

Newsletter – February 2026

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Government

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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Environment Secretary sets out UK priorities on food security

On 12 February, the [Environment Secretary Emma Reynolds delivered a speech](#) in Paris outlining the UK's approach to food security, resilience and standards. She emphasised the importance of high production standards, practical UK–EU cooperation, and progress towards a new sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) agreement.

The speech highlighted shared challenges across climate, food security and environmental protection, and the need for stable, sustainable farming systems that support long-term productivity.



UK
Parliament

UK-EU agritrade: making a Sanitary and Phytosanitary agreement work report published

On 5 February, the House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee published its report '[UK-EU agritrade: making a Sanitary and Phytosanitary agreement work](#)', examining how improved regulatory cooperation could reduce barriers to agri-food trade between the UK and the EU.

The report sets out recommendations to the Government on strengthening arrangements covering animal and plant health to support smoother trade in food and agricultural products.

Food safety

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Government publishes UK PFAS Plan

UK Government On 3 February 2026, the UK Government published its first cross-government [PFAS \(per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances\) Plan](#), setting out a science-led approach to understanding and reducing the risks posed by PFAS.

The plan focuses on three areas: improving understanding of PFAS sources, tackling pathways through which PFAS enter the environment, and reducing ongoing exposure. It forms part of the Environmental Improvement Plan 2025 and aims to protect public health and the environment while supporting innovation and economic growth.



End of EU transitional periods for smoke flavourings – impact on UK businesses

The European Commission (EC) has confirmed the end of transition periods following the removal of all ten authorised smoke flavouring primary products under Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/2067. The first deadline, 1 July 2026, applies to foods where smoke flavourings are added solely for flavour, including savoury snacks, after which these products may no longer be lawfully placed on the EU or Northern Ireland (NI) market. Products placed on the market before the end of the transition period may remain on the market until their date of its shelf life.

Great Britain's (GB) rules remain unchanged. Pre-packed retail goods moving to NI through the Northern Ireland Retail Movement Scheme (NIRMS) may continue to be placed on the NI market if they comply with the requirements of assimilated law. The FSA NI is keen to understand the impact of the removal of the authorisation for the ten flavourings. Please email the [PPA Secretariat](#) to share feedback.



Launch of the FSS Strategy 2026–2031

On 11 February, Food Standards Scotland (FSS) published its [Strategy for 2026-2031](#) setting out how it will protect public health, promote healthier diets and maintain confidence in Scotland's food system over the next five years. The strategy outlines a vision for a safe, authentic and healthier food environment, placing consumers at the centre of its work and emphasising proportionate, evidence-based regulation to address food safety, food crime and the impacts of poor diet. Watch the FSS 2026-2031 Strategy video [here](#).



Food and You 2 Survey Scotland – Wave 10

On 8 January, FSS published the '[Food and You 2: Scotland Wave 10 Key Findings](#)', based on responses from 1,331 adults surveyed between October 2024 and February 2025. The report highlights self-reported food safety behaviours, eating habits, confidence in food, and concerns about food production, both at home and out of home. Although most participants appear to be confident on food safety and labelling, concerns highlighted include hygiene, safety and authenticity of food from outside the UK. 44% of respondents also reported to have eaten less processed foods in the last 12 months.



Consumer insights tracker (October–December 2025) published

On 27 January, the FSA published its [Consumer Insights Tracker covering October to December 2025](#), reporting that, in December, the greatest food concern amongst respondents was food prices (92%), followed by Ultra-Processed Foods (UPFs) (79%). The survey also found that money-saving behaviours such as eating leftovers and consuming food past its use-by date remained common.



National Food Crime Unit Prevention Team

The Food Crime Prevention Team, which is part of the National Food Crime Unit (NFCU), provides free tools and guidance to help businesses across England, Wales and NI in how to prevent food fraud. The team offers resources including a Food Fraud Prevention Bulletin, a self-assessment tool, training exercises and consultations to help businesses strengthen resilience and protect supply chains from food crime. Contact the team at NFCU.Prevention@food.gov.uk to access free tools and protect your business against food crime.



EU consultation on simplifying food and feed safety rules

The EC is [consulting](#) on [proposals](#) to simplify and strengthen aspects of EU food and feed safety legislation. The proposals include legal clarifications and procedural changes, such as removing the ten-year renewal requirement for feed additive authorisations and confirming that food and feed fermentation products made using Genetically Modified (GM) microorganisms as processing aids are not considered 'produced from Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)'. The consultation closes on 13 April.



EC consultation on new Biotech Act

The EC has proposed a Biotech Act that includes changes to food legislation, such as expanding the European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) advice to applicants and introducing regulatory sandboxes. These sandboxes exclude Novel Foods, feed, food contact materials (except recycled plastics) and GMOs. A [consultation](#) on the proposals is open until 23 April, with feedback to be shared with the European Parliament (EP) and the Council.



EFSA publishes guidance on reporting 'no-presence' data for additives and flavourings

On 6 February, EFSA published [new guidance on how to report 'no-presence' data for food additives and flavourings at sample level](#). The document explains how to use EFSA's data model, the required data elements and business rules, and provides instructions on preparing, submitting and validating monitoring data. The guidance supports existing EU obligations for Member States to monitor and report on the use of additives and flavourings under Regulations (EC) No 1333/2008 and 1334/2008.



