

Guide to colours

Farming	Environment	Land Use	Version:
Green Finance	Housing	Water	24/1/25
Climate	Food	Economy	

Farm Foresight Policy Tracker - Government 2024-2029

Name	Category	Published by	Status	Date published	Date closed	Notes	Hyperlink	Farm Foresight Analysis
Letter from EFRA Chair to PM on IHT reforms	Farming	EFRA	Letter	23/01/2025		Letter from Alastair Carmichael chair of EFRA to the PM following the hearing on 19/12 asking for a meeting and extension of the technical consultation on APR/ BPR changes to cover wider impacts.	Here	
Average Farm Rents 23/24	Farming	DEFRA	Statistics	23/01/2025		Rents up marginally, but down in real terms on all tenancy types; 5% decrease estimated on the total number of tenancies, with FBTs showing the sharpest decline.	Here	
Pesticide emergency authorisation denied for 2025 to protect bees	Farming	DEFRA	News	23/01/2025		An emergency application for the use of a neonicotinoid pesticide on sugar beet in England will not be granted.	Here	
Animal Futures: The Big Conversation	Farming	RSPCA	Consultation	23/01/2025		RSPCA has launched a public consultation on the future of animals used in farming, in society, in the wild, and with technology.	Here	
Making wood work for Wales	Economy	Welsh Govt	Consultation	22/01/2025	16/4/25	Wales' first Timber Industrial Strategy, setting out 6 priorities for a sustainable forestry sector, noting that construction with timber is currently the only proven, scalable method of carbon capture and storage.	Here	
Enabling a natural capital approach - guidance	Green Finance	DEFRA	Guidance	22/01/2025		Update to the 2020 original - a very useful overview to NC approaches.	Here	
Nature Restoration Fund	Environment	DEFRA	News	22/01/2025		The Nature Restoration Fund will expedite infrastructure projects by pooling developer contributions for large-scale environmental interventions. This approach aims to streamline planning and reduce delays, but risks bypassing accepted approaches on the mitigation hierarchy.	Here	
Information on agricultural and business property relief and capital gains tax measures costings in the October 2024 Budget	Farming	OBR	Report	22/01/2025		OBR modelling confirms that changes to APR/BPR will raise £0.5bn per year in the medium term but that longer term, earlier gifting and tax planning measures make it more difficult to estimate the tax raised.	Here	
Reforming EPCs	Housing	Scottish Govt	News	22/01/2025		Changes proposed include the introduction of a new rating system which will give clearer information on the fabric energy efficiency of a property; the emissions, efficiency and running costs of its heating system; and the cost of energy to run the home.	Here	
Land Value Capture	Housing	HCLGC	Inquiry	22/01/2025		The Housing, Communities and Local Government (HCLG) Committee has launched an inquiry to look at how land value capture policies - which seek to capture the value uplift on land when it is granted planning permission - can contribute to the delivery of the Government's house building plans and help fund affordable housing and public infrastructure	Here	
Grain Verification Scheme launched	Farming	DEFRA	News	22/01/2025		Using cutting-edge science to determine where grain has been grown and harvested, the UK has developed a database to support Ukraine's efforts to trace and stop grain theft from occupied regions.	Here	
Planetary Solvency - finding our balance with Nature	Climate	Institute and Faculty of Actuaries	Report	22/01/2025		The global economy could face a 50% loss in GDP between 2070 and 2090, unless immediate policy action on risks posed by the climate crisis is taken. If unchecked, mass mortality, mass displacement, severe economic contraction and conflict become more likely. The report develops a framework for global risk management to address these risks and show how this approach can support future prosperity.	Here	
£20mn Rural Environment Fund available to TCE farmers	Farming	The Crown Estate	News	20/01/2025		The £20m fund will support tenant farmers to transition to a future farming model which creates better outcomes for food production, nature recovery and to support development of diversified income streams for farmers.	Here	
Farm Assurance Review	Farming	AHDB	Report	20/01/2025		The first UK-wide comprehensive review of farm assurance has called for a 'fundamental reset' in order to rebuild confidence amongst farmers.	Here	
Halting and reversing the loss of nature by 2030	Environment	Wales - CCE&IC	Report	20/01/2025		The Committee is urging the Welsh Government to make good on its pledge by publishing a new action plan for nature, setting out its strategy to plug the massive 'nature funding gap' and speeding up delivery.	Here	
Towards a governance framework for high integrity nature markets	Green Finance	Broadway Initiative	Consultation	20/01/2025		This consultation paper has been developed to facilitate discussion about establishing an effective nature market governance framework in the UK.	Here	
Environment Agency Chief Regulator's Report 2023-24	Environment	Environment Agency	Report	17/01/2025		EA Chief Regulator calls for the environmental regulation framework to be reformed to ensure the Environment Agency and other regulators have the tools they need to meet environmental challenges.		
