

Guide to colours

Farming	Environment	Land Use	Version:
Green Finance	Housing	Water	14 April 2025
Climate	Food	Economy	

Farm Foresight Policy Tracker - Government 2024-2029

Name	Category	Published by	Status	Date published	Date closed	Notes	Hyperlink
Structure of the agriculture industry in England and the UK at June	Farming	DEFRA	Statistics	10/04/2025		Data for 2024 added - shows consolidation ongoing	Here
Why aren't farmers paid more for what they produce?	Farming	Green Alliance	Blog	10/04/2025		Authored by Tim Lang - advocates for food system reform rather than just enhanced payments to farmers	Here
Ingredients for Growth report	Food	FDf	Report	09/04/2025		The report sets out regulations that should be reformed or eradicated, as well as new policy initiatives that would drive growth in our sector in the UK.	Here
Rise in unlicensed wells and bore holes on WWest Country farms	Farming	Environment Agency	Press release	08/04/2025		The Environment Agency is warning farmers with private springs, wells and boreholes to check they are taking water legally from the environment	Here
Environmental Permitting Reforms	Environment	DEFRA	Consultation	08/04/2025		As proposed by Corry, review of EPs to speed up changes, retain protections and enable actions	Press release here
Farm Profitability Review	Farming	DEFRA	Review	07/04/2025		Minette Batters appointed to lead a 6 month review into barriers to farm profitability, with the objective to create recommendations to Govt, provide expert advice into Govt and offer input into Food Strategy, Farming Roadmap and Land Use Framework. Reccs must be consistent with UK carbon budget, EIP23 and 'consider alignment' with net zero objectives.	Here
England's non-woodland trees freely mapped for the first time	Environment	DEFRA	Press release	04/04/2025		Using satellite and laser, the trees have been shown to make up 30% of England's tree cover	Here
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) research and development programme	Water	Environment Agency	Research	04/04/2025		Collection of case studies from the FCERM programme on flooding and coastal erosion	Here
20 ways to fix Brexit's growth hit	Economy	Business and Trade Committee	Report	03/04/2025		Includes calls for an ambitious SPS agreement, bold action to cut red tape at the border with an overhaul of customs co-operation, and rejoining the Pan-Euro-Mediterranean Convention on rules of origin	Here
Public Engagement Strategy on climate change	Climate	Scottish Government	Research	03/04/2025		Data from the Strategy programme makes clear that concerted efforts, consistent support, and greater investment will continue to be needed at all levels to inform, inspire, and galvanise people across Scotland to better understand, participate in, and take action on climate change	Here
Delivering economic growth and nature recovery: an independent review of Defra's regulatory landscape	Environment	DEFRA	Corporate Report	01/04/2025		recommends simplifying environmental regulations to promote economic growth and nature recovery. Key proposals include streamlining processes, adopting digital innovations, and enhancing collaboration between regulators and stakeholders	Here
Costs of Net Zero	Climate	House of Lords	Research	31/03/2025		Research report on recent political statements on Net Zero and the costs to consumers	Here
£16m boost to improve flood protection for farmers and rural communities	Water	DEFRA	Funding	31/03/2025		Additional funding for internal drainage boards (IDBs) to boost farm and rural flood resilience, bringing total IDB Fund to £91 million	Here
Statutory review of the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations	Water	Welsh Govt	Review	31/03/2025		5 key areas of recommendation: better targeting regulations at polluting activities while reducing burdens on low-risk farming; improving accessibility and clarity of regulations; exploring alternative measures; supporting innovation; addressing regulatory gaps, including soil protection measures	Here
Heather and grass burning in England	Environment	DEFRA	Consultation	31/03/2025		Proposal to extend the ban on heather and grass burning to all LFAs and peat 30cm deep.	Here
Supply of nature-based carbon benefits specification	Green Finance	BSI	Consultation	31/03/2025		Specifies requirements for high quality carbon removals and GHG reductions delivered by UK nature-based projects.	Here