EC publishes Regulation (EU) 2026/250 amending BPA rules

The EC has published [Regulation \(EU\) 2026/250](#), introducing clarifications and technical corrections to Regulation (EU) 2024/3190 on bisphenol A (BPA). The amendments refine the scope of the prohibition of bisphenol A (BPA), correct analytical and transitional provisions, and revise timelines for compliance for single-use and repeat-use food contact materials.



FEDIOL Q&A document on hexane

FEDIOL [FEDIOL](#), the EU vegetable oil and protein meal industry association, has published a Q&A document on hexane, a solvent used in the extraction of vegetable oils and certain food ingredients. A copy of the document is available for PPA members upon request.



FAO/WHO microbiological risk assessment guidance

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) have published a report titled ['Microbiological risk assessment of viruses in foods. Part 2: Prevention and intervention measures'](#), providing a structured global framework for assessing the risks posed by foodborne viruses in food along supply chains to support evidence-based risk management and improve food safety.





FAO report and webinar on environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems

On 20 January, the [FAO Food Safety Foresight Programme](#) hosted a webinar to present the key findings of a new FAO report titled [Environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems – Considerations for food safety risk assessment](#), along with the accompanying [technical brief](#).

The [summary report](#), and the [webinar recording](#) are now available (passcode: X9a.++qM), along with [further details](#) about the report.

Health and wellbeing

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Department
of Health &
Social Care

National Cancer Plan for England published

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has published [‘The National Cancer Plan for England’](#), setting out measures to improve cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and survival, with the aim of saving 320,000 more lives by 2035.

The plan includes commitments to increase screening and early diagnosis, expand diagnostic capacity, accelerate innovation, and act on preventable risk factors including unhealthy diet, obesity and alcohol consumption, alongside introducing a new healthy standard for large food and drink retailers.



Food Standards Scotland establishes Scottish Dietary Advice Forum

FSS has set up a new Scottish Dietary Advice Forum to coordinate the risk-management process for public health nutrition advice. The forum brings together Scottish Government (SG), Public Health Scotland (PHS), NHS Scotland and FSS to ensure dietary guidance is aligned with Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) recommendations and delivered consistently across national resources. FSS have launched a [short survey](#), open until 20 March, to understand how stakeholders access dietary advice and how future updates should be communicated.



Food Standards Scotland publishes analyses on discretionary foods

In January, FSS published a [‘Briefing paper on discretionary food and drinks’](#) alongside a [separate analysis](#) comparing national dietary surveys with food purchase data. The briefing shows that discretionary foods, including crisps and savoury snacks, make up around one third of shopping baskets and contribute substantially to adults’ energy, fat, saturated fat and free sugars intake.

The accompanying analysis indicates these foods are under-reported in dietary surveys, with FSS suggesting their true contribution to poor diet is greater than currently captured. Both papers highlight the need to reshape the food environment through measures such as advertising restrictions, reformulation and portion control to support healthier diets in Scotland.



Coalition calls for introduction of a Good Food Bill

On 25 February, a coalition of more than 100 organisations, including retailers, food businesses and investors, led by the charities Food Foundation, Sustain and Green Alliance, signed the [‘Food Bill Joint Statement 2026’](#). The statement calls on the UK Government to develop a Good Food Bill, warning that the current food system threatens public health and national security.



Safefood publishes research on children's exposure to unhealthy food marketing

On 24 February, NGO Safefood published a [report](#) based on new research, by the Open University, the University of Galway, the University of Liverpool, University College Dublin, Ulster University and Deakin University in Australia, claiming that children are exposed to high levels of 'unhealthy' food marketing online.

The report, titled '[Our Kids' Exposure to Unhealthy Food Marketing Online](#)', highlights that almost 96% of products marketed to children online do not meet WHO criteria for marketing to children and that influencer content captures children's attention for significantly longer than traditional adverts. The report makes several recommendations, including a ban of the marketing of unhealthy food on all digital media to which children are exposed, as well as comprehensive and mandatory regulation.



BNF position on the 2018 Nutrient Profiling Model

On 9 February, the [British Nutrition Foundation \(BNF\) stated its support for the adoption of the 2018 Nutrient Profiling Model \(NPM\)](#), noting that it better reflects current UK dietary guidance, particularly recommendations on reducing free sugars and increasing fibre intake. However, BNF highlighted significant operational challenges for industry, including the complexity of calculating free sugars and fruit, vegetable, nut and seed content for many products.

BNF recommends a phased implementation and closer collaboration between government, scientific bodies, NGOs and industry to ensure the model is workable and continues to encourage product reformulation.

Food labelling and composition

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EC initiative on Precautionary Allergen Labelling launched

The EC has published, in its [Have Your Say portal](#), a planned initiative on the voluntary provision of Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL). It will set requirements for providing voluntary information on the possible unintentional presence of allergens in food.