Planet-warming gas levels rose more than ever in 2024	Climate	BBC	News	17/01/2025		Levels of the most significant planet-warming gas in our atmosphere rose more quickly than ever previously recorded last year, scientists say, leaving a key global climate target hanging by a thread.	Here	

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Progress in improving the natural environment in England	Environment	OEP	Report	16/01/2025		Annual review of the Govt's performance against EIP23. "The government remains largely off track and very substantial challenges lie ahead." Of 43 environmental targets and commitments, government is largely on track to achieve 9, partially on track to achieve 12 and largely off track to achieve 20. Targets where government is largely on track include specific air pollutants such as PM2.5, and particular sources of water pollution such as phosphorus loadings from wastewater. Targets where government is largely off track span most EIP goal areas including those for nature, freshwater and marine environments, and waste.	Here	
Government response to the Office for Environmental Protection's report on progress in improving the natural environment in England from January 2024	Environment	DEFRA	Report	14/01/2025		Addresses outstanding recommendations from OEP review in 2023 and matters raised in OEP24. Notes that the EIP is under review and new interim targets will be set, along with an overarching delivery mechanisms and new delivery plans. Where outcomes are dependent on limited delivery levers eg ELMS for farmed landscapes, alternative delivery levers (eg regulation, other public funding, private finance) are being considered. This is also mentioned in the context of the Spending Review. Contribution of Farming&Countryside Programmes to outcomes and targets will be published. Spatial prioritisation of ELMS is being explored, including eligibility criteria. A land use consultation will be held in 2025 to inform the publication of a Land Use Framework for England. The Natural Capital and Ecosystem Assessment programme is ongoing and delivering a nationwide survey of England's land, coast and sea by 2028. Details of Landscape Recovery 3 will be published 'in due course'. A circular economy strategy for England is being developed with roadmaps on a sector-by-sector basis. A new overarching evaluation framework for biodiversity targets has been commissioned, including to track private finance flows into nature.	Here	
Import ban on German cattle, sheep and pigs	Farming	DEFRA	News	14/01/2025		To control spread of Foot and Mouth Disease identified in Germany	Here and ministerial statement here	
First case of glyphosate resistant weeds confirmed in UK	Farming	AHDB	News	10/01/2025		Resistance at the maximum label rate was identified in a tests on a single field population of Italian ryegrass	Here	
Animal and Plant Health Inquiry	Farming	EFRA	Inquiry	09/01/2025		Will provide consistent scrutiny of ongoing and emerging issues and opportunities relating to animal and plant health - biosecurity at the border is the first topic.	Here	
Greenprint for UK farming	Farming	Tesco	Report	09/01/2025		"It's clear the sector needs further support if we're to deliver on our climate and nature goals, so we asked our farmers where they most need support. Our Greenprint report ... sets out recommendations across several key areas, including a long-term vision for the sector, financial certainty, innovation, standards and data, and attracting future talent"	Here	
Calls for continued collaboration at OFC	Farming	Welsh Govt	News	09/01/2025		Deputy First Minister tells conference he will 'always stand up for a fair and sustainable future for farmers'.	Here	
Govt announces reforms at OFC25	Farming	DEFRA	News	09/01/2025		- Government to monitor where food bought by the public sector comes from - the ADOPT fund will launch in the Spring to accelerate adoption of agri-tech - secondary legislation unlocking new precision breeding technology - consult on national planning reforms to make it quicker for farmers to build farm buildings, barns and other infrastructure - reform of farming regulations to make them simpler and easier to understand	Here	
Steve Reed speech at OFC25	Farming	DEFRA	Speech	09/01/2025		"Our vision for the future of the farming sector.... depends on three strands. First, a farming sector that has food production at its core. Second, a sector where farm businesses can diversify their income to make a fair profit and remain viable in challenging times.Third, a sector that recognises restoring nature is not in competition with sustainable food production, but is essential to it."	Here	
A new approach to the use of certain neonicotinoids on crops grown in England	Farming	DEFRA	Policy paper	21/12/2024		Relying on the 5 environmental principles as a core condition of policymaking, Govt has announced it's intention to end neonic availability across the UK (noting pesticide approvals are a devolved issue), through reviewing the emergency authorisation procedure and ensuring it's not used to enable the use of neonics.	Here	