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Airport expansion and climate and nature targets	Environment	EAC	Inquiry	28/03/2025		As the Government commits to the expansion of airport capacity in the UK, the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) has launched a new inquiry to examine whether doing so can be achieved in line with climate and environment goals.	Here
Scenarios for a resilient net zero and nature-positive Scotland in 2045	Climate	Scottish Govt	Report	28/03/2025		Explores different choices and alternative pathways we might face towards reaching net zero emissions	Here
A routemap to resilience for Scotland's Forests and Woodlands	Environment	Scottish Forestry	Roadmap	28/03/2025		Outlines how to protect Scotland's forests from climate change and create resilient woodlands for the future	Here
BSI Flex 701 v2.0 Nature Markets – Overarching Principles and Framework	Green Finance	BSI	Standard	28/03/2025		The overarching principles provide a framework across UK nature markets	Here and Govt press release here
Balance sheet analysis and farming performance, England 23/24	Economy	DEFRA	Statistics	27/03/2025		Commercial farm business results for 23/24: debt averages £300k, average net worth £2.4mn, net interest payments at 21% of FBI and average return on capital was -0.8%	Here
Rural England Prosperity Fund: prospectus	Economy	DEFRA	Funding	27/03/2025		REPF extended to 2026, this prospectus explains how the Rural Fund will be administered and its priorities aligning with the Govt's Missions	Here
Environment and Rural Affairs Monitoring and Modelling Programme (ERAMMP) National Trends and Glastir Scheme Evaluation Report	Environment	Welsh Govt	Report	27/03/2025		Evidence suggests that money has been effective but that there are substantial gaps, particularly on decarbonisation	Here
Farming minister at EFRA committee	Farming	EFRA	Hearing	27/03/2025		The Minister for Food Security and Rural Affairs, Daniel Zeichner MP, will make his first appearance before the EFRA Select Committee next week, to face MPs' questions on their thematic inquiries on the future of farming, fairness in the food supply chain, and fisheries and the marine environment.	Here
Investing in Scotland's natural resources	Environment	Scottish Government	Funding	26/03/2025		Local authorities will directly receive £10 million to support new, or to enhance existing, approaches to restoring biodiversity through the Nature Restoration Fund	Here
National Food Strategy experts announced	Food	DEFRA	News	21/03/2025		Experts appointed to the food strategy committee	Here
First national forest in 30 years	Environment	DEFRA	News	21/03/2025		Western forest will cover 2500ha from Cotswolds to the Mendips	Here
National action plan on Pesticides	Environment	DEFRA	Policy	21/03/2025		Envisages more sustainable pesticide use over the 4 home nations, reducing harm by 10% by 2030. Sets clear targets, encourages IPM and strengthens compliance.	Here and policy paper here
Sainsbury's and Cranswick sign 10yr partnership on pig welfare	Food	Press	News	20/03/2025		£61mn to deliver new standard for animal welfare, long term contracts and more financial stability with net zero pork products launched in 2029	Here
The nature of our economy: implementing the Dasgupta Review	Economy	Green Alliance	Report	18/03/2025		Offers actionable solutions to build on the evidence of Dasgupta, including a new Prosperity metric to replace GDP and requiring the Bank of England to protect nature.	Here
Fairness in the food supply chain - correspondence	Farming	EFRA	Correspondence	18/03/2025		EFRA has written to Farming Minister with evidence from its Fairness in Supply chain hearings, asking Govt to focus on 5 key areas inc inflationary pressures, equitable risk sharing, contractual practices, reviewing GSCOP and information sharing. Also published was the Food Supply Chain Fairness Bill.	Here and Bill here
Statistical Digest of England: Population	Economy	DEFRA	Statistics	18/03/2025		Rural dwellers are older and more 'white' (97% compared to 82% urban), and populations are growing but more slowly than urban areas	Here
Statistical Digest of England: Energy	Housing	DEFRA	Statistics	18/03/2025		Key statistics relating to the fuel type and efficiency of rural v urban homes: 590k rural households were in fuel poverty in 2023, and this impacts off-grid households more than on-grid households. Age of property is key determinant in energy efficiency, but the more rural the area, the lower the number of EPCs >C	Here
BNG statutory credit sales 2024-25	Green Finance	DEFRA	Policy paper	14/03/2025		Total payment received for BNG statutory credits in first year of operation was £247,416	Here

