

NATURE VOTERS NORTH EAST



Northumberland
Wildlife Trust

QUESTIONS FOR POLITICIANS 3/4: **FOOD AND FARMING**

What will you invest in nature-positive farming?

The UK needs to invest at least £4.4 billion a year into nature-positive farming to meet legally-binding climate commitments [1].



How will you support local food businesses?

Just a 10% shift in the food retail market towards more sustainable local food systems could yield up to 200,000 more jobs nationally [2].



WRITE TO YOUR CANDIDATES



PUT A POSTER IN YOUR WINDOW



ATTEND A HUSTINGS







GO TO : [NWT.ORG.UK/ELECTION](https://www.nwt.org.uk/election)



OUR PRIORITIES



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-  Shift toward agroecological farming. Farmers manage over 70% of UK land, yet farming is too often unsustainable when modelling shows agroecological farming can feed us well [3].
-  Promote nature-positive farming methods that restore soil health, protect food security, and give farmers an average 10-45% increase in commercial returns [4].
-  New supply chain regulation to ensure contracts are fair and a larger proportion of the end price reaches the producer.
-  Embed adaptation and mitigation of climate change into farm payment schemes and better information for farmers about how farming with nature increases resilience.
-  A major policy shift to incentivise diet change.
-  A new Land Use Strategy that adopts a food-systems approach to ensure North East farmers producing more diverse, environmentally friendly food can access the right infrastructure (e.g. milling, processing, cold storage, etc) [5].

[1] Matt Rayment, Economist, report for the RSPB, the National Trust and The Wildlife Trusts, 2023.

[2] The Sustainable Farming Campaign, The Case for Local Food, 2021.

[3] Xavier Poux, Michele Schiavo, and Pierre-Marie Aubert, Modelling an agroecological UK in 2050, 2021.

[4] The Wildlife Trusts, Farming at The Sweet Spot, 2024.

[5] Sustainable Food Places, Building Back Better Through the Good Food Economy, 2021.