Fairness in the food supply chain	Farming	EFRA	Inquiry	20/12/2024		The Government has identified food security as a national security issue. The fairness in the food supply chain inquiry will provide consistent scrutiny of issues relating to the UK's food security, the levels of support for domestic food production and the provision of affordable and healthy food. First call for evidence focuses on GCA and fair dealing powers under AA2020; closes 24 Jan.	Here and first call here	
Reforming the water sector	Water	EFRA	Inquiry	19/12/2024		Long-term review into reforming the water sector, which will cover a wide range of issues from financial stability to agricultural pollution	Here	

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NAO overview: DEFRA 2023-24	Environment	NAO	Report	19/12/2024		Overview and insights into the performance of DEFRA, to support EFRA and MPs. Useful budgetary breakdown. Key challenges relate to impact of planning targets, spending controls and review of the EIP, access to private finance to support green expenditure, and resourcing delivery capability, especially in local authorities.	Here	
Farm Productivity Dashboard	Farming	DEFRA	Website	19/12/2024		This dashboard brings together statistics on agriculture to summarise farm performance and productivity in England. Analysis is primarily based on data from the Farm Business Survey. Unless otherwise stated, all data presented is based on a three year average for 2020/21 to 2022/23 and relates to England only.	Here	
Dartmoor Land Use Group terms of reference	Land Use	DEFRA	ToR	19/12/2024		ToR for an independently chaired advisory body that promotes collaboration among stakeholders to enhance land management on Dartmoor. Its objectives include implementing government recommendations, developing a Multi-Functional Land Use Framework, supporting peatland restoration, and advancing environmental initiatives within the National Park.	Here	
Net Zero Council relaunched	Climate	DESNZ	News	19/12/2024		Relaunch of the Net Zero Council under Ed Miliband, to provide expert advice and outreach on the Government's accelerating to Net zero mission and making the UK a clean energy superpower.	Here	
The APR row is a warning to the Treasury	Economy	Institute for Government	Comment	18/12/2024		A lack of clarity about the chancellor's aims has undermined her ability to sell her Budget changes to inheritance tax on farms – says this common failing of tax policy making needs to be addressed.	Here	
Approaches to Rural Proofing	Economy	ARED	Report	18/12/2024		Reviews international approaches to rural proofing to support the Scottish Govt in its policy approach, including how processes should be designed and evaluated.	Here	
English Devolution White Paper	Economy	MHCLG	White paper	17/12/2024		Outlines the UK government's plan to transfer powers to local authorities. This includes granting new 'strategic authorities' competencies over transport, environment (including LNRSs) and climate change, enabling localised decision-making for sustainable house and infrastructure development.	Here	
TCFD aligned disclosures for Phase 3	Green Finance	HM Treasury	Outcome	17/12/2024	19/09/2024	The Phase 3 Exposure Draft addresses the recommended disclosures for the Strategy pillars of the TCFD framework. Adopted for relevant bodies in December 2024, to take effect from 25/26.	Here	
UK joins CPTPP	Farming	AHDB	News	16/12/2024		The CPTPP has the potential to support market access objectives and foster productive discussions.	Here	
Protected Landscapes to receive new powers	Land Use	DEFRA	News	16/12/2024		New legislation and guidance to empower National Parks and National Landscapes in enhancing nature recovery and public access. These measures aim to increase tree planting, peat restoration, and habitat creation, supporting goals for Net Zero and protecting 30% of land for nature by 2030.	Guidance here	
Planning Reform Working paper: Development and Nature Recovery	Environment	MHCLG/ DEFRA	Consultation	15/12/2024		Proposes a new system of Delivery Plans for housing and infrastructure under which developers would pay a tariff on development to cover strategic planning for nature recovery in a given area, moving away from the high transaction costs of individual developments sourcing solutions to a scaled approach to nature recovery. Would be delivered under the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.	Here	
Food Security Report 2024	Food	Defra	Report	12/12/2024		Despite global challenges, global food production and trade is broadly stable, and the domestic production ratio is largely unchanged in 2023. The impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss and water insecurity both at home and abroad remain pressing risks to food security. Market and supply volatility has weakened access to food and also reduced choice. The impacts of these issues are felt most acutely by particular demographic groups, including those with lower incomes, households with children and those with disabilities. The UK continues to be highly dependent on imports to meet consumer demand for fruit, vegetables and seafood.	Here	
