

# Newsletter – October 2024

## Contents

Government	1
Food safety	2
Health and wellbeing	5
Food labelling and composition	7
Environment and sustainability	7
Agriculture	8
Groceries supply chain	9
Plant protection products	10
Trade	11
Partners	12
PPA committee meeting dates 2024	12
PPA circulars issued in October 2024	13
Upcoming events	15
Industry meetings	16
Documents to note	16
Current consultations	19

## Government

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



### Budget 2024

HM Treasury

On 30 October, the Chancellor Rachel Reeves delivered the [first budget](#) of the current Labour Government, which aims to raise £40bn in taxes.

Several tax rises were announced, including employers' National Insurance, whilst Income Tax and Fuel Duty have been frozen until 2028-29 and 2026 respectively. VAT will also remain unchanged. The main rate of corporation tax paid by businesses on taxable profits over £250,000 is also set to stay at 25%. Employment allowance is set to increase from £5,000 to £10,500. With regards to food taxes, the Government is set to review the Soft Drinks Industry Levy (SDIL) thresholds and will consider extending it to milk-based beverages.



### New Government Industrial Strategy green paper

Department for  
Business & Trade

Ahead of the [International Investment Summit](#) on 24 October, the Chancellor and Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds launched the new industrial strategy green paper titled '[Invest 2035: The UK's modern industrial strategy](#)', setting out the government's approach on a 10-year plan focussed on tackling barriers to growth.

The Department of Business and Trade (DBT) is [consulting](#) on the proposals until 24 November. The Government intends to launch the new Strategy in the Spring 2025.



### Government unveils Employment Rights Bill

Department for  
Business & Trade

The UK Government unveiled the [Employment Rights Bill](#) on 10 October, which sets out to outlaw zero-hour contracts and fire and rehire practices, while establishing rights to bereavement and parental leave from day one.



Department for  
Business & Trade

### Make Work Pay

The UK Government has launched a suite of consultations and documents from 'Make Work Pay' - a government initiative on labour market reform. The plan is a core part of the Government's mission to grow the economy, raise living standards and create opportunities.

Three consultations were published on 21 October: '[Making Work Pay: collective redundancy and fire and rehire](#)', '[Making Work Pay: creating a modern framework for industrial relations](#)' and '[Making Work Pay: the application of zero hours contracts measures to agency workers](#)', all closing on 2 December.



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

### Defra regulatory review

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) has announced an [internal review into the regulation and regulators at Defra](#), led by economist Dan Corry. The review will examine the inherited regulatory landscape and develop recommendations to ensure that regulation drives economic growth while protecting the environment. The review is part of wider work to position Defra as an economic growth department.



HM Revenue  
& Customs

### Plastic Packaging Tax Rate change

On 30 October the Chancellor announced in the Budget that the rate of Plastic Packaging Tax (PPT) will increase in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The new rate of PPT will be £223.69 per tonne and will apply to plastic packaging containing less than 30% recycled plastic that is manufactured and imported into the UK from 1 April 2025. The rate has been updated on GOV.UK [here](#).



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

### Plastic Packaging Tax: Mass Balance Approach (MBA) consultation update

Alongside the Budget, the Government Response to the consultation on: 'Plastic Packaging Tax - chemical recycling and adoption of a mass balance approach' has been published. The Government Response confirms that an MBA will be allowed to account for chemically recycled plastic for the purposes of PPT from a future date to be determined. It also confirms that at the same time the changes for MBA are introduced, pre-consumer waste will no longer be classified as recycled plastic for the purpose of PPT. The exemption for the immediate packaging of licensed human medicines will remain in place for the foreseeable future.



### Scottish Good Food Nation Plan consultation analysis published

On 27 September the Scottish Government (SG) published its [analysis of the consultation on the Scottish Good Food National \(GFN\) Plan](#), held between January and April 2024. The key recurring themes were objectivity of the plans and resources for implementation.

The SG will now consider the responses received and review the national GFN Plan accordingly. It will then be scrutinised by the Scottish Parliament and further reconsidered by the SG before the final GFN is published.

## Food safety

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



FSA publishes survey on small and micro FBOs

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Chair: John Sedgwick Director General: Andrew Curtis Deputy Director General: Vanessa Richardson

On 23 October, the Food Standards Agency (FSA) published wave 4 of the '[Small and Micro FBO \(Food Business Operator\) Tracking Survey](#)'.

The survey indicates that most small and micro FBOs were confident the FSA can be trusted (94%), that food standards and regulations are effective at protecting the public from food-related risks (95%), and that they felt informed about regulations affecting their businesses (85%). However, 71% of FBOs are most concerned about changes to consumer behaviour and the cost of living.



### **FSA update on mustard contamination with peanuts**

On 18 October the FSA issued an [update](#) on their investigations on the incident of contamination of mustard ingredients with undeclared peanut, confirming that only products supplied by FGS Ingredients Ltd. containing mustard were affected. As a result, several [allergy alerts](#) have been published on precautionary recalls of multiple implicated products.

On 25 October the FSA updated its [guidance for businesses](#) on steps they should take to ensure consumers are protected.



### **FSA/FSS Our Food Report 2023**

On 2 October the FSA and Food Standards Scotland (FSS) published the '[Our Food 2023](#)' report, which is an evidence-based assessment of food standards across the UK for 2023.

According to the report, UK food standards remained stable in 2023, despite pressures including inflation and labour shortages. However, the report highlights ongoing concerns related to shortages of key food professionals, i.e. environmental health and trading standards officers, and official veterinarians. The FSA and FSS call on the Government, industry and regulators to strengthen the parts of the food system that have been in decline.



### **FSA consultation on allergen information for non-prepacked foods**

On 3 October the FSA launched a consultation on best practice guidance on [Allergen information for Non-Prepacked Foods](#), applicable in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (NI).

