

Newsletter – March 2026

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Government

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Government guidance on SPS agreement published



UK Government On 9 March, the UK Government published its [guidance for businesses on preparing for the proposed UK-EU Sanitary and Phytosanitary \(SPS\) Agreement](#), which would establish a new framework covering the regulation of animals, plants, food and feed traded between the UK and EU, based on dynamic alignment with EU legislation.

The guidance covers businesses affected, areas in scope of the agreement, [legislation in scope](#), and to a lesser extent, exceptions, digital systems and processes. The agreement will apply to all UK businesses, regardless of whether they trade with the EU, and it is expected to apply from mid-2027. The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) state they are considering targeted (sectoral) transitional arrangements ahead of agreement coming into force. [Detailed guidance](#) will be published in May 2026.

Call for information on the SPS agreement



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs Also on 9 March, Defra launched a [Call for Information](#), closing on 23 April, to gather views on how the UK-EU SPS agreement could affect operations and what support may be needed ahead of implementation.

Defra request for case studies on SPS impacts across food supply chains



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs Defra is seeking case studies from businesses to better understand the impact of regulatory divergence under the UK-EU SPS agreement on food supply chains, following sector-specific workshops held in February. Defra has issued a 'Journey Overview Template' to capture impacts across key crops, including potatoes. PPA members are encouraged to complete the form (which can be provided upon request) in as much detail as possible and return it to the PPA Secretariat by close of business on 7 April.



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

New Permanent Secretary appointed at the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

On 6 March, the Cabinet Office and the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) have announced the [appointment of Jonathan Brearley as Permanent Secretary](#). Brearley, previously Chief Executive of Ofgem, brings extensive experience in energy policy and regulation, and succeeds Clive Maxwell, who had been serving as Interim Permanent Secretary.



UK
Parliament

EFRA Committee report on UK–EU SPS agreement highlights risks and opportunities

On 5 March, the House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee (EFRA) has published a [report examining the opportunities and risks associated with a UK-EU SPS agreement](#), highlighting concerns around dynamic alignment with EU rules. The report calls for exemptions for precision-bred products, cautions against automatic alignment with EU pesticide and contaminant rules without UK-specific evidence, and stresses the need for clear communication with businesses and realistic implementation timelines, recommending at least 24 months to allow adaptation to any regulatory changes.



UK
Parliament

Report on UK–EU relationship highlights SPS agreement priorities

On 4 March, the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee has published its report on [building a UK-EU strategic partnership on agritrade](#), identifying the SPS agreement as a key priority to reduce barriers to trade in food, plants and animals. The report highlights the importance of reducing trade friction while maintaining the Government's stated red lines, noting that leaving the Single Market and Customs Union has led to increased barriers and reduced trade flows, and emphasises the need for clearer objectives and transparency in negotiations.

Food safety

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Government Chemist

Government Chemist Food and Feed Legislation – December.25 update

The Government Chemist has published its latest [report summarising updates to UK legislation in food and feed law, from 1 October – 31 December 2025](#). The updates include UK and EU legislation, and other technical publications which might be of interest.



Food
Standards
Agency

FSA March Board meeting

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) held its latest [Board meeting](#) on 25 March, in Weymouth, from 9:00-13:20. Agenda items included the FSA preparation for the UK/EU SPS Agreement, the future of the Food Regulation Programme, Healthier Food Targets and reporting and foodborne disease. Also see the [FSA Blog](#) with more detail about the March meeting. A recording of the meeting will be added to the [FSA YouTube channel](#) in due course.



Food
Standards
Agency

FSA sets out plans to modernise food regulatory system

At the FSA Board meeting, the FSA set out plans to modernise the food regulatory system through its [Future of Food Regulation programme](#), including exploring proposals for a national regulatory approach for large food businesses in England. The programme aims to improve how food safety risks are identified, reduce administrative burdens for businesses, and ensure the regulatory system remains effective and resilient, with further engagement planned with industry, local authorities and other stakeholders.