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Study on relationship between nature and people	Environment	Natural England	Research	11/03/2025		New longitudinal study will look at how exposure to nature affects attitudes, health and wellbeing	Here and study paper here
Planning and Infrastructure Bill introduced	Economy	MHCLG	News	11/03/2025		Homes and key infrastructure will be built faster, Nature Restoration Fund created	Here
SFI budget allocated for 2025	Farming	DEFRA	News	11/03/2025		Record farmers in SFI schemes as govt allocates sustainable farming budget	Here
Vaccination of birds against bird flu	Farming	DEFRA	Policy paper	07/03/2025		Confirms that vaccination will not be available	Here
Arup invests £1mn in Nature Restoration at Boothby Wildland	Green Finance	Arup	News	07/03/2025		Arup finances Nattergal project certified by WilderCarbon to secure 10,000tCO2e removal credits over 30 years	Here
EFRA Committee strategy 24-25	Economy	EFRA	Strategy/plan	05/03/2025		Following consultation , the Strategy sets out the principles, approach and strategic themes of EFRA committee activity	Here
Rural England Prosperity Fund	Economy	DEFRA	News	04/03/2025		£33m for Rural England Prosperity Fund, funding for eg rural business hubs, diversifications, community gardens, footpaths and kitchens	Here
Climate Adaptation Report	Farming	AHDB	Report	04/03/2025		Farming must start adapting to climate change now to lessen its impact as well as benefit from any opportunities it presents.	Here
Recorded wildlife crime in Scotland	Environment	Scottish Government	Statistics	28/02/2025		Recorded wildlife offences down by 23% in 2022-23	Here
Wild release and management of beavers in England	Environment	DEFRA	Policy paper	28/02/2025		Policy paper on new approach to wild release of beavers, plus updated suite of guidance on beaver management, including a useful guide as to how to spot if you've got beavers on your land	Policy paper here and guidance here
79% spike in recorded food supply chain thefts	Food	BSI	News	28/02/2025		Food, drinks, and agricultural products continue to be the top commodities at risk of theft in the global supply chain, accounting for nearly a third (32%) of all incidents last year, with a 73% rise in ag commodity thefts	Here
Reforms to IHT: consultation on property settled into trust	Economy	HMRC	Consultation	27/02/2025		Invites views on how the APRBPR changes will apply to property settled into trust	Here
Agri-climate report 2024	Climate	DEFRA	Statistics	27/02/2025		Total UK agricultural GHG emissions have decreased by 12% between 1990 and 2022, driven by reductions in livestock numbers and use of manufactured fertilisers. 58% of farmers in England think it's important to consider GHG in farm business planning.	Here
Independent Water Commission call for evidence	Water	DEFRA	Consultation	27/02/2025	23/04/2025	Substantive consultation on the strategic management of water in England and Wales, covers governance as well as issues such as diffuse pollution.	Here
Timber in Construction roadmap	Housing	DEFRA	Policy	27/02/2025		The amended Roadmap goes further than previous commitments, with more ambitious targets and actions to increase the use of homegrown timber in construction	Here
Biodiversity Investment Plan	Green Finance	Scottish Government	Strategy/plan	26/02/2025		Sets out actions to expand investment in nature in support of statutory goals and existing programmes, including the development of a nature investment prospectus and an Ecosystem Restoration Code to complement WCC/CCC.	Here
Investigation into how govt is addressing antimicrobial resistance	Farming	NAO	Research	26/02/2025		Only 1 of govt's 5 targets in its 2019-24 AMR action plan was met; interim targets for animals were met but there is concern that additional reductions will be harder to secure	Here
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	Environment	DEFRA	Policy	26/02/2025		The NBSAP commits the UK to achieving all 23 of the Global Biodiversity Framework targets at home and outlines how its four countries will work together to fully implement each of these, including 30x30.	Here
Seventh Carbon Budget	Climate	CCC	Advice	26/02/2025		Carbon budget for 2038-2042	Here and FF analysis here
Govt announces raft of policies to make farming more profitable at NFU Conf	Farming	DEFRA	Press release	25/02/2025		New measures to deliver a profitable farming sector including: extension to SAW, reforms to catering contract procurement rules and investment in technology	Here
Govt increases HLS payments and re-opens Capital Grants	Farming	DEFRA	Press release	25/02/2025		The government is increasing payment rates for existing HLS and confirming the ELM standalone Capital Grants offer worth £45m in 2025/26 will re-open in the summer.	Here