Amongst other recommendations, the guidance recommends that allergen information for non-prepacked foods should be provided in writing, underpinned with a conversation with customers. The consultation closes on 27 November.



### **FSA Retail Surveillance Survey**

On 2 October the FSA published the results of its [fourth Retail Surveillance Survey](#) which targets areas of known or potential emerging food safety risks. The survey took place from July 2023 to January 2024 and sampled 1025 products in total, including those that may be found in a typical basket of food, along with a range of other products.

The survey found high levels of compliance with food authenticity for the areas tested (97%), although concerns were raised on labelling of raw chicken and beef burgers.



### **COT assessment of titanium dioxide**

On 2 October, the UK Committee on Toxicity (COT), published a statement on the safety of the food additive [titanium dioxide \(E171\)](#). The assessment concluded that the exposure of food grade titanium dioxide from the diet is unlikely to present a risk to health of the UK population.

The FSA has confirmed that titanium dioxide remains an unauthorised additive for use in manufacturing of food products in NI, however, foods containing titanium dioxide can be moved from Great Britain (GB) to NI via the Northern Ireland Retail Movement Scheme (NIRMS).



### FSA/FSS sandbox programme for cell-cultivated products



The FSA and FSS, have been awarded £1.6 million in funding from the Government's Engineering Biology Sandbox Fund (EBSF) to launch an innovative sandbox [programme for cell-cultivated products \(CCPs\)](#). CCPs are new foods made without using traditional farming methods such as rearing livestock or growing plants and grains. Using science and technology, cells from plants or animals are grown in a controlled environment to make a food product.



### FSA Food and You 2 survey 2024

The latest update to the FSA's '[Food and You 2 - Wave 8](#)' report showed that 79% of respondents raised no concerns about the food they eat. However, when respondents were prompted to choose from a list of food-related topics, the most common concerns were food prices (69%), the quality of food (65%), food waste (63%), and the amount of sugar in food (58%).

The report also revealed that 24% of participants across England, Wales and NI reported being 'food insecure'.



### NFCU Food Fraud Resilience Tool

The FSA's National Food Crime Unit's (NFCU) Prevention Team would have revised its [Food Fraud Resilience Self-Assessment Tool](#), which provides businesses with free support and assistance on food fraud prevention. The NFCU also has a range of advisory tools and guidance notes available free and accessible via the food fraud resilience tool.



### EFSA updates the guidance on novel foods

The European Commission (EC) has mandated that the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) to [update](#) the guidance on how to prepare and submit applications to market novel foods in the EU. These updates will apply to all novel food applications submitted to the European Commission starting in February 2025.



### ACRYRED promotional video for caterers

ACRYRED has published a [promotional video focussing on acrylamide](#) information for caterers and people cooking in the home.



### Re-evaluation of silicon dioxide (E 551) published

EFSA published the [Re-evaluation of silicon dioxide \(E 551\)](#) as a food additive in foods for infants below 16 weeks of age and a follow-up of its re-evaluation as a food additive for uses in foods for all population groups.



### FAO/WHO brochures on allergens

On 18 September the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) published four brochures summarising key information from the ad hoc Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Risk Assessments of Food Allergens: Priority food allergens ([FAO/WHO](#)), Food allergen reference doses ([FAO/WHO](#)), Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL) ([FAO/WHO](#)) and on Exemptions from mandatory food allergen declarations ([FAO/WHO](#)).



### FAO report on plant-based food products, precision fermentation and 3D food printing

The FAO has [published](#) the meeting report of the 2023 Food Safety Foresight Technical Meeting, along with a series of [video interviews](#) and an [infographic](#). The report explores three focus areas addressed at the meeting – [plant-based food products, precision fermentation and 3D food printing](#).



### FAO hybrid seminar on AI for food safety

The FAO will host a hybrid technical seminar on '[Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) for food safety](#)' on 6 November, from 8am-12pm, exploring the current state of a rapidly evolving technology, its benefits and drawbacks. The seminar takes its cue from the literature synthesis that FAO, in collaboration with the Wageningen Food Safety Research (WFSR) is compiling on the practical applications of AI in food safety management. To join the waiting list for the event, click [here](#).



### JECFA report on food additive evaluations

On 19 September the WHO held its 99th Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) meeting. The report of the meeting presents JECFA's evaluation of technical, toxicological and epidemiological data, including the occurrence of and dietary exposure of the food additive butterfly pea flower extract, natamycin, nisin A, and polyglycerol esters of fatty acids and four processing aids (enzymes) and revised the specifications for ten flavouring agents.



### Codex Alimentarius Commission 47<sup>th</sup> meeting

This year's Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC47) will take place in Geneva from 25-30 November. The CAC47 meeting details and provisional agenda can be found [here](#).

## Health and wellbeing

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



### POST horizon scanning on Inequality in diets

On 7 October the Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST) published a horizon scanning report titled '[Inequality in diets](#)'. The report discusses the issue of UPF, the food environment, environmental impact, affordability, amongst others. It also raises questions for consideration by the Parliament, including on the effectiveness of labelling, the future of the Food Data Transparency Partnership (FDTP) and the further understanding of the health impacts of UPFs.



## House of Lords report on UPF published

On 24 October the House of Lords Committee on Food, Diet and Obesity published its long anticipated report on recommendations for changes to the food system titled '[Recipe for Health: a plan to fix our broken food system](#)', covering the findings of their inquiry to "consider the role of foods, such as 'ultra-processed foods' (UPF) and foods high in fat, sugar and salt, in a healthy diet and tackling obesity".

Amongst the recommendations are the mandatory reporting on the healthiness of sales by large food businesses, the introduction of a salt and sugar reformulation tax, a full advertising ban of less healthy food and further research into the link between UPF and adverse health outcomes.