FSA Incident Prevention newsletter

The FSA has issued its [March 2026 Incident Prevention Update](#), providing an overview of recent food incidents, EU Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) notifications and emerging issues. The update also highlights ongoing work on root cause analysis, investigations into animal feed and pet food, and collaboration with the Institute of Grocery Distribution (IGD) to develop an incident response framework. To sign up to the newsletter, click [here](#).



FSS consultation on authorisation of CBD products as novel foods

Food Standards Scotland (FSS) has launched a 12-week [consultation on the first three applications for authorisation of cannabidiol \(CBD\) products as novel foods in Scotland](#). The consultation seeks views from stakeholders on safety, labelling, enforcement and consumer protection considerations, with responses to inform recommendations to Scottish Ministers on whether the products should be authorised for the Scottish market. The consultation closes on 16 June.



Draft EU Regulation on mineral oil hydrocarbons in food notified at WTO

The European Commission (EC) has notified a draft Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2023/915 to introduce maximum levels for mineral oil aromatic hydrocarbons in food to the World Trade Organization (WTO) ([G/SPS/N/EU/930](#)). The WTO deadline for comments is 10 May. The proposal is expected to apply from 1 January 2027.



EU Regulation updates authorised substances for plastic food contact materials

The EC has published [Regulation \(EU\) 2026/245](#) amending Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, updating the Union list of authorised substances in line with the latest European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) assessments. The amendment adds new substances, modifies existing entries and updates conditions of use to reflect current scientific understanding and ensure consumer safety.



EFSA open call for food additives in food and beverages launched

On 4 March, EFSA launched its [Open call for food additives analytical and use level data in food and beverages intended for human consumption](#). This call for data is launched annually. This year's call for data closes on 31 August.



WHO/FAO announce theme for World Food Safety Day 2026



The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) have announced the theme for [World Food Safety Day 2026](#), 'From burden to solutions – safe food everywhere'. Observed on 7 June, the campaign will focus on how data on foodborne illness can support more targeted and cost-effective food safety actions, with updated global estimates on the burden of foodborne diseases to be released by WHO ahead of the event.

The WHO, FAO and Codex teams behind the World Food Safety Day 2026 will be hosting a [planning webinar on 7 April](#) at 13:00 CEST.



WHO/FAO call for data on the impact of freezing temperatures on safety of foods



The [WHO](#) and [FAO](#) have issued a call for data on the impact of freezing and frozen storage temperatures on the microbiological safety of food, seeking input from governments, industry and researchers. The data will support future scientific advice and potential updates to international guidance, including Codex standards, with a focus on how different sub-zero temperatures affect pathogens, parasites and overall food safety. The deadline for submissions is 15 April.

On 5 March, the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT) published its [statement on the risks from T-2 and HT-2 mycotoxins in food](#). The assessment found that exposure from processed oats and other grains is generally low and not considered a health concern for most consumers, although some higher-consuming groups, such as infants and toddlers, may occasionally exceed guidance values. However, some exceedances were observed in ready-to-eat foods, indicating that certain oat-based products may require closer attention.

Health and wellbeing

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Department
of Health &
Social Care

DHSC market engagement on child poverty and health

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has launched a [market engagement exercise following publication of the Child Poverty Strategy](#), seeking to engage with stakeholders to explore opportunities to address the health impacts of child poverty. As part of this, DHSC will host a virtual roundtable on 15 April. If your organisation is interested in attending the roundtable, please complete the DHSC [questionnaire](#) by 17:00 on 9 April, to support attendance and help identify potential opportunities for collaboration.



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Consultation on applying the 2018 NPM to advertising and promotions restrictions

On 25 March, DHSC launched its [consultation on proposals to apply the updated Nutrient Profiling Model \(NPM\) to advertising \(UK-wide\) and promotions restrictions \(England-only\)](#) for food High in Fat, Sugar and Salt (HFSS)/Less Healthy Food (LHF). The proposals include a 12-month implementation period. The consultation is open until 11:59pm on 17 June (see also [press release](#)).



