

AGRICULTURE BILL**The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Free our farmers from the bureaucratic Common Agricultural Policy and move to a system based on 'public money for public goods'.
- Replace the current subsidy system, which simply pays farmers based on the total amount of land farmed, and instead reward them for the work they do to enhance the environment, improve animal welfare and produce high quality food in a more sustainable way.
- Deliver on the Government's manifesto commitments to support farmers and land managers to ensure a smooth and phased transition away from the bureaucratic and flawed CAP to a system where farming efficiently and improving the environment go hand in hand.
- Set out the framework for a new Environmental Land Management scheme, underpinned by the principle of 'public money for public good'.

The main benefits of the Bill would be:

- Rewarding farmers and land managers for delivering public goods including improved water quality, increased biodiversity, improved animal welfare and better public access to our countryside.
- Championing British food with a transparent and fair supply chain from farm to fork.
- Rewarding farmers who protect our environment. This will significantly contribute to meeting the goals of our 25 Year Environment Plan and to reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The main elements of the Bill are:

- A seven-year agricultural transition period in England during which Direct Payments will be phased out. Transitional schemes will enable investment in new equipment, technology and infrastructure to support change during this period.
- Introducing a new system where we pay for public goods including environmental protection, access to the countryside, and work to reduce flooding.
- Powers to improve transparency and fairness in the supply chain and provide consumers with more information about how their food is produced.

Territorial extent and application

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply in the main to England only, with some provisions applying and extending to the whole of the UK. Agricultural policy is devolved to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Their key facts

- 72 per cent of the total land area in the UK is actively farmed.

- Agriculture contributes around £8.6 billion to the UK economy and employs 1.5 per cent of the workforce.
 - The Bill will free the UK from the restrictions of the EU CAP after almost 50 years.
 - CAP has impeded productivity and stifled innovation in the farming sector, and failed to protect the environment. For example, agriculture currently contributes more than 88 per cent of UK ammonia emissions and farmland bird numbers have declined by 54 per cent since 1970.
 - Agri-environment schemes have demonstrated good value for money (delivering £4 for every £1 spent).
 - The Government have received over 100 tests and trials proposals for the first phase of the trials of the new Environmental Land Management scheme, and over 200 for the second phase. The Government is taking 44 forward in the first phase – these will help us to test critical elements of the new scheme.
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FISHERIES BILL

The purpose of the Bill is to:

- Deliver on the Government's manifesto commitments to fishing sustainably, safeguarding our precious marine resources and ecosystem for current and future generations.
- Enshrine in primary legislation the powers to take back control of our waters by the end of the Implementation Period, develop plans to restore fish stocks to sustainable levels (known technically as Maximum Sustainable Yield) and to more effectively manage our fisheries in the longer term.
- Provide powers for the Devolved Administrations to manage their fisheries in the way that works for them and their industries. The main benefits of the Bill would be:
 - Providing the legal framework for the UK to operate as an independent coastal state after Brexit, no longer bound by the Common Fisheries Policy.
 - Enabling a better deal for our fishers and the marine environment through a new sustainable fisheries policy after Brexit.

The main elements of the Bill are:

- Delivering on the manifesto commitment to establish legal commitments to fishing sustainably and the legal requirement for the plan to achieve maximum sustainable yield for each stock.
- Ensuring equal and fair access for English, Welsh, Scottish, and Northern Irish boats across UK waters.

- Providing powers to licence foreign vessels in UK waters, although they will have no automatic right to access.
- Creating powers to determine fishing opportunities (quota or days at sea) for the UK, so that we can move away from the unfair Common Fisheries Policy. These powers will enable us to preserve and seek to increase fish stocks.
- Powers to provide grants to fishermen to conserve, enhance and restore the marine and aquatic environment, and to regulate fishing in order to protect the marine environment.
- Powers to amend primary legislation (including retained EU law) to allow the UK to respond to scientific advice (for example, on fish stock levels); to maintain high standards of fish health, protecting our aquaculture industry and export markets; and to meet our international commitments relating to fisheries.

Territorial extent and application

- The majority of the Bill's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK. Fisheries policy is largely devolved to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Some of the Bill's provisions would extend and apply to England only.

Their key facts

- The UK's seafood sector, including catching and processing employs around 33,000 people (including around 12,000 fishers) and contributes £1.5 billion to the UK economy. It is a key industry in some coastal communities. There are ~5000 fishers in England, ~5000 in Scotland, ~1200 in Wales and ~800 in Northern Ireland. In 2018, Scottish vessels accounted for 64 per cent of total landings (with English vessels accounting for 28 per cent).
- The UK has been at the forefront of pushing for more sustainable fishing, in part by advocating for reforms to Common Fisheries Policy regulations. More stocks than ever before were set at sustainable fishing levels in 2018. Leaving the Common Fisheries Policy will give the UK more flexibility to make further improvements.
- On average annually between 2012 and 2016, other EU Member States' vessels landed in the region of 749,000 tonnes of fish (£575 million revenue) caught in UK waters. UK vessels landed approximately 96,000 tonnes (£96 million revenue) caught in other Member States' waters per year in the same period.
- Worldwide, the UK exports around £1.9 billion worth of fish, and imports around £3.2 billion.
- The UK exports around £600 million worth of fish to non-EU countries and import over £2.1 billion from them.

