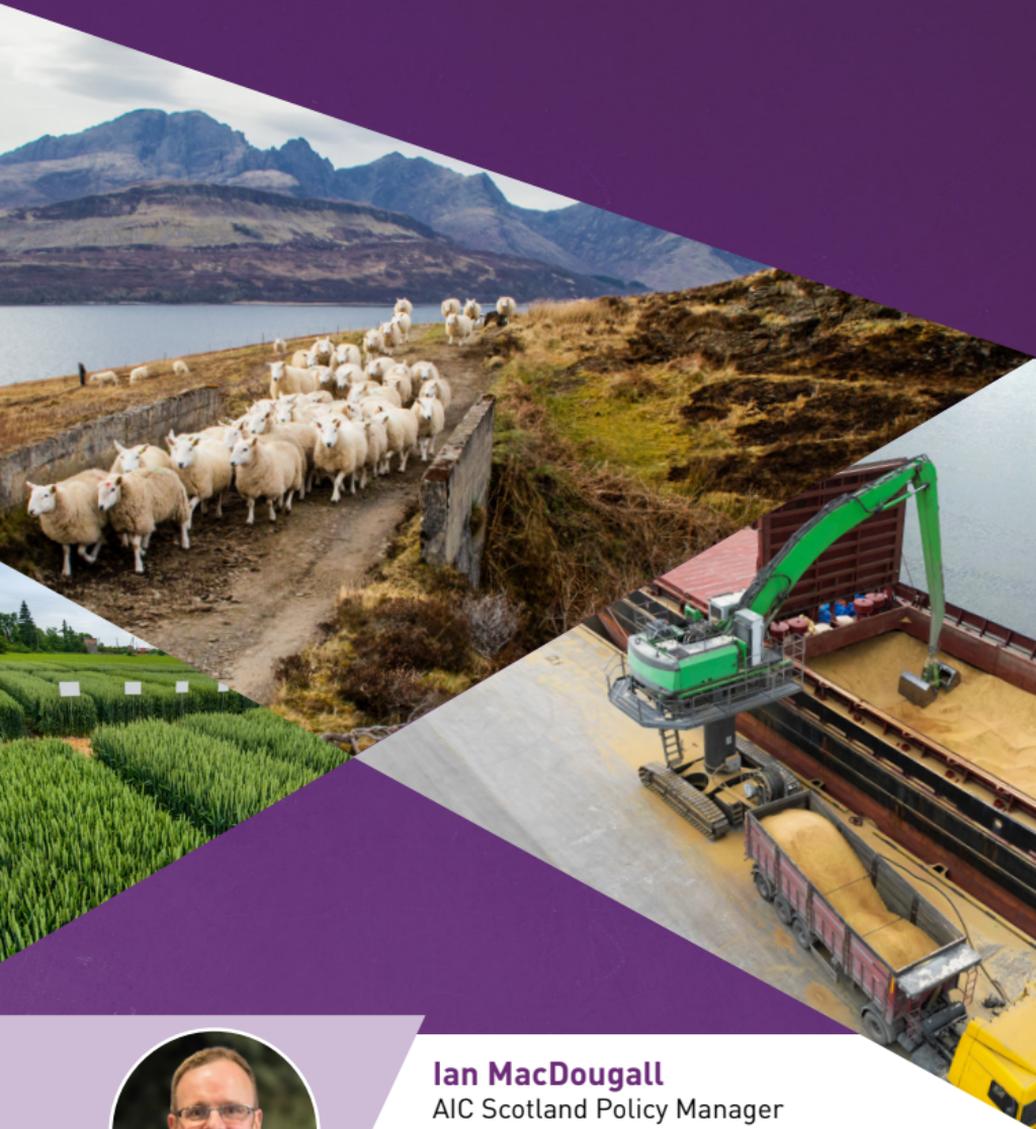
6 Agri-food skills, education and pathways

Investment in skills and education to build an effective, resilient workforce, working with AIC Members to engage educators, students and the wider workforce. Highlighting knowledge and transferable skills will help support rewarding careers across the agri food supply chain.

How can AIC Scotland help with these priorities?

Our Scottish Members and experienced team of Policy and Technical Managers can facilitate and support with knowledgeable engagement amongst political and industry stakeholders within Scotland, the UK and internationally.

Please get in touch to
discuss our manifesto



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