Welsh HFSS promotion restrictions come into force

On 26 March, [The Food \(Promotion and Presentation\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2025](#) came into force, introducing volume price and location promotion restrictions of HFSS food and drink in Wales.



Nesta analysis on lessons learnt from new LHF advertising restrictions

On 11 March, the charity Nesta published an [analysis outlining four key lessons from the introduction of advertising restrictions for LHF products](#), finding that delays, policy changes and exemptions have significantly reduced their potential impact. The analysis highlights that gaps in scope, including exclusions for brand advertising and certain channels, mean the restrictions may affect only a small proportion of overall advertising activity, and emphasises the need for clearer scope, stronger implementation and reduced policy dilution in future public health measures.



Nesta report models impact of tax on unhealthy foods

On 3 March, Nesta also published a report titled '[Modelling the impact of a tax on unhealthy foods](#)', examining the potential effects of introducing a tax based on the product's NPM. The analysis suggests that such a tax could lead to meaningful improvements in diets and reduce obesity rates, while increasing the average cost of a typical food basket by around 1 per cent, with higher price increases concentrated on the least healthy products.



YouGov analysis on impact of weight loss drugs on food consumption and spending

On 6 March, YouGov published [analysis examining how the use of weight loss drugs in Britain](#) is influencing grocery spending, takeaway consumption and food choices. The findings indicate that users of these medications are reducing spending on groceries and takeaways, eating fewer snacks and fast food, and shifting towards healthier, more nutrient-dense foods, with implications for consumer behaviour and demand across the food sector.



ING analysis examines potential impact of weight loss drugs on European food demand

On 20 March, ING published [analysis exploring the potential impact of weight loss drugs on European food demand](#), noting that while these drugs may influence consumer eating habits, their overall impact is expected to be limited in the immediate term. The analysis highlights that lower consumption linked to reduced appetite could affect certain food categories, including savoury snacks, but broader market factors mean any structural shift in food demand is likely to be gradual, and emphasises that while GLP-1 drugs may support individual behaviour change, they do not address the underlying structural challenges within the food system.

Environment and sustainability

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Reminder on submission of RAM data under pEPR requirements



Large producers are reminded to submit Recyclability Assessment Methodology (RAM) data for packaging subject to disposal fees as part of the Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging (pEPR) reporting requirements. Obligated producers must submit H2 RAM data (July to December 2025) alongside their placed on market (POM) packaging data by 1 April, and are encouraged to review [PackUK guidance on assessing recyclability](#).



April Defra Circular Economy Joint Stakeholder Forum

The next Defra Circular Economy Forum will be held online on 14 April, 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.



Consultation on PRN system reform

On 24 March, Defra launched a [consultation seeking views on proposed reforms to the Packaging Waste Recycling Note \(PRN\)](#) and Packaging Waste Export Recycling Note (PERN) system, which is used by producers to demonstrate compliance with recycling obligations. The consultation outlines potential changes to improve the system, including measures to level the playing field between domestic re-processors and exporters and to reduce the risk of fraud and error. The consultation closes on 5 May.



New UK Packaging PRO appointed



On 23 March, PackUK and Defra announced the [appointment of 'UK Packaging PRO'](#) as the new Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) for the UK's pEPR Scheme. UK Packaging PRO is a producer-led organisation bringing together over 100 brands, retailers and trade bodies, and will work with PackUK to support delivery of the pEPR scheme on a UK-wide basis.



pEPR Notice of Liability guidance published



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Also on 23 March, PackUK and Defra published [new guidance on Notices of Liability pEPR scheme](#), setting out what a notice of liability includes, who must pay it, when payment is due, and what happens if fees are recalculated or disputed.



PackUK Operational Plan 2026–2027 published

On 2 March 2026, [PackUK published its Operational Plan for 2026–2027](#), setting out how it will deliver its role as pEPR Scheme Administrator, including key operational priorities, governance arrangements and delivery milestones. The plan outlines producer-facing processes such as charging, data management and compliance oversight.