Environment and sustainability

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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Defra Circular Economy Forum

The next Defra Circular Economy Forum will be held online on 3 February, from 14:30-16:00. Attendees are no longer required to pre-register. The link will take attendees directly to the meeting. Calendar invites are no longer issued. Click [here](#) to access the meeting.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Food Waste Action Week to highlight food waste prevention

From 9–15 March, the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) will run [Food Waste Action Week](#) to promote food waste prevention and encourage households to recycle inedible food waste ahead of the 31 March rollout of Simpler Recycling. The campaign highlights that UK households waste 4.4 million tonnes of edible food each year, worth £17.5 billion, and provides local authorities with free toolkits and editable resources to support participation.





Government confirms no change to Year 1 packaging EPR fees

On 24 February, PackUK confirmed that disposal fees for [Year 1 of the Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging \(pEPR\) scheme](#) will remain as set out in producers' October 2025 Notices of Liability. A funding shortfall caused by revised packaging data submissions will be covered by the UK Government on a one-off basis to maintain stability and ensure local authorities receive the expected funding.



Environment Agency deploys new technology to combat waste crime

On 20 February, the Environment Agency (EA) announced an enhanced package of surveillance and investigative [tools to tackle waste crime](#). Measures include expanding a 33-strong drone squad with new laser-mapping capability and introducing a screening tool that cross-checks lorry licence applications against waste-permit records to identify suspect operators early. A strengthened Joint Unit for Waste Crime, now 20 specialists, will support enforcement activity as the Agency builds on a record year that saw 751 illegal waste sites closed.



Department
for Environment
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pEPR registration and fees guidance updated

On 5 February, Defra updated its [guidance on registering and paying fees under the pEPR scheme](#), removing references to provisional charges and confirming 2026 fee figures. The revisions also update the published fee amounts and clarify the administrative requirements for producers obligated to register and pay packaging fees.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Defra appoints new Director for Circular Economy

Defra has announced that Becky Shrubsole will take on the role of [Director for Circular Economy](#) later this spring. Becky brings senior policy and delivery experience from across government, including roles in Defra and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Simon James will lead the team until she takes up the post.



Scotland and Wales updates on recycling and waste management

On 6 February, the SG and the Welsh Government (WG) gave an update on their work on recycling and waste management. A short recording of this forum update is available from [Defra's YouTube](#) channel.



WG consultation on amendments to pEPR launched

On 30 January, the WG launched a [consultation on proposed amendments to the pEPR](#) scheme to include 'on-the-go' packaging waste placed in public bins or littered in Wales. The consultation seeks views on how producer fees should be structured to account for street-binned and littered packaging waste, with the aim of ensuring producers contribute to the costs of managing this packaging when it becomes waste. The consultation closes on 24 April.



EU Member States approve first omnibus package on sustainability reporting

On 24 February, EU Member States adopted the [first simplification omnibus package](#), confirming earlier political agreements to scale back elements of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CS3D).

The changes significantly narrow the number of companies in scope and reduce reporting and due diligence requirements. Member States will have 12 months to transpose the CSRD amendments, with CS3D changes to be implemented by 26 July 2028.



Agriculture

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Rural Payments
Agency

Farming Equipment and Technology Fund 2026 published

On 24 February, the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) published new [guidance for the 2026 Farming Equipment and Technology Fund \(FETF\)](#), which will help farmers, horticulturalists, forestry owners and contractors in England to buy equipment or technology to improve productivity, manage slurry and improve animal health and welfare. The fund includes three grant themes with individual application values between £1 000 and £25 000. FETF 2026 opens for applications on 17 March and close at midday on 28 April.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Defra publishes update on the Sustainable Farming Incentive 2026

On 24 February, Defra published [details of the Sustainable Farming Incentive 2026 \(SFI26\)](#). The new offer will be simpler, reducing the number of actions from 102 to 71, with low-uptake or lower-impact actions removed. Defra will apply a £100,000 annual agreement cap, introduce an area cap for enhanced overwinter stubble, and require applicants to have at least 3 hectares of agricultural land. Window 1 will open in June 2026 for small farms and those without existing Environmental Land Management (ELM) agreements, followed by Window 2 in September 2026



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Environmental Land Management capital grants

A new round of ELM Capital Grants will open in July 2026. The grants provide support for one-off farm investments, with £225 million available for tree planting, hedgerow restoration and water quality improvements, up from £150 million last year. See further information [here](#).



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Farming and Food Partnership Board

A new Farming and Food Partnership Board will meet for the first time in March 2026, bringing together government, the National Farmers' Union (NFU) and industry representatives. The Board will develop Sector Growth Plans, starting with horticulture and poultry, to identify barriers to growth, address supply chain challenges and explore how costs and market opportunities can be better shared across the food system. See the [Defra blog](#) for further information.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

New nutrient management planning tool

On 4 February, Defra, alongside the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB), [announced](#) the launch of a free [Nutrient Management Planning Tool for GB](#) to help farmers match nutrient inputs such as nitrogen, phosphate and potash to crop and soil needs. The tool aims to support more efficient nutrient use, improve productivity and maximise nutrient availability for food production while reducing nutrient losses to water and air.