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FIPL extended to 2026	Farming	DEFRA	Guidance	25/02/2025		Funding for projects in Protected Landscapes extended to 2026	Here
Restoring Scotland's natural environment	Environment	Scottish Government	News	20/02/2025		Legislative proposals to help restore nature and protect biodiversity in Scotland have been introduced to Parliament.	Here
Devon and Cornwall farmers called on to prevent run-off incidents	Environment	Environment Agency	Press release	20/02/2025		Calls on farmers in Devon and Cornwall to prevent loose soil washing off farm fields into rivers, roads and homes	Here
Inter-Ministerial Group for EFRA	Environment	DEFRA	Policy paper	20/02/2025		Terms of reference for IMG-EFRA: coordinates engagement and promotes greater collaboration in areas of shared interest between the portfolio ministers leading on these issues within the UK and devolved governments	Here
SFI uptake data 2024	Farming	DEFRA	Statistics	20/02/2025		As at 1/1/25, there are 32,200 active SFI agreements in place, with 38% of England's farmland now covered by SAM1: soil management plan. Just 3.4% of farmland is temporarily out of production under SFI.	Here
PGI for English Whisky	Food	DEFRA	Notice	19/02/2025		The names "English Whisky" and "English Whiskey" are being considered for protection as a geographical indication under the UK government's Spirit Drinks Geographical Indications Scheme	Here
Regulatory approach and use of civil sanctions for the Management of Hedgerows (England) Regulations 2024	Environment	DEFRA	Statutory guidance	19/02/2025		Sets out the updated regulatory enforcement process to protect hedgerows on agricultural land in England. Non-compliance may result in civil sanctions.	Here
Rural Delivery Plan: vision, strategic objectives & KPIs	Economy	Scottish Government	Consultation	17/02/2025	17/03/2025	The Rural Delivery Plan will act as a framework to consider the full breadth of policy delivery in the rural space, covering mainland areas. Sets out proposed holistic strategic objectives for key economic sectors including agriculture and possible KPIs, including areas under environmental management, GVA, GHG emissions.	Here
Strategic planning for green prosperity	Land Use	IPPR	Report	14/02/2025		Argues for strategic planning at national and regional or sub-regional levels to achieve high-quality, future-proof housing that meets community needs, supports net-zero goals, integrates with sustainable transport, and gains local buy-in.	Here
Climate Adaptation Reporting fourth round	Climate	DEFRA	Research	14/02/2025		Climate adaptation reports from every DEFRA-group relevant body, including the RSPB, Natural England, water companies and Prudential Authority	Here
Addressing the links between climate change and nature loss	Environment	UK Parliament	POST note	13/02/2025		Nature based solutions can help address climate change and other societal challenges. However, key implementation data gaps remain	Here
Making space for beavers in woodland creation	Environment	NatureScot	Research	13/02/2025		Research shows that careful design could help new woodlands thrive in areas where beavers are present	Here
Govt response to the OEP's review of the implementation of the Bathing Water Regs in England	Water	DEFRA	Policy paper	13/02/2025		Govt welcomes the OEPs review and commits to revising the bathing water identification criteria, consider extending the bathing season, enhance monitoring and public information, and develop pollution forecasting systems.	Here
Preparing for Sustainable Farming	Farming	Scottish Government	News	12/02/2025		Farmers and crofters will continue to have access to payments for soil analysis, carbon audits, and animal health and welfare interventions until 2026, in preparation for the audit requirements of the WFP	Here
Natural Capital Asset Index 2025	Environment	NatureScot	Statistics	12/02/2025		There have been increases in the ability of nature to contribute to our wellbeing, with marked improvements in agricultural habitats and the number of people spending time in nature, compared to 2000 levels.	Here
Methane: Government response	Climate	HMG	Response	12/02/2025		To address agricultural methane emissions, the government plans to promote improving livestock diets, enhancing manure management, and encouraging the adoption of innovative technologies to reduce emissions including feed additives. The weak link between climate targets and existing ELMS options is implicit, but a 'credible plan to decarbonise food and farming' is promised alongside the upcoming food strategy and farming roadmap. GWP* is rejected in preference to the IPCC's common metric. A consultation on changes to the Environmental Permitting Regulations including permitting for AD is expected by June 2025.	Here
Extending the UK ETS cap beyond 2030	Climate	DESNZ	Consultation	12/02/2025		Seeks views on extending the UK ETS into a second phase from 2031 onwards	Here