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

## Updated Defra Family Food Survey FYE 2023

The latest Defra Family Food survey was published on 17 October, updated with volume, sales and basic nutrition data for [2023](#). The reports suggest that the volume of crisps and snacks, and nuts and seeds, decreased between FYE 2022 and FYE 2023. However, for chips and other potato products volumes have risen over the same period.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has also informed that the next issue of the National Diet & Nutrition Survey (NDNS, Year 12-15) is expected in Q1 2025 (Feb/Mar).



## FSS position on calorie labelling in the OOH sector

On 10 October FSS announced a [new position on mandatory calorie labelling for the Out-of-Home \(OOH\) sector](#). Following the Board meeting in September, FSS announced that it can no longer support mandatory calorie labelling at point of choice. Instead, FSS advise a shift to mandatory provision of calorie information on request in OOH outlets in Scotland, and whether the provision of broader nutrition information should also be explored.



## EP Study on current challenges and opportunities for addressing obesity

The European Parliament's (EP) newly formed committee on Public Health (SANT) has commissioned a study on the '[Current challenges and opportunities for addressing obesity](#)'.



## EPRS Briefing on behavioural taxation

The European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) recently published a briefing entitled '[Shaping choices: behavioural taxation in the EU](#)' analysing public support for behavioural taxes, the economic consequences of such taxes, the role and competencies of the EU as well as the possible avenues for new behavioural taxation.



## FAO/WHO joint statement on the principles of a healthy diet

On 24 October the FAO and the WHO published a joint statement on the principles of a healthy diet titled '[What are healthy diets?](#)'.

The statement outlines four principles in line with a healthy diet, based on existing FAO/WHO guidance and recommendations to substantiate each principle i.e., adequacy, balance, moderation and diversity. The statement makes reference to UPF and the need for further research, but it does not question the concept nor the absence of a clear definition.

# Food labelling and composition

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



## Slovenia 'Good Choice' label

Slovenia has recently notified the EC, via the Technical Regulations Information System (TRIS), a proposal for a regulation on the use of the '[Good Choice](#)' label to facilitate the identification of foods with a favourable nutritional composition.



## ECJ overturns French ban on meat terms used on plant-based products

The European Court of Justice (ECJ) has ruled that a [French Decree 2022-947](#), which [bans the use of terms such as 'steak' or 'filet' for plant-based products](#), is in breach of EU law.

# Environment and sustainability

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

## Updated EPR regulators' agreed position and technical interpretation

On 9 October [version 5](#) of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging: Regulators' agreed positions and technical interpretations was published in the National Packaging Waste Database ([NPWD](#)), replacing version 4 on the agreed positions in relation to the data reporting requirements for packaging supplied in 2024. The agreed positions document for packaging supplied in 2023 remains [version 3](#).



Department  
for Environment  
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## Guidance on single use plastics updated

On 7 October Defra updated its [guidance on single use plastics](#) to include a description of what is meant by 'single use' and 'reusable', and some examples of reusable plastic items. The guidance has also been restructured to support navigation through the guidance, and a link to the local council postcode finder has been included to encourage reporting of non-compliant businesses.



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## Updates from Defra R&W forums

Defra held its October Business Readiness Forum (BRF) on 1 October. Topics discussed included the [EPR reporting deadline](#) of 1 October, changes to the [draft EPR Regulations](#), which postpones provisions on recycling labelling, the [Scheme Administrator](#), amongst others. Defra will be holding the final 2024 Resources & Waste (R&W) engagement forums on [12 November](#) and [4 December](#) from 2-4pm.



## WRAP Annual Survey of Redistribution Organisations in the UK 2023

The Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) has published its [annual survey of food surplus redistribution organisations](#) in the UK for 2023. The results of the survey show a continued increase in the amount of surplus food being redistributed in the UK.



## IGD report on Net Zero

On 7 November, the IGD will publish a new report titled 'Net Zero Transition Plan for the UK's Food System'. The transition plan report is the first integrated industry plan of its kind based on a single agreed data set on Green House Gas (GHG) emissions, across the food system to 2050. To register your interest in receiving the IGD report, click [here](#).



## Ministerial confirmation on plans for EPR Scheme Administrator

The Food and Drink Federation (FDF) has received a letter from UK Ministers confirming their intention to push ahead with the appointment of a Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) for EPR. They have established a co-design process to take this forward, as part of the work of the Scheme Administrator Steering Group.

This co-design involves members of the FDF-convened PRO Steering Group as well as Local Authorities and other representatives from across the value chain.



## EC proposal to delay implementation of EUDR

The EC has proposed to postpone the entry into force of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) to 30 December 2025 (2026 for smaller businesses). The proposal to revise the regulation is available [here](#). The EC is giving itself six months of additional time (by June 2025) to establish the classification of countries according to the risk that their products are the result of deforestation.

## Agriculture

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



## Defra package for the horticultural sector

On 21 October Defra announced a new [package of measures](#) to provide certainty and stability to farmers and growers in the UK's horticulture, poultry and sheep sectors, including a total of 43,000 Seasonal Worker visas for 2025. Defra also published the [2023 Seasonal Worker's Survey](#) monitoring the welfare of the seasonal horticultural migrant workers.



## EA report on water resources

On 7 October the Environment Agency (EA) published a new [report on water resources](#), assessing water companies' annual performance data against their Water Resources Management Plans (WRMPs). According to the report, by 2050, an additional 5 billion litres of water will be needed every day to support a growing population, the economy, food production and protect the environment.



## Defra update on precision breeding

On 30 September Environment Minister, Daniel Zeichner, [announced](#) that the UK Government wishes to proceed with the secondary legislation required to implement the Precision Breeding Act in England for plants, but timescales for legislation will be dependent upon parliamentary time.



## EU delegation visits UK for a sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) equivalency audit

A European audit team visited Scotland on 24-28 October, inspecting Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA) facilities as well as local farm inspections including storage.

