

Public Bill Committees - Scrutiny Unit

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Tel 020 7219 8387 Email scrutiny@parliament.uk Website www.parliament.uk/scrutiny

22 October 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Programme: Agriculture Bill

The provisional programme of witnesses for the Agriculture Bill Committee has been agreed by its Programming Sub-Committee. The Committee will hear oral evidence on Tuesday 23 and Thursday 25 October. The Committee will further consider the Bill on Tuesday 30 October, Thursday 1, Tuesday 13, Thursday 15, and Tuesday 20 November.

The meetings are open to the public.

Tuesday 23 October at 9.25am in the Boothroyd Room, Portcullis House	
c9.25am until no later than 10.55am	Martin Lines, Chair, Nature Friendly Farming Network ; Patrick Begg, Outdoors and Natural Resources Director, National Trust ; Thomas Lancaster, Principal Policy Officer, Agriculture, RSPB ; and Gilles Deprez , commercial farmer and Managing Director of Greenyard Flowers Ltd.
c10.55am until no later than 11.25am	Ffinlo Costain, Farmwel ; David Bowles, Head of Public Affairs, RSPCA , Simon Doherty, President, British Veterinary Association

Tuesday 23 October at 2.00pm in in the Boothroyd Room, Portcullis House	
c2.00pm until no later than 2.30pm	Andrew Clark, Director of Policy, NFU
c2.30pm until no later than 3.00pm	Christopher Price, Director of Policy and Advice, Country Land and Business Association ; and George Dunn, CEO, Tenant Farmers Association
c3.00pm until no later than 3.30pm	Jason Feeney CBE, Chief Executive, Food Standards Agency
c3.30pm until no later than 5.00pm	Dr Nick Fenwick, Head of Policy, Farmers Union of Wales ; John Davies, President, and Huw Thomas, Political Adviser, National Farmers Union Cymru

Thursday 25 October at 11.30am in the Boothroyd Room, Portcullis House	
c11.30am until no later than 12.15pm	John Cross, Chair, Traceability Design User Group ; and Professor Pete Fox, Director Water, Land and Biodiversity, and Helen Taylor, Programme Manager for the Future Agriculture Programme, Environment Agency
c12.15pm until no later than 1.00pm	Jack Ward, Chief Executive, British Growers Association ; and Helen Browning OBE, Chief Executive, Soil Association

Thursday 25 October at 2.00pm in the Boothroyd Room, Portcullis House	
c2.00pm until no later than 2.45pm	Professor Erik Millstone , Professor of Science Policy, University of Sussex; David Baldock , Senior Research Fellow, Institute of European Environmental Policy; Vicki Hird , Farm Campaign Coordinator, Sustain; and Professor Terry Marsden Professor of Environmental Policy and Planning, Director of PLACE, Cardiff University
c2.45pm until no later than 3.15pm	Diana Holland, Assistant General Secretary, Transport – Equalities – Food & Agriculture, UNITE and Ed Hamer, Landworkers’ Alliance
c3.15pm until no later than 4.30pm	Jonnie Hall, Director of Policy, NFU Scotland ; Ivor Ferguson, President, and Wesley Aston, CEO, Ulster Farmers’ Union ; and George Burgess, Deputy Director, Trade Policy, Food & Drink , Scottish Government

Line by line scrutiny of the Bill (all in Committee Room 12, Palace of Westminster):

Tuesday 30 October 9.25am and 2.00pm
Thursday 1 October 11.30am and 2.00pm
Tuesday 13 November 9.25am and 2.00pm
Thursday 15 November 11.30am and 2.00pm
Tuesday 20 November 9.25am and 2.00pm

The Committee must complete consideration of the Bill no later than 5.00pm on Tuesday 20 November. **However, please note that when the Committee reports it is no longer able to receive written evidence and it can report earlier than the expected deadline of 5.00pm on Tuesday 20 November.***

* In the last Parliamentary Session, the following Public Bill Committees concluded their consideration of the Bill earlier than scheduled: Criminal Finances, Cultural Property (Armed Conflicts), Health Service Medical Supplies

(Costs), Neighbourhood Planning, Savings (Government Contributions), Technical and Further Education, Commonwealth Development Corporation, Children & Social Work, National Citizen Service, and Bus Services.

The Bill can be viewed on the Parliamentary website:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0266/18266.pdf>

The Explanatory Notes on the Bill are also available:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0266/en/18266en.pdf>

Further details on giving evidence to a public bill committee are available here:

<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons/Scrutiny/giving-evidence-to-PBC.pdf>

Contact details

The Scrutiny Unit can help with any queries about oral evidence. Contact details are as follows:

Telephone: 020 7219 8387

Email: scrutiny@parliament.uk