Agriculture

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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Deadline for ADOPT Fund Round 6 applications

[Round 6 of the Accelerating Development of Practices and Technologies \(ADOPT\) Fund](#) closes to new applications at 11:00am on 8 April. Businesses seeking funding under this round must submit applications by the deadline via the official application portal.



Environment
Agency

Environment Agency requirement to submit abstraction returns

If you hold a winter or all-year-round water abstraction licence, the Environment Agency (EA) will require you to [submit your record of actual water abstraction annually](#), including at the end of the winter abstraction period in April. Licence holders must submit their abstraction return within 28 days of being requested to do so, even if no water has been abstracted. Returns are due before 28 April and 28 November, depending on the terms of your licence.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Area under agri-environment schemes in England statistics published

On 26 March, Defra published [statistics on the area of land managed under agri-environment schemes in England](#) as at 31 December 2025, covering the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI), Countryside Stewardship and Environmental Stewardship schemes. The publication provides estimates of land area under these schemes, including breakdowns by region, to support understanding of uptake of environmental land management across England.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Farming and Food Partnership Board launched

On 25 March, Defra announced the first meeting of the [Farming and Food Partnership Board \(FFPB\)](#), bringing together ministers and industry leaders to improve productivity, profitability and resilience across the food and farming sector. The Board will complement the Food Strategy Advisory Board (FSAB), supporting wider work to drive change across the food system.

The FFPB will focus on strengthening supply chains, supporting homegrown production and placing farm productivity at the centre of decision-making, building on the Farm Profitability Review. Horticulture will be the first sector in focus, with work commencing immediately.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Consultation on reform of UK fertilisers regulation launched

On 26 March, Defra launched a [consultation on proposals to replace existing fertilisers legislation](#) with a new regulatory framework, the UK Fertilising Product Regulations (UK FPR), aimed at supporting innovation and improving environmental outcomes. The consultation also proposes new requirements for ammonium nitrate fertilisers and seeks stakeholder views on impacts on market access, competition, supply resilience and the environment. The consultation closes on 13 May.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Land Use Framework for England published

On 18 March, Defra published England's first [Land Use Framework](#), setting out how land can be managed to balance priorities including housing, nature recovery, clean energy and food production. The framework provides a national approach to improving land use planning and resilience while supporting continued food production in England. Click [here](#) for press release. The [response to the 2025 consultation](#) was also published.



Environment
Agency

£1.4 billion flood investment announced to protect homes and businesses



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

On 17 March, the EA and Defra [announced a £1.4 billion investment in flood defences](#), including £830 million for flood schemes in 2026/27 and £260 million for repairs and maintenance. The funding will support more than 600 projects across England to improve protection for homes and businesses.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Farming Equipment and Technology Fund 2026 applications open

Defra has opened applications for the [2026 Farming Equipment and Technology Fund \(FETF\)](#), which offers grants of up to £25,000 to support farmers, growers and foresters in England to invest in equipment to improve productivity, manage slurry and enhance animal health and welfare. The fund makes £50 million available across three themes, with applications open until midday on 28 April 2026, and represents the final dedicated round of the scheme before future support is reviewed from 2027.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Guidance published on long-term Farm Business Tenancies

The Farm Tenancy Forum has published new [guidance to support landlords and tenants considering long-term Farm Business Tenancies](#). The guidance aims to help both parties set clear expectations from the outset and support the development of strong and productive landlord-tenant relationships.



European Commission releases its guidance document on new packaging regulation

The [guidance document](#) on the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) was eventually published on the European Commission's website on 30 March. It provides the Commission's interpretation of selected provisions of the PPWR and aims to 'support the effective and timely implementation of the Regulation by economic operators and Member States'.

The guidance was published together with a set of frequently asked questions available [here](#). The document includes questions on most sustainability requirements and PPWR articles.