Soil nutrient balances 2023	Farming	Defra	Statistics	12/12/2024		Soil nutrient balances are used as a high-level indicator of farming's pressure on the environment and of how that pressure is changing over time. Significant nutrient surpluses are directly linked with losses to the environment. Estimates for 2023 show that both N and P balance were up slightly (4.8% and 4.5%) on 2023, but still significantly down on 2020. The differences can be accounted for by reduction in off take due to poorer cereal harvest.	Here	
Planning overhaul to build 1.5mn new homes	Housing	MHCLG	Policy	12/12/2024		Reforms to the planning system to unlock housing development whilst committing to environmental protections	Here and revised NPPF here	

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Chief Medical Officer's annual report 2024: Health in Cities	Food	DHSC	Report	12/12/2024		Cities have specific challenges for health seen in cities and some of the widest variety of potential opportunities. For individual citizens, acting in the collective interest is harder, and it is increasingly easy to lead a sedentary lifestyle and with access to poorer quality food. However, policy makers should be brave and note that it is possible to design cities in such a way that they enhance health. The evidence base is there to achieve this; "Those who oppose specific evidence-based solutions should feel a responsibility to say what they would do instead to preserve the health of their fellow citizens."	Here	
New Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier scheme launched	Environment	Natural England	News	12/12/2024		Defra has announced the route for new Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier offer applications starting in 2025	Here and here	
Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier: mirror agreements	Environment	Natural England	Guidance	12/12/2024		Holders of existing CS higher level scheme agreements can now apply to roll those agreements over for another period of 5 or 10 years.	Here	
Children's People and Nature Survey 2024	Environment	Defra	Statistics	11/12/2024		Up to 73% of children and young people reported being able to easily walk (by themselves or with someone else) from their home to a variety of green and natural places. 79% agreed these spaces were welcoming and 74% thought that there was space for nature within them. 91% agreed that being in nature makes them very happy.	Here	
UK must keep up momentum on cutting methane emissions at home and demonstrate international leadership	Climate	ECCC	Report	10/12/2024		The inquiry on Methane is to examine whether the UK is on track to achieve the target set out by the Global Methane Pledge, of which it is a signatory. Report makes a series of recommendations to government.	Here and report here	
Why nature matters for business	Green Finance	Aldersgate Group	Report	10/12/2024		Recommends that government should align policy, regulation, and business action to unlock the economic and ecological potential of a nature-positive economy.	Here	
Flood Resilience in England	Water	EAC	Inquiry	10/12/2024		EAC to examine flood resilience as homes and businesses recover from more flooding misery in recent weeks - accepting evidence until 13 Jan	Here	
New Nature Connectedness website launched	Environment	Natural England	Website	10/12/2024		The Nature Connectedness Network is open to everyone, including government staff. It provides the opportunity to explore how spending time in and connecting with nature can play a role in different areas of work.	Here	
The Future of Farming	Farming	EFRA	Inquiry	06/12/2024		Wide-ranging and long-term inquiry into the future of farming, covering topics from education to land use and agri-tech.	Here and here	
Reform to the energy performance of buildings regime	Housing	MHCLG/ DESNZ	Consultation	04/12/2024		Proposes major reforms to the current EPC system for residential and commercial buildings in England and Wales, taking into account the ongoing consultation process in Scotland; includes widening the metrics used to assess building performance and requires EPCs to be updated more frequently.	Here	
The role of natural capital in the green economy [revived]	Green Finance	EAC	Inquiry	29/11/2024		The Government is committed to preserving 30% of land and sea in England by 2030. With just over five years to go, can private investment spur nature protection schemes that will see the pledge become reality? A previous inquiry has been revived and a new call for evidence launched - responses can be submitted online until 20 December.	Here and here	
Environment and buying sustainably drives consumer focus	Farming	AHDB	Research	28/11/2024		During recent years the high cost of living has dominated consumers food purchasing but as this begins to subside environmental factors are growing in importance. Water pollution is a major concern for 48% shoppers; 51% of shoppers perceived that farming has a positive impact on the environment, compared to 46% in 2023.	Here	
Scotland's rural economy	Farming	Scottish Government	News	28/11/2024		Rural Affairs Sec and Finance Sec have written to Sec to Treasury Darren Jones to express concern over the application of the Barnett formula to Scottish ag and rural funding.	Here	