TRADE BILL

The purpose of the Bill is to:

- Make the most of new opportunities that come from having an independent trade policy after Brexit.
- The main benefits of the Bill would be:
 - Delivering the best international trading framework for the UK after Brexit by establishing in UK law the fundamental tools needed to do this.
 - Ensuring that our trade policy reflects the needs and potential of the whole of the UK and helps to create a country that is more united and more outward looking than ever before.
 - Enhancing the UK's central role in driving positive global change through trade.

The main elements of the Bill are:

- Creating powers so that the UK can transition trade agreements we are party to through our membership of the EU, ensuring continuity for businesses.
- Establishing a new independent UK body, to protect UK firms against injury caused by unfair trade practices and unforeseen surges in imports.
- Giving UK businesses continued access to £1.3 trillion per annum of procurement opportunities in 47 countries, by creating the powers for the UK to implement the World Trade Organization Agreement on Government Procurement.
- Ensuring the UK government has legal powers to gather and share trade information as evidence to support UK firms against surges in imports and unfair practices.

Territorial extent and application

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK.

Their key facts

- According to calculations based on International Monetary Fund data, 90 per cent of world output growth in 2020 will come from outside the EU.

ANIMAL WELFARE**The purpose of the legislation is to:**

- Increase protections for animals and further improve the welfare of animals in our homes, in agriculture and in the wild.

Deliver on the Government's manifesto commitments to:

- Introduce new laws on animal sentience
- Introduce tougher sentences for animal cruelty

The main benefits of the legislation would be:

- Enhancing our reputation as a world leader on animal welfare and protection.
- Recognising explicitly in domestic law that animals are sentient beings.
- To improve the welfare of live animals, once we leave the EU, by ending excessively long journeys of animals going for slaughter or fattening.
- Increasing the sentences for those who perpetrate cruelty on animals and ensuring they are subjected to the full force of the law.

The main elements of the legislation are:

- A clear statement in domestic law that animals are sentient beings, and a duty on Government to have all due regard to the welfare of sentient animals in policy formulation and implementation.
- Extending the current maximum penalty for animal cruelty offences, specified under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, from six months imprisonment to five years imprisonment.
- Measures to deliver on commitments to end excessively long journeys for slaughter and fattening, on primates as pets, cat microchipping, and on the import of trophies from hunting of endangered animals. Territorial extent and application
- The legislation's provisions would extend and apply to England. Animal welfare is devolved to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Provisions on animal sentencing would extend and apply to Wales.

Their key facts

The Government has a strong record on animal welfare and protection of animals, including:

- Introducing mandatory CCTV in slaughterhouses, so consumers know high welfare standards are being upheld.
- Banning the use of wild animals in travelling circuses.
- Introducing the world's toughest bans on ivory sales to help stop the poaching of elephants.
- Banning commercial third-party sales of puppies and kittens in England, to end the terrible welfare conditions found in puppy farming.
- Placing a clear duty on Ministers of the Crown to consider the welfare of sentient animals goes beyond EU law.
- Available scientific evidence indicates that all forms of transport are considered stressful for animals. Last year, the Government issued a call for evidence on welfare in transport standards, commissioning external research and inviting the Farm Animal Welfare Committee to conduct a review and make recommendations. This has formed the basis of the consultation that will be launched on ending excessively long journeys for slaughter or fattening.

- Our measures on sentencing will cover heinous offences such as causing unnecessary suffering, poisoning or mutilating an animal, and dog fighting.
 - There are clear ethical concerns around the practice of trophy hunting of endangered species. A consultation and call for evidence on further restrictions on the import and export of hunting trophies into and from the UK was published on 2 November, and is due to close at the end of January. This will provide necessary evidence and information to inform next steps.
 - About 65 per cent of cats are already microchipped. In 2013, the coalition government introduced compulsory chipping for dogs. At this time around 58 per cent of dogs were chipped, now around 90 per cent of dogs are microchipped (8 million dogs).
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EMPLOYMENT BILL

The purpose of the Bill is to:

- Protect and enhance workers' rights as the UK leaves the EU, making Britain the best place in the world to work.
- Promote fairness in the workplace, striking the right balance between the flexibility that the economy needs and the security that workers deserve.
- Strengthen workers' ability to get redress for poor treatment by creating a new, single enforcement body.
- Offer greater protections for workers by prioritising fairness in the workplace, and introducing better support for working families.
- Build on existing employment law with measures that protect those in low-paid work and the gig economy.

The main benefits of the Bill would be:

- Better support for working families and workplace participation for all, alongside establishing a new £1 billion fund to help create more high-quality childcare.
- Ensuring fairness by protecting the majority of businesses who strive to do the right thing by their workers from being undercut by the small minority who seek to avoid their responsibilities.
- Encouraging flexible working, ensuring that both employers and employees get the maximum benefits from flexible working.
- Contributing to an environment of high employment and high standards, aligning with an increasingly automated economy undergoing rapid changes to business and employment models.