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UK CBAM International Group	Climate	HMT	Policy	11/02/2025		The UKCBAM international group will communicate policy updates and receive feedback from international stakeholders	Here
Innovative technologies to boost woodland carbon and peatland restoration projects	Green Finance	Forestry Scotland	News	10/02/2025		Three UK companies are collaborating to simplify the monitoring, reporting and verification of WCC and PCC projects using innovative tech.	Here
Hedgerows double soil carbon potential	Environment	University of Leeds	Research	07/02/2025		Planting hedgerows increases soil carbon storage by almost half compared to nearby grassland—no matter where they are in the country	Here
New deal for farming	Farming	Scottish Government	News	07/02/2025		New capital funding for new entrants work, LIDAR scanning and further details on the farming route map.	Here
Insect decline: Committee writes to DEFRA to seek clarity as it publishes government response	Environment	Science, Innovation and Technology Committee	Letter	07/02/2025		Letter from SITC in response to Govt response to previous inquiry on insect decline. Following identification of major gaps in data on insect species decline, it asks for details on how species monitoring will be paid for and whether it will be extended to all species essential for food production	Here
Improving the energy performance of rented homes	Housing	MHCLG	Consultation	07/02/2025		Published response to 2020 consultation and announced new consultation on proposals to require EPC C by 2030, taking into account the proposed reforms to EPCs	Consultation response Here and new consultation here
Reform VAT on food to transform health and climate	Economy	Nature Food	Scientific study	06/02/2025		Study showed that reforming VAT rates on foods, including increasing rates on meat and dairy, and reducing VAT rates on fruits and vegetables can improve diets and result in health, environmental and economic benefits in most European countries.	Here
National Preparedness Report	Food	University of London	Report	05/02/2025		The report calls for urgent action to make food systems more resilient in order to effectively safeguard the nation's food supply in the face of increasing global shocks and pressures.	Here
Majority of Scottish breeding birds show population increase	Environment	NatureScot	Statistics	05/02/2025		The latest official statistic report of 66 Scottish terrestrial breeding bird species shows increases for 36 of them between 1994 and 2023, with 23 species indicator results showing decline and seven remaining stable.	Here
Farming at a Cross-roads	Farming	Green Alliance	Report	05/02/2025		Insights on the agricultural transition following visits to 6 farms in England, with recommendations to ring-fence higher tier spend, support farmers and intervene in supply chains.	Here
Farmer Sentiment survey - Oct 24	Farming	DEFRA	Statistics	05/02/2025		81% said government funding for environmental outcomes will be very (60%) or moderately (21%) important to their business in the future; only 35% are positive about their future.	Here
46 Labour MPs write to supermarkets to demand honest behaviour	Farming	Labour	News	04/02/2025		Organised by Jenny Riddell-Carpenter, MP for Suffolk Coastal, the letter, sent to the CEOs of Sainsbury's, Asda, Tesco, Aldi, Lidl UK, and Morrisons, warns that UK farming is 'in crisis'.	Here
UK's National Determined Contributions 2035	Climate	DESNZ	Report	04/02/2025		Sets out the activities that Govt is undertaking across the UK to transition to economy-wide net zero, including agriculture and land use; notes that "the transition to more climate friendly practices does not need to come at the expense of our food security or farm productivity"	Here
PAP in animal feed review	Farming	DEFRA	Consultation	04/02/2025		Consultation on whether to allow processed animal protein in animal diets, to align with new EU rules and reflect current knowledge on disease risk	Here
Land Use in England	Land Use	DEFRA	Consultation	31/01/2025		Long-awaited LU consultation for England, leading to the publication of a Land Use Framework later in the year.	Here
Environmental governance in the UK: a post-Brexit assessment	Environment	Green Alliance	Report	30/01/2025		Assesses progress in legislation in England and the devolved nations, makes a range of recommendations on how environmental governance can be improved.	Here
Nitrogen Inquiry	Farming	ECCC	Inquiry	30/01/2025		HoL ECCC launches Nitrogen inquiry; first hearing on 5 Feb is emissions focussed	Here