Groceries supply chain

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IGD Viewpoint special report on food inflation drivers

On 25 March, the IGD published a Viewpoint special report titled '[Where does your food pound go?](#)'. The report comprises of two parts analysing costs, margins and profitability across the food supply chain based on nine everyday food products, including potatoes. The report finds that recent food inflation has been largely cost-driven rather than margin-driven, highlighting pressures from government policy, market forces and input costs, while detailed product-level analysis shows how cost pressures and margin changes vary across farmers, processors and retailers, with implications for resilience, pricing and investment. The [part 2 report](#) includes a focussed analysis on potatoes.



National Cyber
Security Centre

NCSC alert on cyber security risks linked to Middle East conflict

The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) has issued an [alert on the cyber security implications of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East](#), advising that while there is no current significant change in direct cyber threats to the UK, organisations with operations or supply chains in the region may face heightened collateral risk. The NCSC recommends that organisations review their cyber security posture, [report any incidents](#), and monitor developments closely, noting that the threat landscape may change rapidly.



EU Regulation strengthens cooperation on unfair trading practices enforcement

On 20 March, [Regulation \(EU\) 2026/697](#) was published in the Official Journal of the European Union, setting out new rules to improve cooperation between enforcement authorities responsible for tackling unfair trading practices in the agricultural and food supply chain. The new Regulation establishes mechanisms for information exchange and mutual assistance between EU Member States (EUMSs), particularly in cross-border cases. It enters into force on 9 April 2026 and becomes directly applicable in all EUMSs on 10 September 2027.

Trade

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UK Government

Webinar on EU SPS requirements

On 20 April, the Business Academy will host an online webinar titled '[Demystifying sanitary and phytosanitary requirements when selling to the EU](#)'. The webinar is aimed at businesses exporting food and animal products to the EU. The session will cover key food safety and animal health measures, checks that may apply, recent updates to guidance, and available support from the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) to help businesses navigate export requirements.



UK Government

Gateway USA webinar on FDA compliance for exporters

On 21 April, the Business Academy will host an online Gateway USA webinar '[Top tips for understanding US Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) compliance](#)', aimed at businesses looking to export products such as food and drink to the United States. The session will cover key import regulations, practical steps to achieve compliance, and opportunities for UK producers entering the US market.

Partners

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NFU survey on UK–EU alignment for food and farming businesses

The National Farmers' Union (NFU) is seeking feedback from its members on the UK Government's proposed UK/EU SPS agreement. The NFU is inviting responses to its survey by 12 April to inform engagement with government. The survey takes around 10-15 minutes to complete, and all answers will be anonymised.

The NFU also ran two [webinars](#) on the UK/EU SPS agreement in March, which can be viewed online by NFU members.



Potato Storage Day 2026

On 20 May, PSI, together with SDF Agriculture and other partner organisations, will be running the 2026 Potato Storage Day. This is a grower-focused half day event, which will take place at Holbeach, Lincolnshire, running from 9.30-13:30. For more information or to book a free ticket, see [SDF/PSI STRATEGIC POTATO STORAGE DAY](#).



FDF Food Safety Networking event – Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the future of food safety

On 8 July, the Food and Drink Federation (FDF) will host its next Food Safety Networking Event, titled '[AI's role in shaping future food safety](#)'. The event will feature a keynote from Google Cloud, alongside an expert panel discussion exploring opportunities and challenges associated with the use of AI in food safety. This will be an in-person event with additional networking opportunities.



FDF Regulatory Updates webinar

On 13 July, the FDF will host a member-only [Regulatory Updates webinar](#), providing an overview of the latest and upcoming changes in food safety and labelling policies. The session will offer insights into key regulatory developments affecting the food and drink sector and explain their implications for businesses.



Potatoes in Practice 2026

Potatoes in Practice 2026, the UK's largest field-based potato event, will take place on 13 August, at The James Hutton Institute's Balruddery Farm, Invergowrie, Dundee.

For more information, visit the [Potatoes in Practice website](#).