The same team carried out similar visits in England on the 29-30 October, and a wrap-up meeting is scheduled for 5 November. The visits are seen as a first step in repairing the EU-GB see potato trade, which was suspended following the UK's exit from the European Union, and could lead to a resumption in trade in 2025.



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

### **Requirement for all ware potato growers to be registered with APHA in England and Wales**

As part of the preparation for the EU SPS visit, the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) has reminded growers of existing plant health requirements relating to the registration of ware growers as professional operators.

Previously the AHDB managed the ware potato register. The maintenance of that register is now the responsibility of the competent authorities in England and Wales. To maintain the register growers must fill out a registration [form](#) (published on 13 October 2024).

## **Groceries supply chain**

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



### **The State of UK Competition Report 2024**

On 24 October the Competitions and Markets Authority (CMA) published its '[State of UK Competition Report 2024](#)', analysing how well competition is working across the UK economy, including food. The report looks at trends in key cross-economy indicators of competition; the drivers of changes over time; and the broad implications for policy.



Groceries Code Adjudicator

### **GCA Annual Conference 2024**

On 1 October the [Groceries Code Adjudicator \(GCA\) held its 2024 conference](#) with suppliers and retailers, to discuss the state of the sector and action on issues impacting suppliers.

Amongst other points, there were discussions on the improvement on compliance with the Groceries Code and new priorities were set, which include addressing delays in payments, retailer de-listing process and handling of cost price negotiations.



### **YouGov report on changing consumer habits**

YouGov has published a report titled '[Changing purchasing habits in a cost-of-living crisis](#)', exploring changing shopping habits, which categories consumers are cutting back, which are commanding more of their budgets and what the outlook is for the coming year, including food and beverage.

# Plant protection products

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



## HSE extensions to actives expiry dates

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has extended the approval expiry dates for a number of pesticide active substances, which have been supported for use in GB, and which were due to expire before 31 March 2027. The statutory [GB Pesticides Approvals register](#) has been updated to reflect these changes. Refer to the 'Record of Changes – 2024' tab.

HSE will be extending the expiry dates of affected plant protection product authorisations, where appropriate. They will contact authorisation holders in due course, starting with those with the earliest expiry dates.



## European Court of Justice (ECJ) rules on mancozeb

UPL Europe Ltd and Indofil Industries (Netherlands) BV have successfully appealed against the Commission's removal of mancozeb from the approved list.

On 4 October 2024 the ECJ ruled that the EC wrongly relied on outdated scientific evidence when deciding not to renew the approval of mancozeb. The case has been referred back to the General Court, which must now re-examine the evidence based on updated scientific data and decide whether the Commission's decision to refuse renewal still stands. It remains uncertain how this will impact the recent GB withdrawal (if at all).



## Next Chlorpropham Residues Management Group (CRMG) meeting on 5 November

On 20 August the CRMG's report on chlorpropham (CIPC) residues in potatoes for 2023/2024 was finalised and submitted to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

The target number of samples was 125 total (100 box stores and 25 bulk), and the actual submission was 102 total (69 box, 33 bulk). The majority of results reported were non-detects, and the mean value aligns with recent European figures, suggesting that further reduction of the GB temporary Maximum Residue Level (tMRL) is possible. HSE has now prepared a confidential response for CRMG, and this will be discussed on 5 November 2024.

Going forward the CRMG will be funded by GB Potatoes, which has secured finance for the work from the sale of the AHDB Potatoes' Sutton Bridge site.

## Review of European tMRL for CIPC



The current European tMRL was discussed again at the Standing Committee on Pesticide Residues (23-24 September 2024). The European proposal is to move the tMRL to 0.20 mg/kg, with a vote expected on 25-26 November 2024. Additionally, the Potato

Value Chain (PVC), which has provided the data which informs the review, would be expected to report data every two years instead of annually.



## EU confirms non-renewal of herbicide metribuzin

Bayer has confirmed that the Commission intends to proceed with non-renewal of metribuzin. EU Member States voted for non-renewal at the Standing Committee meeting on 2-3 October 2024.

Final publication of the non-renewal regulation is expected within 2 months, and entry into force is 20 days after that. It is anticipated that the Regulation will become effective around the end of the year. The 12-month total grace period would then allow farmers to still use the product during 2025, but this would be dependent on decisions within individual Member States. GB authorisation is theoretically in place until 31 July 2028.



## EU MRL for 1,4-dimethylnaphthalene (1,4-DMN) increased

The Commission has published a new Regulation which amends the MRL for the storage active 1,4-DMN in potatoes from 15 mg/kg to 20 mg/kg from April 2025. It also allows for the withdrawal period to be reduced from 30 to 3 days.

Data gaps (on residues in processed commodities for potatoes and on analytical methods for products of animal origin) have been removed from the EFSA assessment, and other MLs for various animal products have also been amended. Approval holders DormFresh are still pursuing an increase in the GB MRL to 20 mg/kg and the associated reduction in the withdrawal period.

For more details see [here](#).

## Trade

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



### New Defra plant information service

On 22 October Defra launched a new service allowing users to find out the rules, and the pest or disease risks for [importing plants](#), plant products or seeds to GB for commercial use.



### Delays to BTOM waivers for Safety and Security Declarations

On 10 October, Defra announced a [delay to the to the waiver for Safety and Security declarations](#) on goods imported from the EU under the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM), originally planned to end on 31 October 2024. This has now been postponed until 31 January 2025.



### New UK Export Academy free events

As part of its series 'A Taste of Global Success: Selling to International Food and Drink Markets Made Easy', the UK Export Academy, will be running a new series of free online events in November on:

- [Avoid misclassification mishaps: understand commodity codes when selling overseas](#): 6 November, 2-3pm.
- [Your recipe for export success: resources and support to help you sell your food and drink overseas](#): 18 November, 10-11am
- [Network your way to success: how to make connections in the food and drink sector to fuel your global growth](#): 28 November, 2-3pm.