Tree Planting Taskforce	Environment	DEFRA	News	28/11/2024		Brings together ministers from four home nations, forestry delivery partners and arm's length bodies to provide oversight, best practice and identify shared blockers and barriers	Here	
Earning vs owning: Rescuing opportunity in the asset economy	Economy	IPPR	Opinion	27/11/2024		British life chances are increasingly determined by what you inherit, not what you do. Wealth taxation can only be part of the solution. Government will have to develop more sophisticated, rounded strategies if it is to rescue opportunity in the asset economy.	Here	
Tackling the nature emergency	Environment	Scottish Government	Strategy/plan	27/11/2024		Scotland has published a new Biodiversity Delivery Plan for 2024-2030 with over 100 actions to accelerate the pace and scale of efforts to address the biodiversity crisis.	Here and here	
92% of English bathing waters meet water quality standards	Water	DEFRA	News	26/11/2024		The proportion of 'good' and 'excellent'-rated sites has fallen slightly, in part due to the existing water quality of the 27 new bathing water sites designated this year, 18 of which are classified as 'poor'.	Here	
Capital Grants closed	Farming	DEFRA	News	25/11/2024		CS capital grants closed to new applications	Here and here	

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Updated plans for sustainable farming announced	Farming	Wales	News	25/11/2024		Substantial changes to the Welsh SFS announced, better addressing the needs of Welsh farmers while supporting the ongoing sustainable production of food, as well as climate change and nature commitments.	Here	
CSHT mirror agreements and HLS extensions: an overview	Environment	DEFRA	News	25/11/2024		Further information on transitioning into ELMs from CS Higher Tier and HLS agreements	Here	
Integrated management of the water environment	Water	Parliament	Research	21/11/2024		Horizon scanning research for Parliament: water supplies could be better protected through a risk-based systems approach to managing the pressures currently degrading freshwaters	Here	
Issues facing rural communities	Economy	Parliament	Research	21/11/2024		Horizon scanning research for Parliament on rural communities: What can be done to support rural economic growth and address long standing challenges?	Here	
Food systems, food security and supply chains	Food	Parliament	Research	21/11/2024		Horizon scanning research for Parliament on food systems, highlighting they face the triple challenge of food security, resilient supply chains and environmental sustainability	Here	
Balancing UK agricultural production and environmental objectives	Farming	Parliament	Research	21/11/2024		Horizon scanning research for Parliament: support of food and fibre production approaches that are environmentally sustainable and resilient to environmental change	Here	
Steve Reed's speech at the 2024 CLA conference	Farming	DEFRA	News	21/11/2024		APR and announcements on supply chain fairness	Here	
Advancing work on supply chain fairness	Farming	DEFRA	News	21/11/2024		Using fair dealing powers under the Agriculture Act 2020	Here	
UK greenhouse gas emissions reporting: Scope 3 emissions	Climate	DESNZ	Consultation outcome	21/11/2024		Overall, responses show demand from stakeholders and investors for scope 3 reporting, and respondents felt the benefits outweigh the costs.	Here	
10 recommendations to reduce water pollution from agriculture	Farming	Green Alliance	Report	20/11/2024		The UK's rivers are in a dire state. Only 14 per cent are in good ecological condition. While the government has made cleaning these up a political priority, so far it has largely focused on sewage pollution, ignoring half the problem	Here	
Environmental sustainability and housing growth	Environment	EAC	Inquiry	18/11/2024		The environmental impact of planning reforms needed to meet the Government's housebuilding targets will be examined by the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) as it launches its first inquiry of the new Parliament	Here	
Principles for voluntary carbon and nature market integrity	Green Finance	DESNZ	Policy	15/11/2024		These principles guide responsible participation in voluntary markets for buying and selling carbon and nature credits - consultation on the application of the Principles to follow in early 2025	Here and here	
Can UK food prosper in 2025	Food	IGD	Report	14/11/2024		Budget analysis and predictions for consumer sentiment and government policy for the UK food system in 2025	Here	
Birth defects prevented by fortifying flour with folic acid	Food	DHSC/DEFRA	News	14/11/2024		New legislation being introduced today will require millers and flour producers to fortify non-wholemeal wheat flour with folic acid from the end of 2026	Here	
Farm Business Income: England	Farming	DEFRA	Statistics	14/11/2024		Annual statistics on farm business income in England	Here	
UK Green Taxonomy	Green Finance	HMT	Consultation	14/11/2024	6/2/25	The primary purpose of this consultation is to establish whether a UK Taxonomy would be additional and complementary to existing policies in meeting the objectives of mitigating greenwashing and channelling capital in support of the government's sustainability objectives.	Here	