UKRI investment for precision-bred crops and low emissions farming

On 2 February, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) announced an investment of over £21.5 million through Defra's Farming Innovation Programme (FIP) to [support projects developing precision-bred crops and low emissions farming technologies](#). The programme aims to improve agricultural productivity, strengthen resilience and sustainability, and enhance long-term food security by supporting innovations such as disease-resistant crops, improved yields and more sustainable farming practices.



CUPGRA appoints new COO and updates Secretariat arrangements

CUPGRA has appointed Andrew Knaggs as Chief Operating Officer, effective 5 January, to strengthen operational delivery and support its research and innovation activities for the UK potato sector. The newly created part-time role will focus on enhancing knowledge exchange, supporting members and securing external funding, while CUPGRA has also announced that Secretariat responsibilities will transfer from the National Institute of Agricultural Botany (NIAB) to the British Growers Association (BGA) in early 2026 to support the organisation's continued development and delivery of grower-focused research.

Plant protection products

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Pesticide Usage Statistics Survey 2024 for potato stores published

On 19 February, Fera Science Ltd published the latest [Pesticide Usage Statistics \(PUS\) Survey 2024](#) report on potato stores in the UK, covering potatoes harvested in 2024 and stored during the 2024/2025 season. The survey, which is conducted every two years, provides data on pesticide use in stored potatoes.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

PRiF November & December 2025 Rolling Report published

On 17 February, Defra published the results of the [Pesticide residues in food \(PRiF\): November & December 2025 Rolling Report](#). The data confirms that 17 potato samples were taken for the UK during this period. 15 samples were detected with residues. 10 samples were detected with multiple residues, and there were 3 exceedances of Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs).



EU updates approval conditions for maleic hydrazide

On 13 February, the EC published Implementing [Regulation \(EU\) 2026/321](#), amending the approval conditions for maleic hydrazide, an in-field treatment used to control volunteers and regulate growth in potatoes, and a key component of sprout suppression in stored potatoes across the EU and UK. The update removes previous instructions to avoid livestock exposure, an earlier requirement that implied treated crops could not be fed to animals, though this was not enforced in practice.



Summary report of the 2025 Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues published

The [Joint \[FAO/WHO\] Meeting on Pesticide Residues \(JMPR\) has released the summary report of its 2025 meeting](#) (see also [WHO summary](#)). During the meeting, 38 pesticides were assessed, with MRLs proposed for consideration by the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR), and supervised trials median residue and highest residue values established to support dietary exposure assessments of pesticide residues in food.



FAO/WHO call for experts on pesticides dietary exposure

The [FAO](#) and [WHO](#) are currently in the process of identifying qualified experts to contribute to forthcoming work on dietary exposure assessment of pesticide residues in food. The deadline for applications is 30 March. Please contact jmpr@fao.org and jmpr@who.int for any questions.



Groceries supply chain

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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Food statistics in your pocket updated

On 25 February, Defra updated its '[Food statistics in your pocket publication](#)', providing an overview of the UK food sector, including production, prices, trade and employment. The figures show that the agri-food sector contributed £153.2 billion to the UK economy in 2023, employed 4.1 million people in 2025, and that food and non-alcoholic drink prices rose by 4.5% in the year to December 2025. The document contains some statistics related to potatoes.

Trade

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Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

New 'Where's my truck' service launched at Sevington Border Control Post

A new service has been introduced at Sevington Border Control Post to provide traders, hauliers and agents with real-time updates on vehicle progress. The 'Where's my truck' system aims to speed up response times, improve accuracy and support smoother journeys by directing all update requests to a dedicated mailbox with mandatory validation details. To use the service, email SevingtonBCPEExternalComms@APHA.gov.uk.



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Borders Business Readiness Forum

The National Border Operations Business Readiness Forum will hold its next online session on 3 March 2026, providing stakeholders with monthly updates on developments in biosecurity and trade. Those wishing to attend or join future meetings can email APHA-BusinessReadinessForum@apha.gov.uk.

Partners

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UKIA Annual Conference – 4 March

The UK Irrigation Association (UKIA) will hold its 2026 Annual Conference themed 'Farming the future: Getting the best from available water resources' on 4 March, from 9:00-16:00, at the Orton Hall Hotel and Spa, near Peterborough. For more information, or to book tickets, see [here](#).



IFST event on managing allergens in food manufacture

On 4 March, the Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST) will host a Midlands Branch seminar at the University of Birmingham on managing allergens in food manufacture. The session will cover allergen risk assessment and analytical techniques to help reduce undeclared allergen contamination, with practical demonstrations of monitoring and verification methods. The event is aimed at students, technical staff and food industry professionals. For more information and to book, click [here](#).



IFST publishes new technical brief on UPFs

IFST has published a new Technical Brief outlining current research on UPFs. It reviews the origins of the term UPF and use of classification systems such as NOVA, examines links between formulation, processing and health outcomes, and discusses potential underlying causes of UPF-related concerns. The brief also highlights the trade-offs involved in reformulation, key evidence gaps, and practical considerations for businesses. The document is only available for IFST members.



IFST publishes new technical brief on UPFs

IFST has also published a new Technical Brief on how shelf life is set and reviewed across different food products. It covers key factors such as product composition, microbiological and quality considerations, study design, testing and validation, and guidance on reassessment for businesses. The document is only available for IFST members.