## International Trade Week 2024

As part of International Trade Week 2024 the UK Export Academy will be running several in-person and online events for businesses. For more information, click [here](#).



## DAERA Windsor Framework SPS Compliance Protocol NI

The NI Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has published an updated compliance protocol, setting out the application of the [Windsor Framework Sanitary and Phytosanitary \(SPS\) provisions at NI Border Control Posts \(BCPs\)](#).

## Partners

[\[return to contents list\]](#)



### FDF Ambition 2030

The FDF has launched '[Ambition 2030](#)', the next stage of its flagship sustainability strategy for the food and drink manufacturing industry.

Building upon the previous Ambition 2025 programme, the strategy shares five targeted ambitions for the next 5 years, highlighting the industry's commitment to reducing its impact on the planet, by tackling emissions, driving a circular economy, sourcing sustainable ingredients, minimising food waste and supporting biodiversity.



### FDF Meet the Attachés event

The FDF will host an event for members as an opportunity to [meet Defra's Agri-food Attachés](#) from Northern Europe, USA, Canada, Japan, China, S. Korea, the Gulf and Brazil.

The event will take place at the FDF offices in London, on 22 November, from 10am-12pm.

### GB Potatoes joins Europatat



On 15 October GB Potatoes joined [Europatat](#) as a new associate member.

GB Potatoes state that its "... core beliefs are a natural fit with those of Europatat whose mission is to connect, represent and coordinate a common voice for all actors in the European seed and ware potato supply chain towards European and international decision makers and other stakeholders."



### Farmers Weekly webinar on Harvest 2024

Farmers Weekly will host a free online webinar titled 'Harvest 2024 – Lessons learnt for 2025', featuring insights from experts from CropTec, who will dive into the challenges encountered during 2024, highlighting both the hurdles and the innovative solutions that emerged. Success stories will be shared, showcasing effective strategies that led to improved yields and enhanced soil health.

The webinar will take place on 12 November, from 5-6:15pm. To register, click [here](#).

## PPA committee meeting dates 2024

[\[return to contents list\]](#)

### PPA Board

27 November	13:00-15:00	London – FDF
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Chair: John Sedgwick Director General: Andrew Curtis Deputy Director General: Vanessa Richardson

## Food Law and Consumer [FLC] committee

14 November	11:00-14:30	London – UK Flour & Millers
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## Primary Production Technical committee [PPTC] committee

2025 dates TBC		
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## PPA circulars issued in October 2024

[\[return to contents list\]](#)

Historic PPA circulars from 2022 onwards are also stored online via the 'SLACK' system. If you would like access to this system, please inform the secretariat and we will grant you access to the system.

### Food Law and Consumer Committee (FLC)

Date	Subject	Circular No.
01-Oct	FSA new guidance on peanut contaminated mustard	375/24
02-Oct	Report from the Commission on the overall operation of official controls carried out in Member States (2022)	376/24
03-Oct	EC proposes to postpone entry into force of the EUDR by one year + publication of FAQ and guidance	377/24
03-Oct	Draft EU Regulation on CIPC tMRL	378/24
03-Oct	EC targeted stakeholder consultation – draft proposal amending Annexes II and Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 as regards the use of E 999 and its specifications	379/24
04-Oct	Codex proposals on labelling of multipacks	380/24
04-Oct	FDF resources on UPF	381/24
04-Oct	Defra confirmation on EPR recycling labelling	382/24
08-Oct	RASFFs Week 40/2024	383/24
08-Oct	EC Reg. 2024/2597: the use of sorbic acid (E 200), potassium sorbate (E 202) & the specifications for sorbic acid (E 200), potassium sorbate (E 202) and propyl gallate (E 310)	384/24
09-Oct	PPA Annual Salt and Sugar Data 2024 - provisional results	385/24
09-Oct	Informal summary report of the Commission's Working Group on additives, 12-13 September 2024	386/24
10-Oct	1,4-DMN Regulation	387/24
10-Oct	Defra update on BTOM - Safety and Security Declarations on EU goods	388/24
11-Oct	Notes from European Potato Value Chain (PVC) meeting, 07 October 2024	389/24
14-Oct	RASFFs Week 41/2024	390/24
14-Oct	Defra cost of labelling research - further engagement request	391/24
15-Oct	Informal summary EU MS WG on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) on 3 September 2024	392/24
15-Oct	EP Study Current challenges and opportunities for addressing obesity	393/24
16-Oct	FDF updated evidence review on ultra-processed foods	394/24
17-Oct	FoodDrinkEurope policy recommendations on nutrition and consumer information for the next European Commission cycle 2024-2029	395/24
18-Oct	Re-evaluation of silicon dioxide (E 551) as a food additive in foods for infants below 16 weeks of age and follow-up of its re-evaluation as a food additive for uses in foods for all population groups	396/24
18-Oct	Defra survey on guidance on Recyclability Assessment Methodology for EPR	397/24
21-Oct	FoodDrinkEurope Fall-back option on mandatory country of origin labelling	398/24

21-Oct	Confirmation of attendance of IN-PERSON FLC meeting and DRAFT agenda, 14 November	399/24
23-Oct	Meeting notes of UK pre-CCFL meeting	400/24
23-Oct	Official Controls: Short note DG SANTE update during FoodDrinkEurope meeting	401/24
23-Oct	FDF update on GB Regulations on official controls of HRFNAO	402/24
23-Oct	Defra update on the Bread and Flour Regulations	403/24
23-Oct	FSA call for feedback on actions by manufacturers on peanut contamination of mustard ingredients	404/24
24-Oct	RASFFs Week 42/2024	405/24
24-Oct	House of Lords report on the food system and UPF	406/24
24-Oct	FSA Horizon Scanning (Sep.24 update)	407/24
24-Oct	Draft FDE response to Codex on Acrylamide	408/24
28-Oct	RASFFs Week 43/2024	409/24
29-Oct	KIND REMINDER - Confirmation of attendance of IN-PERSON FLC meeting and DRAFT agenda, 14 November	410/24
29-Oct	FAO-WHO Joint Statement on the principles of a healthy diet	411/24
31-Oct	Monthly digest of EU legislation (October 2024)	412/24
31-Oct	Plant protection products and biocides log – October 2024	413/24
31-Oct	Defra Packaging update	414/24
31-Oct	Defra: Family Food FYE 2023 - Datasets	415/24
31-Oct	PPA Monthly Members' News sheet: October 2024	416/24

