

Working for a Greener Wales

Food and Agriculture



“Like all industries, agriculture in Wales is feeling the effects of the cuts enforced by the Westminster Government. We want to help the sector get back on track and help people choose the safer, healthier option of buying produce in local shops which will also give a much needed boost to small businesses.”

Hywel Williams Plaid Cymru candidate for Arfon

Food and agriculture are of key importance to all other activities in Wales. We will ensure that Wales always has enough food and will support the sector to stand on its own two feet.

Support for our farmers

We support the continuation of the Common Agricultural Policy that keeps over 80% of Welsh farms in business with direct payments. We opposed the maximum transfer of funds from Pillar One to Pillar Two. This took over a quarter of a billion pounds directly out of Wales' rural economy. We believe that on-farm capital investment should be a bigger priority of the Rural Development Plan, and that resources should be allocated accordingly.

We want to increase the promotion of Welsh farm products by opening up new international markets to our quality food

and drink. We will continue to promote Welsh food and drink both nationally and internationally through the European Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) and Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status. We will increase procurement of Welsh produce in Wales as part of our Welsh contracts for Welsh companies scheme.

We want to see reform of the Red Meat Levy rules. Current regulations mean that Hybu Cig Cymru – Meat Promotion Wales loses out on £1m per year that is vital to the Welsh farming industry.

We will strengthen the role of the Groceries Adjudicator to better protect farmers and those involved

in the supply chain to ensure they get a fair deal.

Plaid Cymru will ensure that the Common Agricultural Policy works for Welsh farmers and that all farmers receive the fullest Basic Payment by 1st December 2015. We will also ensure that RDP funding is used effectively, particularly targeting on-farm investment to improve skills and strengthen infrastructure.

We will accelerate actions to reduce bureaucracy and red-tape within the farming industry, including the early scrapping of the 'six-day standstill rule' which prevents animal movements even when it is safe to do so and has now served its purpose.