2026 State of the Industry Survey published

FoodDrinkEurope has published its [2026 State of the Industry survey](#), highlighting declining business confidence, rising cost pressures and increasing regulatory complexity affecting companies across the European Union.

The survey reports that Europe has fallen to third place as an investment destination in the latest Chief Executive Officer ranking, with only 31 per cent of respondents considering it an attractive location for innovation compared with other global markets.



FoodDrinkEurope publishes 2025 Data and Trends report

FoodDrinkEurope has also released its [2025 Data and Trends report](#), confirming the food and drink sector is the EU’s largest manufacturing industry, employing 4.8 million people and generating nearly €1.5 trillion in turnover. Extra-EU exports rose to €190 billion in 2024, with the report also highlighting key consumption and sustainability trends.



FDf State of Industry report Q4 2025

On 25 February, the Food and Drink Federation (FDF) published its [State of Industry Report Q4 2025](#) showing business confidence remained negative at –31% during the key Christmas trading period, with half of small food and drink manufacturers reporting worsening conditions. According to the report, 2026 is likely to be defined by weak consumer demand and sustained structural cost pressures. However, despite weak consumer demand, most businesses plan to maintain or increase investment in 2026, with growing UK sales remaining the sector’s top priority.

PPA committee meeting dates 2026

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PPA Board

26 March	14:00-16:00 TBC	Peterborough
Other 2026 dates TBC	TBC	TBC

Food Law and Consumer [FLC] committee

10 March	13:00-16:00	Microsoft Teams (online)
30 June	10:30-14:30	London TBC (in person)
11 November	13:00-16:00	Microsoft Teams (online)

Primary Production Technical committee [PPTC] committee

26 March	10:30-12:30 TBC	Peterborough
Other 2026 dates TBC	TBC	TBC

PPA circulars issued in February 2026

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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.
03-Feb	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 5 2026	060/26
03-Feb	Provisional Timeline for AA regulation(s) and updated ESA process contaminants issues tracker	061/26
04-Feb	Summary of SCoPAFF meeting on French Decree Imposing Import Restrictions	062/26
04-Feb	PPA position on potential impact of UK/EU SPS agreement on the processed potato sector	063/26
04-Feb	Agenda for Commission Working Group on Environmental and Industrial Contaminants in food, 12-13 March 2026	064/26
04-Feb	FLC meeting minutes 12 November 2025	065/26
04-Feb	Current MOAH Laboratories List (January - June 2026)	066/26
05-Feb	GB Potatoes update on mancozeb emergency authorisation application	067/26
05-Feb	EFRA report on UK-EU agritrade: making an SPS agreement work	068/26
05-Feb	DHSC question on financial impact of mandatory reporting of healthy food sales	069/26
05-Feb	Update of Codex Code of Practice on Acrylamide	070/26
05-Feb	EPR update	071/26
06-Feb	Analysis of Family Food Survey	072/26
09-Feb	European Commission initiative on Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL)	073/26
09-Feb	FDf Questions on 2018 NPM guidance and calculation of free sugars	074/26
09-Feb	DG SANTE proposed measure: draft proposal to amend the specifications for ascorbyl palmitate E 304(i)	075/26
09-Feb	Latest EC draft on monitoring recommendation of PAHs in smoked foods with conventional smoking processes + draft Regulation revising maximum levels (MLs) for PAHs in certain foods	076/26
09-Feb	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 6 2026	077/26
09-Feb	Additional Information on EC initiative on Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL)	078/26
09-Feb	PPA Draft Position statement on GLP-1 drugs and impact upon sales	079/26
10-Feb	Review of EFSA data on snacks 2019-2025	080/26
10-Feb	Nutrition & Health Tracker	081/26
10-Feb	Agenda for the next Commission Working Group meeting on Agricultural Contaminants, 16 February 2026	082/26
10-Feb	Notes from FDF meeting with Defra and Cabinet Office on UK-EU SPS agreement	083/26
10-Feb	ESA General Contaminants Issue tracker	084/26
11-Feb	Scientific Evidence Challenges the EU Residue Definition Established for the Control of Ethylene Oxide in Food	085/26