#### Primary Production Technical Committee (PPTC)

Date	Subject	Circular No.
01-Oct	Minutes of the last NAAC meeting	192/24
02-Oct	MH applications this season: Request for feedback	193/24
02-Oct	Next Water for Food Group meeting and ESA updates abstraction guidance	194/24
02-Oct	EU audit of GB seed potato production	195/24
03-Oct	EU46 finding FAB	196/24
03-Oct	Draft EU Regulation on CIPC tMRL	197/24
03-Oct	Updates from the Potato Stakeholder meeting, 03 October 2024	198/24
07-Oct	Treater Group minutes	199/24
08-Oct	Request for information on wireworm	200/24
10-Oct	1,4-DMN Regulation	201/24
11-Oct	Notes from European Potato Value Chain (PVC) meeting held 7 October 2024	202/24
11-Oct	DRAFT Agenda for PPTC meeting on 30 October 2024	203/24
17-Oct	UPL webinar on 'Smart Storage Solutions' - 22 October	204/24
18-Oct	Updates from Potato Stakeholder meeting, 17 October 2024	205/24
20-Oct	HZPC presentation on NGTs	206/24
24-Oct	International day of the potato - sponsorship opportunities	207/24
24-Oct	FDE response to Codex on Acrylamide	208/24
31-Oct	Monthly digest of EU legislation (October 2024)	209/24
31-Oct	Plant protection products and biocides log – October 2024	210/24
31-Oct	Slides from PPTC meeting, 30 October 2024	211/24
31-Oct	Updates from Potato Stakeholder meeting, 31 October 2024	212/24
31-Oct	PPA Monthly Members' News sheet: October 2024	213/24

## Upcoming events

[\[return to contents list\]](#)

6 November 2024	<a href="#">Agri-TechE REAP Conference, Cambridge</a>
6 November 2024	<a href="#">UK Export Academy webinar: Avoid misclassification mishaps: understand commodity codes when selling food and drink overseas</a>
6 November 2024	<a href="#">FDF/RAMBOLL webinar: Understanding and combatting greenwashing, online</a>
6 November 2024	<a href="#">FAO seminar on AI for food safety, hybrid</a>
7 November 2024	<a href="#">UKIA Masterclass: Salinity in groundwater in the Lincolnshire Fens, online</a>
7-8 November 2024	<a href="#">HZPD Potato Days 2024, Emmeloord area, The Netherlands</a>
9 November 2024	<a href="#">Ashbury/SCS Global webinar: Unlock the secrets of best practice labelling compliance in the US</a>
11 November 2024	FDF Parliamentary tasting event, London
12 November 2024	<a href="#">Farmers Weekly webinar: Harvest 2024 – Lessons learnt for 2025, online</a>
12 November 2024	<a href="#">UK Export Academy webinar: Navigating the US Food and Drink Market: Strategies for Success, online</a>
12 November 2024	<a href="#">Defra R&amp;W engagement forum, online</a>
12 November 2024	<a href="#">BNF Annual Conference: Health in Balance: Innovations in nutrition for combating obesity, diet related ill health and health disparities, online</a>
13 November 2024	<a href="#">UK Export Academy webinar: F&amp;B e-commerce landscape in Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam, online</a>
18 November 2024	<a href="#">UK Export Academy webinar: Your recipe for export success: resources and support to help you sell your food and drink overseas, online</a>
19 November 2024	<a href="#">Food Manufacture webinar: The Unintended Consequences of the UPF Trend</a>
20 November 2024	<a href="#">FDF President's Reception, London</a>
22 November 2024	<a href="#">FDF Meet the Attachés event, London</a>
24-26 November 2024	<a href="#">Interpom 2024, Kortrijk, Belgium</a>
27 November 2024	<a href="#">FDF/Valpak webinar: International EPR Regulations, online</a>
27-28 November 2024	<a href="#">CropTech, NAEC, Stoneleigh</a>
28 November 2024	<a href="#">UK Export Academy webinar: Network your way to success: how to make connections in the food and drink sector to fuel your global growth, online</a>
2-4 December 2024	<a href="#">21<sup>st</sup> IFOAM Organic World Congress, Taiwan</a>
3 December 2024	<a href="#">IFST webinar: Innovation for a Sustainable Future – What to consider when developing New Products and Packaging, online</a>
3 December 2024	FDF Regulatory webinar, online
3-4 December 2024	<a href="#">HSE workshop: Technical fate and behaviour assessment of PPPs, York</a>
4 December 2024	<a href="#">Defra R&amp;W engagement forum, online</a>
5 December 2024	<a href="#">IFST Christmas Lecture: What role does flavour play in our Christmas dietary choices?, Newton St Loe, Bath</a>
10 December 2024	<a href="#">CUPGRA 35th Annual Cambridge Potato Conference 2024, Cambridge</a>
9-12 January 2025	<a href="#">Potato Expo 2025, Orlando, USA</a>
2-5 February 2025	<a href="#">Confectionery Trade Show, Cologne, France</a>
17-21 February 2025	<a href="#">Gulfoods Trade Show, Dubai, UAE</a>
4-5 March 2025	PSI 2-day residential Store Manager's Course, TBC
5 March 2025	UKIA Spring Conference: Securing resilient water resources for agriculture, TBC
27 May 2025	EUPPA, ESA and Europatat joint event on the 'International Day of Potato', Brussels, Belgium
27-28 March 2025	<a href="#">Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit, Paris</a>
12-14 May 2025	<a href="#">World Retail Congress, London</a>
3-4 September 2025	<a href="#">Potato Europe, Lelystad, The Netherlands</a>
9-5 November 2025	<a href="#">Agritechnica, Hanover, Germany</a>
19-20 November 2025	<a href="#">British Potato 2025, Harrogate, Yorkshire</a>

