

MANIFESTO SNAPSHOT

As Welsh farmers we are proud of the food we produce and how we look after the land, the crops we grow and the animals we care for. Throughout these testing times, Wales' farmers have shown themselves to be steadfast and resilient as they respond to the challenges before them – feeding a nation on top quality sustainably produced, nutritious food.

In putting together our manifesto, NFU Cymru is setting out its vision for what we would like to see the next Welsh Parliament and Welsh Government achieve for Wales' farmers and rural communities. A vision for a productive, profitable, and progressive Welsh farming industry, ensuring a stable supply of high quality, climate friendly food; supporting Wales's green economic recovery, allowing nature to thrive; whilst sustaining our rural communities and culture.



In the lead up to the EU Referendum and thereafter, farmers in Wales were consistently assured that funding for Welsh agriculture would be maintained and protected following the UK's departure from the EU. To help achieve our ambitions for Welsh farming we need our governments in Cardiff and London work together to ensure that commitments made that Welsh agriculture would not receive a penny less in funding as a result of Brexit are honoured.



As farmers we take our responsibilities to the health and welfare of our livestock very seriously, Bovine TB continues to be our most challenging disease issue, causing suffering to both cattle and wildlife and financial and emotional strain to farming families, we need a comprehensive package of measures, to rid this disease from our countryside.



Our sector has a vital role to play in safeguarding water quality, but there are many non-agricultural sources of pollution. We need the next Welsh Government to revisit the blunt and heavy-handed all Wales Nitrate Vulnerable Zone regulations as a priority, and instead work collaboratively with the industry, focussing on proportionate regulation with effective enforcement alongside advice, guidance, and capital investment measures.



Later this year Glasgow will host the UN Climate Change Conference, COP26. NFU Cymru is well aware of our sector's obligations to the climate, and we have set ourselves the target of becoming a net zero emitter of greenhouse gases by 2040. Our 2040 ambition requires long term business planning and decision making on farm, and we will be looking to the next Welsh Government to put in place the framework to support us as we strive toward this goal.



As we leave the architecture of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, we have the opportunity to design and implement something potentially very new and exciting – A 'Made in Wales, for Wales' food and farming policy. A comprehensive and ambitious food and farming policy that underpins the continued sustainable growth of the £7.5 billion food and drink sector. A policy built around the cornerstones of productivity, stability, and the environment, that delivers economically, environmentally, socially, and culturally for rural Wales.