12-Feb	Review of EFSA data on non-snack potato products 2019-2025	086/26
12-Feb	FLC Agenda, 10 March 2026	087/26
13-Feb	Commission Regulation on Maleic Hydrazide	088/26
16-Feb	Codex: Proposed draft revision of the class names and the International Numbering System (INS) for food additives	089/26
16-Feb	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 7 2026	090/26
16-Feb	Informal summary report of the meeting of Commission Working Group on Additives – 27/28 November and 14 January	091/26
18-Feb	FSA Note on the application of Reg 2019/1793 on the temporary increases of official controls & emergency measures (HRFNAO)	092/26
18-Feb	Proposal for meeting with Defra team	093/26
18-Feb	SG Draft Diet & Healthy Weight Implementation Plan and FSS Strategy 2026-2031	094/26
18-Feb	CCFL Electronic Working Group (EWG) on the Guidelines on the Use of Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL) – FoodDrinkEurope comment	095/26
19-Feb	BExG Food Labelling work on updating the FSA Guidance on Clear Food Labelling - 5th draft	096/25
19-Feb	FoodDrinkEurope Overview of national approaches on food safety management (thresholds) and labelling of allergens	097/26
19-Feb	Commission emails to ESA and FoodDrinkEurope on acrylamide Benchmark levels	098/26
19-Feb	Commission email to FoodDrinkEurope on acrylamide Benchmark levels - EUPPA call for input	099/26
19-Feb	FDE Acrylamide Toolbox Update 2026 draft - whole document	100/26
19-Feb	Draft FDE response to Codex discussion paper on revision of COP on acrylamide mitigation	101/26
20-Feb	Informal summary report of the EC Working Group on agricultural contaminants of 16 February 2026	102/26
23-Feb	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 8 2026	103/26
23-Feb	Regulation extending the EU approval periods for a number of active substances	104/26
23-Feb	NDNS consumption data for crisps & savoury snacks (2019-2023)	105/26
23-Feb	Europatat Code of Practice on Glycoalkaloids revised	106/26
24-Feb	NDNS consumption data for chips & fried potatoes (2019-2023)	107/26
26-Feb	FSA survey on Impact of EU removal of authorisation of 10 smoke flavourings	108/26
27-Feb	Monthly digest of EU legislation (February 2026)	109/26
27-Feb	Plant protection products log – February 2026	110/26
27-Feb	Final PPA reactive statement on the impact of GLP-1 drugs on grocery volumes	111/26
27-Feb	FDf summary of UK and EU Deforestation initiatives	112/26
27-Feb	PPA Monthly Members' News sheet: February 2026	113/26

Primary Production Technical Committee (PPTC)

Date	Subject	Circular No.
03-Feb	Provisional Timeline for AA regulation(s) and updated ESA process contaminants issues tracker	025/26
04-Feb	Summary of SCoPAFF meeting on French Decree Imposing Import Restrictions	026/26
04-Feb	PPA position on potential impact of UK/EU SPS agreement on the processed potato sector - final draft	027/26
04-Feb	Agenda for Commission Working Group on Environmental and Industrial Contaminants in food, 12-13 March 2026	028/26

05-Feb	GB Potatoes Statement on Mancozeb	029/26
05-Feb	Efra Committee report on SPS	030/26
05-Feb	Update of Codex Code of Practice on Acrylamide	031/26
06-Feb	Quarter 2 2025 report on the pesticide residues monitoring programme	032/26
06-Feb	Draft FDF response to EA consultation on reserving water abstraction rights	033/26
06-Feb	Minutes from NSP meeting, 15 January 2026	034/26
06-Feb	Doodle poll for next PPA Board and PPTC meetings	035/26
06-Feb	Defra questions on: Testing operational requirements of a transitional period scenario (UK/EU SPS)	036/26
10-Feb	Review of EFSA data on snacks 2019-2025	037/26
10-Feb	Notes from FDF meeting with Defra and Cabinet Office on UK-EU SPS agreement – 5 February -	038/26
10-Feb	Updated ESA 'general contaminants' tracker	039/26
11-Feb	Draft PPA response to EA consultation on reserving water abstraction rights	040/26
12-Feb	Review of EFSA data on non-snack potato products 2019-2025	041/26
13-Feb	Commission Regulation on Maleic Hydrazide	042/26
13-Feb	GB Potatoes response to EA consultation on reserving water abstraction rights	043/26
17-Feb	Pesticide residues in food: November & December 2025 Rolling Reporting	044/26
18-Feb	PPA sector-specific meeting with Defra	045/26
18-Feb	Extending the CUPGRA Reference Crop	046/26
18-Feb	PPA and NEFF responses to EA consultation on reserving water abstraction rights	047/26
19-Feb	Commission emails to ESA and FoodDrinkEurope on acrylamide Benchmark levels	048/26
19-Feb	Commission email to FoodDrinkEurope on acrylamide Benchmark levels - EUPPA call for input	049/26
19-Feb	Commission email to FoodDrinkEurope on acrylamide Benchmark levels - EUPPA call for input	049/26
19-Feb	Results of doodle poll for next PPA Board and PPTC meetings	050/26
19-Feb	Draft FDE response to Codex discussion paper on revision of COP on acrylamide mitigation	051/26
19-Feb	Draft FDE response to Codex discussion paper on revision of COP on acrylamide mitigation	052/26
23-Feb	Venue for next PPA Board and PPTC meetings	053/26
23-Feb	Regulation extending the EU approval periods for a number of active substances	054/26
23-Feb	PVC - Code of Practice on glycoalkaloids - draft for comment	055/26
26-Feb	Pesticide Usage Statistics: 2024 Potato Stores in the UK	056/26
27-Feb	Monthly digest of EU legislation (February 2026)	057/26
27-Feb	Plant protection products log – February 2026	058/26
27-Feb	PPA Monthly Members' News sheet: February 2026	059/26