British Potato CONFEX event announced for 2026

British Potato Review has announced the launch of [British Potato CONFEX](#), a new conference and exhibition event for the potato industry to be held in the years between the biennial British Potato event. The first event will take place on 18–19 November at the Lincolnshire Showground, bringing together industry speakers, workshops and exhibitors to showcase products, services and innovations. For more information and an event pack, contact Darren Webb at Warners Group on 07788 144535.

PPA committee meeting dates 2026

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PPA Board

October/November (date TBC)	TBC	Physical meeting
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Food Law and Consumer [FLC] committee

20 April (food safety – cont.)	14:00-15:00	Microsoft Teams (online)
30 June (in person)	10:30-14:30	FDF offices , London
11 November	13:00-16:00	Microsoft Teams (online)

Primary Production Technical committee [PPTC] committee

October/November (date TBC)	TBC	Physical meeting
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PPA circulars issued in March 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-Mar	KIND REMINDER and FURTHER ACTION: NEW MEETING LINK and FINAL agenda FLC meeting 10 March	114/26
03-Mar	FoodDrinkEurope preliminary views to the Commission proposal on acrylamide in foodstuffs	115/26
03-Mar	DHSC mandatory reporting of healthy food sales – FDF summaries of workshops 2 and 3	116/26
04-Mar	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 9 2026	117/26
05-Mar	FoodDrinkEurope overview on the FOP nutrition labelling schemes and initiatives in the EU Member States	118/26
05-Mar	FSA communication on labelling of non-regulated allergens and novel foods	119/26
05-Mar	EUPPA papers on acrylamide and GA	120/26
06-Mar	EP and Council provisional agreement on CMO Regulations - including on meat denominations	121/96
09-Mar	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 10 2026	122/26
09-Mar	New Defra guidance on UK-EU SPS agreement	123/26
11-Mar	Further updates on UK-EU SPS agreement – regulated products and PPPs	124/26
12-Mar	Slides and action list from FLC meeting 10 March 2026	125/26
12-Mar	EC draft regulation on Mineral Oils notified at WTO	126/26
13-Mar	Letter from coeliac UK to Codex on wheat protein RfD - PAL	127/26
16-Mar	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 11 2026	128/26
17-Mar	Commission Implementing Regulation 2026/551 on List of Animals and Certain Goods Subject to Official Controls at BCPs	129/26
17-Mar	COOL: FoodDrinkEurope summary of the meeting with DG Agri	130/26

17-Mar	Draft FLC Risk Matrix review	131/26
17-Mar	Doodle Poll – FLC meeting cont. – acrylamide and other food safety updates	132/26
18-Mar	SG implementation guidance on HFSS promotion restrictions published	133/26
18-Mar	BBC Look North Enquiry - Potato Waste	134/26
18-Mar	Review of EFSA data on snacks (inadmissible test methods) 2007-2025	135/36
18-Mar	UKFM letter on adventitious presence of soya in wheat flour	136/26
19-Mar	BBC Look North Enquiry - Potato Waste - GB Potatoes lines to take	137/26
19-Mar	Informal summary report of the meeting of Commission's Working Group on Environmental Contaminants 12-13 March	138/26
20-Mar	FLC meeting cont. - 20 April at 2pm – acrylamide and other food safety updates	139/26
20-Mar	FDf Summary on UK-EU SPS agreement - update	140/26
23-Mar	New Codex Consultation on Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL)	141/26
23-Mar	FoodDrinkEurope Overview of national approaches on food safety management (thresholds) and labelling of allergens	142/26
24-Mar	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 12 2026	143/26
24-Mar	Impact of Iran/USA conflict on members access to fuel/fertilisers etc	144/26
24-Mar	EC draft regulation on Mineral Oils notified at WTO – proposed date of entry into force	145/26
25-Mar	UK COT statement on T-2 and HT-2 mycotoxins in food	146/26
25-Mar	DHSC consultation on applying the 2018 NPM to advertising and promotion restrictions	147/26
25-Mar	NFU briefing: Iran conflict – Energy market update	148/26
26-Mar	Defra end-to-end SPS impact analysis (crops to finished product)	149/26
27-Mar	Government Chemist Food and Feed Law legislation update (Dec.25 update)	150/26
30-Mar	Nutrition and Health tracker (Mar.26 update)	151/26
30-Mar	RASFF Alerts and Notifications Week 13 2026	152/26
30-Mar	Updated Q&A SFPPs phase out measures	153/26
30-Mar	European Commission guidance and FAQ on PPWR	154/26
30-Mar	Compromise text on the meat denominations + meeting with DG AGRI	155/26
31-Mar	Monthly digest of EU legislation (March 2026)	156/26
31-Mar	Plant protection products log – March 2026	157/26
31-Mar	PPA Monthly Members' News sheet: March 2026	158/26