The main elements of the Bill are:

- Creating a new, single enforcement body, offering greater protections for workers.

- Ensuring that tips left for workers go to them in full.
- Introducing a new right for all workers to request a more predictable contract.
- Extending redundancy protections to prevent pregnancy and maternity discrimination.
- Allowing parents to take extended leave for neonatal care; and introducing an entitlement to one weeks leave for unpaid carers.
- Subject to consultation, the Bill will make flexible working the default unless employers have good reason not to. Other measures
- We want Britain to be the best country in the world to start and grow a business – a place where entrepreneurs know they can build on their ideas and find success.
- We will clamp down on late payment more broadly and strengthen the powers of the Small Business Commissioner to support small businesses that are exploited by their larger partners.
- Good regulation is essential to successful businesses: we will strive to achieve the right regulatory balance between supporting excellent business practice and protecting workers, consumers and the environment.
- We will also develop proposals on company audit and corporate reporting, including a stronger regulator with all the powers necessary to reform the sector. These proposals aim to improve public trust in business, following the three independent reviews commissioned in 2018. It will also help workers employed by a large company in future to know how resilient it is.

Territorial extent and application

The Bill's provisions would extend and apply in the main to England, Wales, and Scotland. Employment law is devolved to Northern Ireland.

COST OF LIVING**National Living Wage**

- The Chancellor has pledged that the National Living Wage will increase, reaching two-thirds of median earnings within five years (projected to be around £10.50 an hour in 2024), provided economic conditions allow.
- The Government plans to expand the reach of the National Living Wage which currently applies to people over the ages of 25, to those aged 21 and over within five years.
- These changes are expected to benefit around 4 million low paid workers. National Insurance Contributions
- The Government is committed to cutting taxes for hard-working families by raising the National Insurance threshold to £9,500 next year. This will be a tax

cut for 31 million people, with a typical employee paying around £100 less in 2020-21.

Childcare

- The Government will establish a new £1 billion fund to help create more high quality, affordable childcare, including before and after school and during the holidays.
- The funding will go to schools and childcare providers to open up more options to families. Our ambition is for 250,000 more primary school children to get onsite childcare over the summer holidays.

Taxes

- The Government has committed to not raise rates of VAT, income tax and National Insurance.

Older people

- The Government has committed to keep the triple lock, the winter fuel payment the older person's bus pass and other pensioner benefits.

These commitments build on the measures already implemented, including:

- Freezing fuel duty for the ninth consecutive year, which by April 2020 will have saved the average car driver a cumulative £1,000 compared to pre-2010 plans. The average driver will be paying £7 less fuel duty per tank compared to the pre-2010 plans.
- Introducing a new temporary energy price cap on default Standard Variable Tariffs this year, protecting 11 million customers from poor value energy bills.
- Doubling free childcare for eligible working parents of three and four-year olds, saving parents who take up full entitlement around £5,000 a year per child.
- Giving local people the final say on council tax, giving them the power to veto excessive rises.
- Meeting our commitment to raise the Personal Allowance to £12,500 and Higher Rate Threshold to £50,000 from April 2019, one year earlier than planned.

Because of increases to the Personal Allowance and Higher Rate Threshold, compared to 2015-16:

- 32 million individuals will see their income tax bill reduced this year.
- 1.74 million individuals will be taken out of income tax altogether this year.

NATIONAL DISABILITY STRATEGY

- We want to transform the lives of disabled people, ensuring they have access to opportunities and are able to achieve their potential. We will publish a National Strategy for Disabled People in 2020 to ensure disabled people can lead a life of opportunity and fulfilment. Our strategy will be ambitious, supporting disabled people in all aspects and phases of their life.
- The strategy will set out practical proposals on the issues that matter most to disabled people and we will use all the levers of Government to support disabled people to achieve their potential.
- The strategy, to be developed with disabled people, disability organisations and charities, will include housing, education & transport.
- The benefits aspects of the National Disability Strategy will be considered in a Green Paper, and will consider how we can ensure the benefits system and wider DWP support can best help disabled people.
- The consultation “health is everyone’s business” will set out measures to encourage employers to play their role in retaining disabled people and people with health conditions in the workplace. We will be bringing forward detailed proposals later next year in light of the consultation feedback.
- We will reduce the disability employment gap. We have always been clear that no single measure can capture everything that we want to achieve and we will continue to monitor improvements in the employment rate gap and other measures alongside the existing goal to see an increase of 1 million disabled people in work between 2017 and 2027.
- We are introducing a minimum award length for the Personal Independence Payment because we know that the assessment process can be burdensome for some disabled people and we want the benefit system to work better for those it supports. We will ensure no one will be reassessed for at least 18 months from their last review, unless they tell us their needs have changed. This will provide greater certainty for those in receipt of PIP.
- We will end unfair hospital car parking charges by making parking free for those in greatest need, including disabled people. We will make it easier for people with learning disabilities and autism to be discharged from hospital and improve how they are treated in law as well as legislating so that patients suffering from mental health conditions, including anxiety or depression, have greater control over their treatment and receive the dignity and respect they deserve.