


# Farming Roadmap 2050: Timeline of key dates and activities to 2030

## Environmental targets




Restore or create a total of 250,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitats outside of protected sites by December 2030

**EIP interim target**




Halt the decline in species abundance by 2030

**Environment Act target**




By December 2030, 50% of Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) features to have actions on track to achieve favourable condition

**EIP interim target**




By 2030, double the number of farms providing sufficient year-round resources for farm wildlife, compared with 2025

**EIP interim target**




Increase England's tree canopy and woodland cover by 0.33% of land area by December 2030 from the 2022 baseline of 14.9% (Equivalent to a net increase 43,000 hectares)

**EIP interim target**




Reduce total nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution from agriculture to the water environment by at least 12% by December 2030 compared to a 2018 baseline

**EIP interim target**



Reduce total nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution from agriculture to the water environment by at least 18% in catchments containing protected sites in unfavourable condition due to nutrient pollution by December 2030

**EIP interim target**



Bring at least 40% of England's agricultural soil into sustainable management by 2028, increasing to 60% by 2030

**EIP interim target**

## Government actions and commitments (timeline)

### 2026

- March: the Land Use Framework made a commitment to maintain overall food production in England
- June: Open a simpler, fairer SFI, initially for small farms (between 3ha and 50ha) and those without an existing ELM revenue agreement
- June: Launch funded Poultry Biosecurity Reviews
- July: Open ELM capital grant applications
- September: Opening the second window of SFI
- November: extending mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
- also in 2026:
  - continue roll out of improved Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier (CSHT)
  - sign successful Landscape Recovery (LR) projects into implementation and provide information about future rounds
  - opening a sector wide national conversation on how food and farming can reduce emissions while growing productive, resilient businesses
  - invest at least £300 million in Natural Flood Management (NFM) through the floods investment programme between 2026 and 2036
  - investing in local partnerships, water management infrastructure and wetter farming trials between 2026 and 2030
  - continue the Seasonal Worker visa route until at least 2030 and provide 41,000 visas for the horticulture sector in 2026
  - co-develop horticulture and poultry Sector Growth Plans between sectors and government, overseen by the Farming and Food Partnership Board (FFPB)
  - deliver a plan for minister-led inward and outward trade missions
  - support farmers to make informed management decisions about their soil, by publishing the EA's soil structure guidance, and provide an open access national soil data portal
  - establish a new 'Task and Finish Group' bringing together investors, retailers and industry bodies to develop proposals for channelling private finance into sustainable food production
  - reform the Farm Tenancy Forum to increase the number of tenant members and give tenant farmers a greater role in policy making
  - continue to support farmers through the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway in 2026 and beyond

### 2027

- implementing the SPS Agreement, subject to EU negotiations.
- publishing the UK Food Security Report
- publish Animal Disease Control and Resilience Strategy
- continue to support farmers through the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway
- Law Commission to publish a consultation document as part of their review of environmental legislation applicable to agricultural businesses in England
- for ELM Schemes and Capital Grants (between 2027 and 2029)
  - providing greater stability in government offers from 2027 for the remainder of this Parliament, while continuing to refine actions and improve the application service
  - launch a consolidated ELM capital grants offer
  - moving towards a more spatial approach, targeting action to the places where it will have the greatest impact, where the evidence suggests it may be beneficial to support delivery of Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP) targets
  - supporting agreement holders with expiring legacy Countryside Stewardship (CS) and Higher-Level Stewardship agreements to transition into new schemes where appropriate, recognising not every existing agreement will be replicated
  - continue to implement successful LR projects and take forward further application rounds
  - Law Commission commence their review of agricultural tenancies

### 2028

- publish the fourth National Adaptation Programme, which will set clear medium- and long-term adaptation goals for farming and the food supply chain
- Law Commission publish report on how environmental regulations can be simplified for farm businesses
- continue to support farmers through the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway

### 2029

- invested up to £15 million through the Genetic Improvement Networks (GINs) since 2026
- doubled the EA's farm inspection capacity since 2026
- ELM schemes budget will have increased to £2 billion a year compared to £800 million in 2023
- invested £1 billion in tree planting and support to the forestry sector in this parliament
- continue to support farmers through the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway
- established a national soil monitoring baseline under the Natural Capital and Ecosystem Assessment (NCEA) programme

### 2030

- extended the Farming Innovation Programme (FIP) and invested at least £200 million
- invested £85 million to restore, protect and better manage peatlands
- required farmers to take stronger action to improve water quality, reduce emissions and improve air quality
- deploy a cattle TB vaccine, alongside an approved Detect Infected Among Vaccinated Animals (DIVA) test, by 2030
- continue to support farmers through the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway

### Beyond 2030

- implement the refreshed 25-year Bovine TB Strategy, which set out the step change needed to achieve TB-free status for England by 2038
- all ELM schemes (from 2030 onwards):
  - target public funding of public goods beyond 2030 where the markets will not pay, while enabling private finance to play a greater role in supporting routine practice
  - a greater role for regulation, private funding, supply chains and best practice in delivering outcomes, with SFI and grant funded practices moving into regulation after 2030 where appropriate, supported by clear transition arrangements and informed by discussions with farmers
  - any relevant payments under SFI and some payments for land use change under CSHT will be spatially targeted, directing support to the places where it will have the greatest impact, taking into account feedback on published analysis and roll out
  - Landscape Recovery will be spatially prioritised
  - Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) will remain the single largest scheme in 2030 and Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier (CSHT) and Landscape Recovery (LR) accounting for a greater proportion of funding after 2030