Wild bird populations in the UK	Environment	DEFRA	Statistics	13/11/2024		In 2023, the combined bird species indices for the UK and England continue to show an overall decline.	Here	
Working Together: update to river basin management plans	Water	Environment Agency	Consultation	13/11/2024		This consultation, Working Together, is the first consultation in the process of reviewing and updating the river basin management plans due in 2027	Here	
Reforms to flood funding and investment to protect farming communities	Water	DEFRA	Policy	13/11/2024		£50 million investment into internal drainage boards and plans to consult on new strategic vision for floods investment	Here	
UK updated Nationally Determined Contribution	Climate	Govt	News	12/11/2024		UK government announces new climate goals at COP29, including reducing emissions by 81% by 2035	Here	
Drought: proposed updated response framework	Climate	Environment Agency	Consultation	08/11/2024	10/1/25	This consultation will help us to gather feedback and input on the updated response framework, and to draw out any area-specific concerns that should be considered by our operational areas	Here	
£47mn to unlock 28,000 nutrient neutrality stalled homes	Housing	DEFRA/MHCLG	News	07/11/2024		Tens of thousands of new homes will be delivered across England, thanks to government funding and partnership work, to unlock stalled homes across England.	Here	
ASA guidance on communicating regenerative farming	Farming	ASA	Guidance	06/11/2024		Although not yet widely used in advertising, 2024 has seen increasing chatter around "regenerative farming". As there is currently no legal or universally agreed definition of the term, it could be used in a wide-ranging way as a descriptor, likely with various possible interpretations. This article therefore offers some guidance on how to communicate your regenerative farming initiatives with confidence.	Here	
Shadow DEFRA Secretary named	Environment	Press	News	06/11/2024		The Conservative Party has confirmed that former Health Secretary Victoria Atkins has now become the Shadow Defra Secretary, replacing Steve Barclay.	Here	

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Tenant Farming Commissioner	Farming	Defra	News	06/11/2024		Rock Review recommendation has been adopted - announcement at the Northern Farming Conference.	Here	
Hemp licence burdens to be cut back	Farming	DEFRA/ Home Office	News	06/11/2024		Reforms to current hemp licence regulations are set to be introduced, making it easier for regulated farmers to grow the crop and maximise its economic potential.	Here	
Commitment to APR reforms	Land Use	Defra	News	05/11/2024		Reforms announced at the Budget will help raise money to fix the public finances while protecting small family farms from unfairly high inheritance tax	Here	
Farm Tenancy Forum: terms of reference from 2024	Farming	DEFRA	Policy paper	05/11/2024		Terms of reference for the Farm Tenancy Forum	Here	
Natural Capital Market Framework (Scotland)	Environment	ARED	Advice and Guidance	05/11/2024		This market framework offers a clear path to mobilising responsible, high-integrity private investment in our natural capital.	Here	TO FOLLOW
Natural capital - importance to the Scottish Economy	Environment	EFD	Research	04/11/2024		This research identifies sectors reliant on natural capital in Scotland and quantifies the economic value at national and regional levels.	Here	
Solutions for farm-level environmental data	Farming	AHDB	Research	01/11/2024		Recommends 9 principles to develop the data ecosystem for farm environmental data, with the first priority being to establish a joined-up approach on carbon data	Here	
Extension of Inheritance Tax Agricultural Property Relief to environmental land management agreements	Land Use	HMRC	Policy	30/10/2024		Updated on 13/11 to include impact statements	Here	
Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism: Govt Response	Climate	HMT	Consultation outcome	30/10/2024		To address the risk of carbon leakage, the government will introduce a UK CBAM on 1 Jan 2027. This will place a carbon price on some of the most emissions intensive industrial goods imported to the UK from the aluminium, cement, fertiliser, hydrogen, iron and steel sectors.	Here	
Agricultural property relief and business property relief reforms	Farming	HMRC	Policy paper	30/10/2024		The government is extending agricultural property relief to certain environmental land management agreements from 6 April 2025. The government is also making the inheritance tax system fairer by restricting both agricultural property relief and business property relief for the wealthiest estates from 6 April 2026.	Here	
Autumn Budget 2024 and Spending Review	Farming	HMT	Red Book	30/10/2024		See section 4.103 onwards for DEFRA figures (pg 104)	Here	
Hedgerow management: regulatory approach and use of civil sanctions	Farming	DEFRA	Consultation	29/10/2024	10/12/24	This consultation on how the RPA proposes to enforce these regulations and seeks views on this proposed approach, as set out in the draft statutory guidance.	Here	
New Chair for Dartmoor Land Use Management Group	Farming	DEFRA	News	29/10/2024		Phil Stocker appointed as new Chair of the DLUMG	Here	