Upcoming events

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3 March 2026	FDF/Beyondly webinar: The Future of Packaging Sustainability and PPWR, online
4 March 2026	IFST seminar: Managing Allergens in Food Manufacture, Birmingham
11-12 March 2026	PSI Potato Store Managers' Course, Rutland
12 March 2026	FDF/Argon & Co webinar: Reducing food waste: From insight to action, online
25 March 2026	FDF Food and Drink Industry Dinner, London
30 Mar-1 Apr 2026	IFE 2026, London
4 March 2026	UKIA 2026 Annual Conference, Orton Longueville
27-29 April 2026	World Retail Congress, Berlin
20 May 2026	SDF/PSI Strategic Potato Day 2026, Holbeach St Marks, Lincs
3-4 June 2026	Europatat Congress, Radisson Collection Hotel Grand Place, Brussels
17-18 June 2026	Snackex 2026, Lisbon
18 June 2026	EUPPA General Assembly, online
1 July 2026	FDF Annual Summer Parliamentary reception, London
17 September 2026	FDF Awards, The Troxy, London
12-14 October 2026	ESA Savoury Snacks Production Course Part 3: Snack Nuts, Origin to Packet. Porto, Portugal
13-14 October 2026	EUPPA General Assembly and Committee meetings, Brussels

Industry meetings

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2 March 2026	FDE Acrylamide Task Force meeting, online
3 March 2026	ESA EC Regulatory (ECR) Group meeting , online
3 March 2026	FDF Board meeting, London
3 March 2026	FDF Nutrition WG on NPM meeting, online
4 March 2026	FDF Food Ingredients Group (FIG) meeting, hybrid
4 March 2026	Norfolk Environment Food and Farming AGM, Norwich
4 March 2026	Webinar with Mike Reader MP, Chair, Food and Drink APPG, online
5 March 2026	PPA call with Fareshare
5 March 2026	FDF Food Safety Committee (FSC) meeting, hybrid
5 March 2026	ESA Sustainability WG meeting , online
9 March 2026	Red Tractor Fresh Produce TAC - Standards Review, online
9 March 2026	EUPPA Agricultural Sustainability Meeting, online
9 March 2026	EUPPA Processing Sustainability Meeting, online
10 March 2026	EUPPA Food Law Committee meeting, online
10 March 2026	PPA Food Law & Consumer (FLC) Committee meeting, online
11 March 2026	Treater Group meeting, online
11 March 2026	ESA Nut Processors Working Group (NPWG) meeting , online
12 March 2026	ESA Public Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting , online
12 March 2026	FDF Food Law & Labelling (FLL) Committee meeting, hybrid
12 March 2026	Red Tractor Fresh Produce TAC - Standards Review, online
18 March 2026	FDF Diet & Health Committee (DHC) meeting, hybrid
18 March 2026	Red Tractor Fresh Produce TAC - Standards Review, online
19 March 2026	Potato Stakeholder Fortnightly Call
19 March 2026	ESA ECR/NPWG ad-hoc call with Frans Verstrate , online
19 March 2026	FDF Food Contact Materials (FCM) Committee meeting, hybrid
24 March 2026	Advertising Association (AA) Food Advertising WG meeting, online
24 March 2026	Food Industry Liaison Group (FILG) meeting, online
25 March 2026	FDF President's Committee meeting, London
26 March 2026	PPA Primary Production Technical Committee (PPTC) meeting, Peterborough
26 March 2026	PPA Board meeting, Peterborough

Documents to note

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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 15 January 2026)

[COLLECTION: Customs, VAT and excise UK transition legislation from 1 January 2021](#) (last updated 20 January 2026)

[COLLECTION: Withdrawal Agreement Joint Committee](#) (last updated 2 February 2026)

[COLLECTION: REUL \(Revocation and Reform\) Act 2023 statutory instruments](#) (last updated 26 February 2026)

Windsor Framework

[Defra Guidance: Labelling requirements for certain products moving from GB to retail premises in NI under NIRMS](#) (last updated 16 June 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Commodity codes for NIRMS](#) (last updated 15 July 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Movement Assistance Scheme: get help with moving agrifood goods to NI](#) (last updated 4 July 2025)

[NI-GB Trader Support Service](#)

[TSS bulletins](#) (latest bulletin 12 February 2026)

[Guidance: Moving qualifying goods from Northern Ireland to the rest of the UK](#) (last updated 31 January 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Move seed potatoes from GB-NI using NI plant health labels](#) (first published 20 February 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Apply to renew a Northern Ireland plant health label \(NIPHL\) scheme authorisation](#) (first published 18 March 2025)

[Defra Guidance: NIRMS: how to register](#) (last updated 4 November 2025)

[NICTA website](#)

[Defra Guidance: NIRMS: how to move goods](#) (first published 31 October 2025)

UK Imports

[Defra Guidance: Import animal products for human consumption to GB](#) (last updated 22 April 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Import compound products to GB](#) (last updated 19 September 2025)

[APHA guidance: BTOM risk categorisations \(EU and non-EU plant and plant products\)](#) (last updated 2 December 2025)

[Defra/APHA Guidance: Check risk categories for animal and animal product imported from the EU to GB](#) (last updated 26 March 2025)

[Defra Guidance: BTOM risk categories and inspection rates for animal and animal product imports from non-EU countries to GB: summary tables](#) (last updated 1 April 2025)

[Defra/APHA: EU Imports to England & Wales Fees](#) (last updated 19 January 2026)