## **Industry meetings**

[\[return to contents list\]](#)

5 November 2024	FDF International Trade Committee (ITC), hybrid
5 November 2024	CIPC Residues Management Group meeting, online
5 November 2024	FoodDrinkEurope FURAN task force, online
6 November 2024	FDF Organic Committee (ORG), hybrid
7 November 2024	FDF Food Contacts Material (FCM) Committee, hybrid
7 November 2024	FDF Corporate Affairs Group (CAG) Committee, hybrid
7 November 2024	NI-GB Food Supply Chain Forum, online
13 November 2024	Defra Stakeholder engagement, online
14 November 2024	PPA Food Law and Consumer (FLC) Committee, (London and online)
14 November 2024	ESA Nut Processors Working Group (NPWG), online
14 November 2024	Potato Stakeholder Group fortnightly call, online
14 November 2024	FDF EPR Advocacy Group, hybrid
15 November 2024	ESA Sustainability (SUST) Working Group, online
15 November 2024	Defra CAC47 National Codex Consultative Committee, online
18 November 2024	FoodDrinkEurope Pesticide task force (PEST), online
19 November 2024	ESA Public Affairs and Communications (PAC) Working Group, online
21 November 2024	NI-GB Food Supply Chain Forum, online
21 November 2024	FDF Food Safety Committee (FSC), hybrid
21 November 2024	IGD Industry Nutrition Network, online
27 November 2024	FDF Food Law and Labelling (FLL) Committee, hybrid
27 November 2024	PPA Board, (London and online)
28 November 2024	Potato Stakeholder Group fortnightly call, online
28 November 2024	FDF Food Law and Labelling (FLL) Committee, hybrid
28 November 2024	FDF Nutrition (NUT) Committee, hybrid
12 December 2024	GB Potatoes Annual General Meeting, hybrid (York and online)

## **Documents to note**

[\[return to contents list\]](#)

### **Government position/policy papers/guidance and related resources**

#### **EU exit**

[Check if you need to declare goods you bring into or take out of the UK](#)

[DBT Research and analysis: Retained EU law and assimilated law dashboard](#) (last updated 23 July 2024)

[COLLECTION: Customs, VAT and excise UK transition legislation from 1 January 2021](#) (last updated 8 October 2024)

[DIT/DBT Guidance: UK trade agreements in effect](#) (last updated 22 October 2024)

[COLLECTION: Withdrawal Agreement Joint Committee](#) (last updated 25 October 2024)

[COLLECTION: REUL \(Revocation and Reform\) Act 2023 statutory instruments](#) (last updated 16 October 2024)

#### **Windsor Framework**

[Policy paper: Update on 'not for EU' labelling for retail products across Great Britain](#) (first published 30 September 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Labelling requirements for certain products moving from GB to retail premises in NI under NIRMS](#) (last updated 30 September 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Northern Ireland Retail Movement Scheme: how to register and seal consignments](#) (last updated 29 February 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Moving food and animal feed from NI to GB](#) (first published 20 February 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Moving plants from GB to NI](#) (last updated 1 February 2024)

[APHA: Move goods under the NI Retail Movement Scheme: General Certificate](#) (last updated 31 May 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Movement Assistance Scheme: get help with moving agrifood goods to NI](#) (last updated 13 September 2024)

[Defra Policy Paper: Financial support to help businesses meet labelling requirements under the Windsor Framework and extension of Movement Assistance Scheme](#) (last updated 4 April 2024)

[NI-GB Trader Support Service](#)

## **UK Imports**

[Cabinet Office Guidance: The Border Target Operating Model: August 2023](#) (last updated 13 February 2024)

[Defra Q&A: Technical questions and answers about SPS Controls](#) (last updated 15 February 2024)

[Defra Collection: Import risk categories for animals, animal products, plants and plant products](#) (last updated 31 January 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Import food and drink from the EU to GB](#) (last updated 27 August 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Import plants and plant products from the EU to GB](#) (last updated 27 August 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Import plants and plant products from non-EU countries to GB](#) (last updated 24 May 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Import compound products from the EU to GB](#) (last updated 27 August 2024)

[Defra Promotional Material: Border Operating Model: information leaflets for businesses](#) (last updated 15 February 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Countries GB will accept validated PDF GB health certificates from](#) (last updated 1 May 2024)

[APHA guidance: BTOM risk categorisations \(EU and non-EU plant and plant products\)](#)

[Defra/APHA Guidance: Import risk categories and inspection rates for animal and animal product imports from the EU to GB: summary tables](#) (last updated 9 August 2024)

[Defra Guidance: BTOM risk categories and inspection rates for animal and animal product imports from non-EU countries to GB: summary tables](#) (last updated 9 August 2024)

[Defra/APHA: Fees for Plant Health Import Inspections in England and Wales 30 April 2024](#)

[Defra guidance: Import high-risk food and feed not of animal origin from the EU to GB](#) (last updated 27 August 2024)

[Defra guidance: Importing and exporting fresh fruit and vegetables](#) (last updated 13 September 2024)

[Defra Collection: Border control posts and charges](#) (first published 12 April 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Sanitary and phytosanitary \(SPS\) checks at border control posts \(BCPs\)](#) (first published 30 April 2024)

[Guidance: Import of products, animals, food and feed system \(IPAFFS\)](#) (last updated 30 April 2024)