Environmental Audit Committee membership	Environment	EAC	News	29/10/2024		Each party has its own internal processes for naming its nominations to fill its seats on committees. Individual nominees put forward by political parties were agreed in the House of Commons. Notable that only one Cons.	Here	
EFRA Committee membership	Farming	EFRA	News	29/10/2024		The House of Commons has formally appointed the membership of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee.	Here	
Legal Challenge against Govt green policy roll-back settled	Environment	Govt	News	29/10/2024		Chris Packham legal challenge settled by Govt, accepting that roll back of green policies under previous administration was unlawful	Here	
30by30 on Land in England: confirmed criteria and next steps	Environment	Defra	Policy paper	29/10/2024		Confirms the Govt's approach to recognising what land is England contributes to its global target to have 30% of land conserved and managed for nature by 2030	Here	Here
Harnessing nature-based solutions for economic recovery	Environment	Academic	Research	28/10/2024		he evidence underscores the need to incorporate NbS in investment programs to concurrently address economic, environmental, and societal challenges.	Here	
Recipe for Health: a plan for fixing our broken food system	Food	House of Lords	Report	24/10/2024		The Food, Diet and Obesity Committee was appointed by the House of Lords on 24 January 2024 to consider the role of foods, such as 'ultra-processed foods', and foods high in fat, salt and sugar, in a healthy diet and tackling obesity.	Here	
Independent commission on Water Sector Regulatory Reform	Water	DEFRA/ Welsh govt	Commission	23/10/2024		To deliver a system fit for the future we need to ensure there is a clear vision for what we want the water sector to deliver, a clear long-term plan to secure delivery, and an effective system for balancing trade-offs between different outcomes.	Here	
Appointment of UK's first Nature Envoy	Environment	DEFRA/FO	News	21/10/2024		Ruth Davis appointed as first Nature Envoy	Here and here	
Certainty to poultry and horticulture sectors	Farming	DEFRA	News	21/10/2024		The Government has underlined its commitment to the horticultural and poultry sectors by confirming measures to provide stability, including the allocation for the Seasonal Worker visa route for 2025	Here	
Achieving environmental improvement and responding to climate change: enablers for success	Climate	NAO	Report	16/10/2024		The report identifies enablers for central govt and policymakers in meeting and integrating goals for climate and nature	Here	Here
Dan Corry appointed to lead Defra regulation review	Environment	DEFRA	News	15/10/2024		Corry Review - economist Dan Corry appointed to carry out an internal review into the regulation and regulators at DEFRA.	Here	
State of Natural Capital Report	Environment	Natural England	Report	09/10/2024		Natural England's State of Natural Capital Report highlights vital link between nature and our health, wealth and security. Report points the way for decision makers to ensure nature and economic growth can work hand-in-hand	Here	Here

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The security blind spot: Cascading climate impacts and tipping points threaten national security	Climate	IPPR	Report	09/10/2024		The new UK government has initiated a Strategic Defence Review and is undertaking a review of national resilience. Security threats resulting from climate change should be at the core of the government's approach. These threats have been consistently and significantly underestimated and now pose major security risks.	Here	
New investments will drive understanding of our planet	Environment	UKRI	Funding	08/10/2024		The UK's network of leading environmental science research centres have received £101 million in funding.	Here	
National Nature Positive Pathways	Green Finance	WWF	Report	01/10/2024		"National Nature-positive pathways to guide policy and private sector action" - WWF-UK and our partner Aviva outline the case for the development of government-endorsed nature-positive sectoral pathways, so that the private sector and the Government can tackle the nature emergency together.	Here	
CLA: Scrapping IHT reliefs could ruin family farms	Land Use	CLA	News	30/09/2024		Survey of members: 90% are against loss of IHT reliefs for land	Here	
Precision Breeding Bill announcement	Farming	Defra	News	30/09/2024		World-agri Tech Summit announcement of Precision Breeding Bill as secondary legislation, when time allows	Here	
Highest uncropped arable area in England since 2003	Farming	AHDB	News	27/09/2024		Commenting on DEFRA figures, area of uncropped, croppable land has increased 107% since 2023	here	
Statistics on Land Tenure 2024	Land Use	DEFRA	Report	26/09/2024		Consistent areas of tenure over last 3 years: 2021 2022 2023 36% 37% 38% 15% 15% 14% 20% 19% 19% 29% 28% 28% 0% 0% 0%	Here	
Statistics on Land Use 2024	Land Use	Defra	Report	26/09/2024		Area of uncropped, croppable land has increased 107% since 2023, 581 thousand hectares. Of this area, 276 thousand hectares were left as bare fallow and the remaining 305 thousand hectares were used for environmental benefit	Here	