Primary Production Technical Committee (PPTC)

Date	Subject	Circular No.
05-Mar	Upcoming changes to plant health legislation	060/26
05-Mar	EUPPA input on acrylamide BMLs/MLs and on glycoalkaloids	061/26
09-Mar	New Defra guidance on UK-EU SPS agreement	062/26

11-Mar	Further updates on UK-EU SPS agreement – regulated products and PPPs	063/26
12-Mar	Draft letter to SASA	064/26
17-Mar	Draft agendas for PPTC and Board meetings, 26 March 2026	065/26
18-Mar	Notes from Treater Group meeting	066/26
18-Mar	Updates following Steve Moncaster/NEFF/WFF meeting on 16 February 2026	067/26
18-Mar	BBC Look North Enquiry - Potato Waste	068/26
18-Mar	Land Use Framework for England: Summary of responses	069/26
18-Mar	Review of EFSA data on snacks (inadmissible test methods) 2007-2025	070/26
19-Mar	BBC Look North Enquiry - Potato Waste - GB Potatoes lines to take	071/26
20-Mar	Post Harvest Treatment Applicators Virtual Group (PHTG) meeting, 4 February 2026	072/26
20-Mar	Consultation on marketing fertilising products in the UK	073/26
20-Mar	APHA Grower Letter Pre Season	074/26
24-Mar	Impact of Iran/USA conflict on members access to fuel/fertilisers etc	075/26
24-Mar	Fera proposal to update PPA's Research, Innovation and Knowledge Exchange (KE) priorities document	076/26
24-Mar	Minutes of the PPTC Meeting held 18 November 2025	077/26
24-Mar	NFU Survey on EU Re-set SPS	078/26
24-Mar	PPA letter to SASA	079/26
25-Mar	PPA response to the Defra Consultation on Land Use in England (April 2025)	080/26
25-Mar	NFU briefing: Iran conflict – Energy market update	081/26
26-Mar	Defra end-to-end SPS impact analysis (crops to finished product)	082/26
27-Mar	Slides from the PPTC Meeting held 26 March 2026	083/26
27-Mar	UPL slides from the PPTC Meeting held 26 March 2026	084/26
31-Mar	Monthly digest of EU legislation (March 2026)	085/26
31-Mar	Plant protection products log – March 2026	086/26
31-Mar	PPA Monthly Members' News sheet: March 2026	087/26

Upcoming events

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7 April 2026	FAQ/WHO/Codex Alimentarius webinar: World Food Safety Day 2026, online
8 April 2026	FDF Scotland Scottish Parliament Election hustings, Edinburgh
20 April 2026	Business Academy webinar: Demystifying sanitary and phytosanitary requirements when selling to the EU, online
21 April 2026	Business Academy webinar: Top tips for understanding US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) compliance, online
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
8 July 2026	FDF event: AI's role in shaping future food safety, London
13 July 2026	FDF webinar: Regulatory Updates, online
17-18 June 2026	Snackex 2026, Lisbon
18 June 2026	EUPPA General Assembly, online

1 July 2026	FDF Annual Summer Parliamentary reception, London
13 August 2026	Potatoes in Practice 2026, Invergowrie
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
18-19 November 2026	British Potato CONFEX, Lincs