[Defra Guidance: IPAFFS: upload commodity details using a CSV file](#) (last updated 14 May 2024)

[APHA Guidance: IPAFFS for Plants Guidance](#)

[APHA IPAFFS FAQs](#) (last updated 11 June 2024)

[APHA IPAFFS – How to locate commodity codes](#)

[HMRC Guidance: Importing SPS controlled goods that interact with ALVS](#) (last updated 23 October 2024)

[HMRC Guidance: HMRC email updates, videos and webinars about importing and exporting](#) (last updated 16 April 2024)

[HMRC Notice: Notices made under the Customs \(Import Duty\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2018](#) (last updated 17 April 2024)

[DBT/HM Treasury/HMRC Guidance: UK Trade Tariff: duty suspensions and autonomous tariff quotas](#) (last updated 30 October 2024)

[Defra: EU and EFTA countries approved to export animals and animal products to GB](#) (last updated 30 October 2024)

[HMRC Guidance: Goods Vehicle Movement Service - service availability and issues](#) (last updated 20 September 2024)

[Defra: Animal health status of countries approved to export animals and animal products to GB](#) (last updated 17 February 2023)

[Defra: Non-EU countries approved to export animals and animal products to GB](#) (last updated 22 October 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Check import risk categories, inspection rates and related rules for animals and animal products imported from non-EU countries to GB](#) (last updated 9 August 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Accredited Trusted Trader Scheme pilot](#) (last updated 24 January 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Check plant health information and import rules](#) (last updated 23 October 2024)

[HMRC Guidance: Safety and security requirements on imports and exports](#) (last updated 7 October 2024)

## **Exports**

[APHA Find an Export Health Certificate website](#)

[APHA Plant Health Portal](#)

[Defra Guidance: Export or move food, drink and agricultural products](#) (last updated 30 April 2024)

[HMRC Notice: Notices made under the Customs \(Export\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (last updated 18 July 2024)

[DBT/DIT Guidance: UK trade agreements in effect](#) (last updated 22 October 2024)

[HMRC guidance: Search the register of customs agents and express operators](#) (last updated 11 October 2024)

[Defra guidance: Businesses approved to export to the EU](#) (last updated 25 October 2024)

[HMRC Guidance: Safety and security requirements on imports and exports](#) (last updated 7 October 2024)

## **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Plastic Packaging Tax (PPT)**

[EA Guidance: Packaging waste: producer responsibilities](#) (last updated 1 January 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Extended producer responsibility: example file for packaging data](#) (last updated 14 February 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Packaging data: what to collect for extended producer responsibility](#) (last updated 17 October 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Extended producer responsibility for packaging: generate a packaging data file](#) (last updated 8 August 2024)

[Defra/EA Guidance: Packaging data: how to create your file for extended producer responsibility](#) (last updated 15 August 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Organisation details: how to create your file for extended producer responsibility \(EPR\) for packaging](#) (last updated 15 August 2024)

[Defra/EA Guidance: Extended Producer Responsibility: who is affected and what to do](#) (last updated 17 October 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging: how to assess household and non-household packaging](#) (first published 11 March 2024)

[Defra Guidance: Find large producers on the 'report packaging data' service](#) (first published 11 October 2024).

[Defra Research and analysis: Extended producer responsibility for packaging: illustrative base fees](#) (first published 30 September 2024).

[HMRC: Plastic Packaging Tax Rate change](#) (updated 30 October 2024)

## **Other**

[DHSC Guidance: Nutrition legislation information sources](#) (last updated 20 February 2024)

[Food Data Transparency Partnership](#)

[Defra Collection: Protected geographical food and drink names: applications, objections and decisions](#) (last updated 9 August 2024)

[AHDB Horticulture and Potatoes Archive website](#)

[Defra Collection: Fertiliser usage](#) (last updated 18 July 2024)

[Environmental management: Water: detailed information](#)

[EA Licence: Abstract water \(England\)](#)

[EA Licence: Impound water \(England\)](#)

[Defra Guidance: SFI Handbook for the SFI 2023 offer](#) (last updated 28 June 2024)

[Defra/RPA/FC Guidance: Funding for farmers, growers and land managers](#) (last updated 18 September 2024)

[Defra/RA Guidance Delinked payments: replacing the Basic Payment Scheme](#) (last updated 31 July 2024)  
[Defra Guidance: Basic Payment Scheme](#) (last updated 11 April 2024)  
[Defra Collection: Sustainable Farming Incentive: guidance for applicants and agreement holders](#) (last updated 19 June 2024)  
[EA Research and analysis. Water situation: area monthly reports for England 2024](#) (last updated 11 October 2024)  
[EA Research and analysis: Rainfall and river flow: weekly reports for England](#) (last updated 24 October 2024)  
[BESNZ/DBT Collection: Net Zero Innovation Portfolio](#) (last updated 24 April 2024)  
[DfE Guidance: School food standards: resources for schools](#) (last updated 19 September 2024)  
[DBT Guidance: UK Sustainability Reporting Standards](#) (last updated 23 September 2024)  
[Defra Statistical data set: Family food datasets](#) (last updated 17 October 2024)

## **Current consultations**

[\[return to contents list\]](#)

**DBT:** [Consultation on green paper: 'Invest 2035: The UK's modern industrial strategy'](#) (closes 24 November 2024)

**FSA:** [Consultation on best practice guidance on Allergen Information for Non-Prepacked Foods](#) (closes 27 November 2024)

**DBT:** [Making Work Pay: collective redundancy and fire and rehire](#) (closes 2 December 2024).

**DBT:** [Making Work Pay: creating a modern framework for industrial relations](#) (closes 2 December 2024).

**DBT:** [Making Work Pay: the application of zero hours contracts measures to agency workers](#) (closes 2 December 2024).

### **ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER**

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