[HMRC Guidance: Importing SPS controlled goods into GB that interact with the Border Trade Matching Service](#) (last updated 2 February 2026)

[HMRC Notice: Notices made under the Customs \(Import Duty\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2018](#) (last updated 12 January 2026)

[DBT/HM Treasury/HMRC Guidance: UK Trade Tariff: duty suspensions and autonomous tariff quotas](#) (last updated 5 February 2025)

[Defra: EU and EFTA countries approved to export animals and animal products to GB](#) (last updated 26 February 2026)

[HMRC Guidance: Goods Vehicle Movement Service - service availability and issues](#) (last updated 23 February 2026)

[HMRC Guidance Create a goods movement reference](#) (last updated 1 September 2025)

[Defra: Non-EU countries approved to export animals and animal products to GB](#) (last updated 25 February 2026)

[Defra/APHA Guidance: Check import risk categories, inspection rates and related rules for animals and animal products imported from non-EU countries to GB](#) (last updated 1 April 2025)

[HMRC: Safety and security declarations](#) (last updated 11 February 2026)

[Defra/APHA Guidance: Animals, animal products and HRFNAO imports: authorised border control posts in the UK](#) (last updated 20 February 2026)

[Defra Form High risk food and feed of non-animal origin \(HRFNAO\): official certificates](#) (last updated 11 August 2025)

[Defra/APHA Guidance: Imports, exports and EU trade of animals and animal products: topical issues](#) (last updated 26 February 2026)

Exports

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

[HMRC Notice: Notices made under the Customs \(Export\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (last updated 1 May 2025)

[DBT/DIT Guidance: UK trade agreements in effect](#) (last updated 7 February 2025)

[HMRC Guidance: Search the register of customs agents and express operators](#) (last updated 27 January 2026)

[Defra Guidance: Businesses approved to export to the EU](#) (last updated 23 January 2026)

[HMRC: Safety and security declarations](#) (last updated 2 January 2026)

[HMRC: Moving licensed goods into or out of NI](#) (last updated 15 September 2025)

[HMRC Guidance: Make an entry summary declaration using the Import Control System 2](#) (last updated 1 January 2026)

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), Plastic Packaging Tax (PPT) and Simpler Recycling

[Defra Collection: Extended producer responsibility for packaging](#) (last updated 12 November 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Packaging data: what to collect for extended producer responsibility](#) (last updated 17 February 2026)

[Defra Guidance: Extended producer responsibility for packaging: generate a packaging data file](#) (last updated 20 August 2025)

[Defra/EA Guidance: Packaging data: how to create your file for extended producer responsibility](#) (last updated 29 September 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Organisation details: how to create your file for extended producer responsibility \(EPR\) for packaging](#) (last updated 19 February 2026)

[Defra/EA Guidance: Extended Producer Responsibility: who is affected and what to do](#) (last updated 10 February 2026)

[Defra Guidance: Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging: how to assess household and non-household packaging](#) (last updated 5 August 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Extended producer responsibility for packaging: check the public register of producers](#) (last updated 3 February 2026)

[Defra Guidance: Simpler recycling: workplace recycling in England](#) (last updated 3 October 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Recyclability assessment methodology: how to assess your packaging waste](#) (last updated 4 September 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Packaging data: check reporting periods and submission deadlines](#) (last updated 16 December 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Extended producer responsibility for packaging: fit and proper person](#) (first published 18 March 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Recyclability assessment methodology: supplementary guidance](#) (last updated 2 December 2025)

[Defra Guidance: Extended producer responsibility for packaging: contact and support](#) (first published 10 October 2025)

[PackUK: Preparing for pEPR year 1 invoicing: key information for liable producers](#) (first published 9 September 2025)

[PackUK/Defra Guidance: Year 2 illustrative waste disposal fees: Extended producer responsibility for packaging](#) (first published 16 December 2025)

Water

[EA: Water situation reports for England](#) (last updated 11 February 2026)

[EA: Dry weather and drought in England: summary reports](#) (last updated 27 February 2026)

[EA: Rainfall and river flow: weekly reports for England](#) (last updated 26 February 2026)

[EA: Guidance. Environmental permits: when and how you are charged](#) (last updated 22 September 2025)

[EA: Guidance. Water resources licences: when and how you are charged](#) (last updated 22 September 2025)

[EA: Statutory guidance Environmental permits and abstraction licences: tables of charges](#) (last updated 15 October 2025)

[EA: Guidance Abstract or impound water: hydrological and hydraulic information needed for your licence application](#) (last updated 29 August 2025)

[EA: Guidance Environment Agency fees and charges](#) (last updated 3 February 2026)

[EA: Policy paper. Drought: how it is managed in England](#) (last updated 23 September 2025)

Current consultations

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Defra: [Consultation on new England-wide proposals for tighter controls on sewage sludge spreading](#) (closes on 24 March 2026)

EC: [Consultation on Food and feed safety – simplification omnibus](#) (closes on 13 April 2026)

EC: [Consultation on Biotech Act](#) (closes on 23 April 2026)

WG: [Consultation on amendments to Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging \(pEPR\)](#) (closes on 24 April 2026)

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