Industry meetings

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1 April 2026	FoodDrinkEurope Contaminants meeting, Brussels
1 April 2026	FDF Trade Association Roundtable Iran War, online
2 April 2026	Red Tractor Fresh Produce TAC - Standards Review, online
2 April 2026	Potato Stakeholder Fortnightly Call
6 April 2026	IFST Food Regulatory SIG meeting, online
9 April 2026	FDF Associations Advisory Committee, hybrid
14 April 2026	EUPPA CMO Taskforce, online
16 April 2026	FoodDrinkEurope Hygiene and Controls meeting, online
16 April 2026	Red Tractor Fresh Produce TAC - Standards Review, online
20 April 2026	PPA Food Law & Consumer (FLC) Committee meeting (cont.), online
20 April 2026	FoodDrinkEurope Trade Working Group, online
23 April 2026	FoodDrinkEurope Food Improvement Agents, online
23 April 2026	FDF Food Safety Committee (FSC) meeting, online
24 April 2026	Red Tractor Fresh Produce TAC - Standards Review, online
28 April 2026	Business Expert (BExG) Food Standards & Labelling Group meeting, online TBC
28 April 2026	Advertising Association (AA) Food Advertising WG meeting, online
28 April 2026	EUPPA CMO Taskforce, online
29 April 2026	FoodDrinkEurope Food Contact Materials mtg, online
29 April 2026	FoodDrinkEurope Nutrition WG mtg, online
29 April 2026	FoodDrinkEurope INCO (Information to Consumers) mtg, online
30 April 2026	Red Tractor Fresh Produce TAC - Standards Review, online
30 April 2026	Potato Stakeholder Fortnightly Call

Documents to note

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Government position/policy papers/guidance and related resources

EU relations

[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 11 March 2026)

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

[COLLECTION: REUL \(Revocation and Reform\) Act 2023 statutory instruments](#) (last updated 6 March 2026)

[Defra Guidance: SPS agreement: preparing your business](#) (last updated 9 March 2026)

[Defra News story: UK-EU SPS Agreement – Legislation in scope](#) (first published 9 March 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 27 March 2026)

[Defra: EU and EFTA countries approved to export animals and animal products to GB](#) (last updated 24 March 2026)

[HMRC Guidance: Goods Vehicle Movement Service - service availability and issues](#) (last updated 18 March 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 19 March 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 18 March 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 20 March 2026)

[HMRC: Safety and security declarations](#) (last updated 11 February 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 23 March 2026)

[Defra Guidance: Packaging data: what to collect for extended producer responsibility](#) (last updated 23 March 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 18 March 2026)

[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 5 March 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)

[PackUK/Defra Guidance: Extended producer responsibility for packaging: notice of liability](#) (first published 23 March 2026)

Water

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

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

[EA: Rainfall and river flow: weekly reports for England](#) (last updated 26 March 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 27 February 2026)

[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 2 March 2026)

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

Current consultations

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

WHO/FAO: [Call for data on the impact of freezing temperatures on the microbiological safety of foods](#)
closes on 15 April 2026)

Codex: [Consultation on Annex to the General standard for the labelling of pre-packaged foods \(CXS 1-1985\): guidelines on the use of precautionary allergen labelling \(comments at Step 6\)](#) (closes on 17 April 2026)

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

Defra: [UK/EU SPS Agreement – call for information](#) (closes on 23 April 2026)

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

Defra: [Consultation on reforming the Packing Waste Recycling Note \(PRN\) system](#) (closes on 5 May 2026)

Defra/WG/SG/NIE: [Consultation on marketing fertilising products in the UK: regulatory reform](#) (closes on 13 May 2026)

FSS: [Consultation on applications for authorisation of regulated products: Three CBD products as novel foods](#) (closes on 16 June 2026)

DHSC: [Consultation on applying the new NPM to advertising and promotion restrictions](#) (closes on 17 June 2026)

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