Farming in challenging times

Andrew Clark
Director of Policy
Farming is the bedrock of the food and drink industry
The UK's biggest manufacturing sector

- UK food and farming employs 3.9 million people
- 30,000 km of hedgerows have been planted and cared for by farmers providing food and shelter for wildlife
- Producing quality British food
- Farmers have planted 10,000 football pitches worth of flower habitat creating homes for bees
- UK food and farming is worth £108 billion

Find out more: www.nfuonline.com/back-british-farming #BackBritishFarming

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Land Use on farms 2017

- Set-aside/bare fallow: 1%
- Rough Grazing/Moorland: 19%
- Permanent grassland: 51%
- Temporary grassland: 6%
- Arable: 23%

2000

- Set-aside/bare fallow: 3%
- Temporarily grassland: 6%
- Permanent grassland: 48%
- Arable: 22%
- Rough Grazing/Moorland: [Percentage]
Cropped Area 2000-2017

- Foot and Mouth epidemic
- CAP 2005 reform
- Wettest summer for 100yrs

- Wheat area
- Spring barley
- Winter barley
- Oats
- Oilseed rape
Defra Agri-Environment Schemes

- Organic Farming Scheme
- Countryside Stewardship Scheme (Mk 1)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas Scheme
- Entry Level Scheme
- Higher Level Scheme
- Countryside Stewardship Scheme (Mk 2)

87% of UAA
42% of UAA

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Sectors start Brexit from a different place...

![Bar chart showing average farm business income for different sectors.|](chart.png)
Brexit doesn’t change everything...

• Improving our environmental performance
• Addressing the productivity challenge
• Tackling animal disease like BTB
• Achieving fair returns from the market
• Accessing new technology
• Securing UK borders from disease and pests
• etc
Food or environment – the false choice

- Uplands
- Fens

- Reward and incentive for all, wherever they farm, whatever their tenure, where they meet minimum standards
- Farm practices that enhance sustainability and productivity of farmed landscapes - healthy soils, water protection, wildlife enhancing
The basis for a new deal...

- DAP plus...
- UK Framework
- Trade agreements
- Fairer, more honest food chains
- Time to adapt
- Food security as public good alongside environment and welfare

Productivity

Environment

Volatility