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Government response to the HoL food and health report	Food	DHSC	Report	30/01/2025		Addresses the HoL report recommendations, committing to a whole Govt approach to addressing the challenges of the food system. States that the NHS is on a transition to a preventative model and is a major area of focus under the Health mission, but the response relies on existing work (eg Defra's new food strategy, advertising restrictions) and ongoing evidence-building (eg on UPFs), rather than new commitments. Campaigners will be disappointed.	Here
Interim Statement on EIP rapid review	Environment	DEFRA	Correspondence	30/01/2025		A revised EIP is expected in 2025. 5 main revisions are identified, including being clear on the role of cross-cutting enablers, how natural capital contributes to broader societal goals and Missions, clarify how statutory goals under Env Act and EIP will be delivered, plus how non-statutory targets will be streamlined and prioritised. Stakeholder engagement to follow	Here
Chancellor's Growth strategy	Economy	HMT	News	29/01/2025		Plans to create over 100,000 direct jobs, boost a better-connected British economy by billions, and lead to cheaper fares and fewer delays for families as part of Plan for Change. Expansion must be delivered in line with UK's legal, environmental and climate obligations.	Press release here
Parliamentary scrutiny of carbon budgets: EAC hearing	Climate	EAC	Hearing	28/01/2025		Ed Miliband appeared before EAC and made a number of commitments on Net Zero, including that upcoming Spending Review will reflect NZ commitments, and that Ministers will make annual statements to Parl on state of climate and nature	Here
Water Industry National Environment Programme	Water	Environment Agency	Policy	26/01/2025		Sets out over 24,000 actions water companies must take over the next five years to meet their legal requirements for the environment.	Here and 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
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
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
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
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
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
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

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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
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
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
£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
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
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
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
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 develop 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

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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
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
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
Govt announces reforms at OFC25	Farming	DEFRA	News	09/01/2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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
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
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
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
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 , updated 18/3/25
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 LNRs) and climate change, enabling localised decision-making for sustainable house and infrastructure development.	Here

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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
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
UK joins CPTPP	Farming	AHDB	News	16/12/2024		The CPTPP has the potential to support market access objectives and foster productive discussions.	Here
Planning Reform Working paper: Development and Nature Recovery	Environment	MHCLG/DEFRA	Consultation	15/12/2024	21/2/25	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
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
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
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 is possible to design cities in such a way that they enhance health. The evidence base is there to achieve this; <i>"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."</i>	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
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
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
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

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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
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
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	7/2/25	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
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
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
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
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
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
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
Capital Grants closed	Farming	DEFRA	News	25/11/2024		CS capital grants closed to new applications	Here and 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

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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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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
Tenant Farming Commissioner	Farming	Defra	News	06/11/2024		Rock Review recommendation has been adopted - announcement at the Northern Farming Conference.	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
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

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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
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
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
Autumn Budget 2024 and Spending Review	Farming	HMT	Red Book	30/10/2024		See section 4.103 onwards for DEFRA figures (pg 104)	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
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
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
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
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
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
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 in England contributes to its global target to have 30% of land conserved and managed for nature by 2030	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

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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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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

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Agricultural Land - tenanted practices	Farming	Defra	News	16/09/2024		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.	Consultation outcome 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
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			The government will consult on a new Decent Homes Standard for the rented sectors - expected ASAP	