Rural Flood Resilience Partnership Workplan - 2024-2026	Water	Environment Agency	Policy paper	23/09/2024		A work plan developed in partnership to support the objectives of the FCERM Strategy Roadmap and help vulnerable rural communities when faced with flooding	Here	
Farm Business Survey: agri-environment practices	Farming	DEFRA	News	19/09/2024		Summary of ag-env activities of FBS survey 2023 (farms over 25,000euro only): In the 2022/23 survey year, all farm businesses within the FBS population were undertaking at least one agri-environment activity	Here	
Labour must improve food security	Farming	Press	News	19/09/2024		Alastair Carmichael interview with Scottish Farmer: "if the government is going to say food security is a priority then they need an agricultural policy which can deliver it. Which what is happening in England at the moment, inherently doesn't."	Here	
What next for nature finance? Bolstering demand drivers to mobilise private sector capital and corporate action for nature	Green Finance	GFI	Report	19/09/2024		Nature-related risks are financial risks. Water shortages can cripple manufacturing and energy sectors. Soil health decline can deplete crop yields. Beyond physical risks, reputational damage and litigation costs due to pollution or deforestation can cost companies millions of pounds.	Here	Here
G20 declaration on sustainable food and farming	Farming	DEFRA	News	17/09/2024		The UK has played a key role in securing a declaration to support sustainable agriculture and promote food security at a meeting of G20 Agriculture Ministers in Brazil.	Here	
Agricultural Land - tenanted practices	Farming	Defra	News	12/09/2024		Land in tenancies self-reported under June census - 10% reported a reduction in tenanted area	Here	
OEP report on the implementation of the Water Framework Directive Regulations and River Basin Management Planning in England	Water	Environment Agency	Report	12/09/2024		Government response published 12/9 accepted the recommendations and largely wrapped them into a strategic review of water sector regulatory framework due in Autumn 2024	Here	
EAC Chair appointed	Environment	EAC	News	11/09/2024		Toby Perkins appointed chair of Environmental Audit Committee	Here	
Farming and Countryside Programme annual report 23-24	Farming	Defra	Report	10/09/2024		Corporate report on spend in ag in England - declining 2.4->£2.1bn over 4 years	Here	
EFRA Chair appointed	Farming	EFRA	News	09/09/2024		Lib Dem Alastair Carmichael appointed as chair of EFRA	Here	
Chris Stark interview on Land Use change	Climate	AFN+	Opinion	05/08/2024		"what I've learnt about climate change policy and agri-food"	Here	
Proposed reform of the NPPF	Land Use	MHCLG	Consultation	02/08/2024	22/09/2024	This consultation seeks views on our proposed approach to revising the National Planning Policy Framework in order to achieve sustainable growth in our planning system.	Here	
Environmental Permitting: standard rules permits consultation 25	Environment	Environment Agency	Consultation outcome	02/08/2024		Summary of responses, updated draft permits to be published Autumn 24	Here	
Response to farmer opinion tracker 2024	Farming	DEFRA	News	31/07/2024		Uses language of just transition	Here	
Defra rapid review of EIP targets	Environment	DEFRA	News	30/07/2024		Announcement included a commitment to develop delivery plans towards EIP goals	Here	

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EIP - annual progress report 2023-24	Environment	DEFRA	Report	30/07/2024		There has been a deterioration in other aspects of the environment across six of the goals, as well as a lack of reliable data and evidence to fully assess progress across a number of key indicators within each goal	Here	
The Farming and Countryside Programme: Value for Money	Farming	NAO	Report	23/07/2024		"Defra has not yet provided a long-term view of how it expects the Programme to develop... Currently, gaps in the Programme's data on environmental outcomes is limiting Defra's ability to fully understand the impact on the environment, or whether it is on track to achieve value for money."	Here	
Animal by-products legislation for England: exemptions	Farming	DEFRA	Policy	22/07/2024		Authorisations A2, A4, A5, A6, A7, A8 and A9 – updated to include wording 'under conditions which ensure the control of risks to public and animal health'; Several authorisations have been rewritten or restructured to make them clearer.	Here	
Carbon farming in the EU	Farming	EU	Website	01/04/2024		Reaching climate neutrality in Europe by mid-century requires minimising our greenhouse gas emissions and removing any unavoidable emissions from the atmosphere. Find out below how carbon removals and carbon farming can help the EU achieve its 2050 climate target.	Here	
Decent Homes Standard for PRS	Housing	MHCLG	Consultation	1/1		The government will consult on a new Decent Homes Standard for the rented sectors - expected ASAP	Here	
Review of water sector regulatory framework	Water	Environment Agency	Consultation	1/1		Announced in Govt response to OEP's report on implementation of Water Framework Directive: Expected Autumn 2024	Here	