

SUCCESSSES

2025



In 2025, we worked tirelessly together. Thanks to your support and input, NFU Scotland continues to drive progress toward a profitable and sustainable future for our industry. Under pillars of Policy Influence, Your NFUS, In the News and What's On, this is our shared success:



POLICY INFLUENCE

Ranked Scotland's top lobbying voice

NFU Scotland holds the top spot in the Scottish Parliament lobbying register. We held over 400 meetings with MSPs and MPs to ensure our members' priorities were front and centre in both parliaments, governments and media.

Secured major reform to Inheritance Tax amendments

Following 14 months of intense lobbying, political engagement and powerful mobilisation of our members NFUS helped deliver a landmark policy change that significantly eases the burden of succession planning for farming families. Our advocacy contributed to the UK Government raising the inheritance tax threshold to **£2.5 million** per spouse, substantially reducing the potential burden on many farming families.

Secured future funding commitment

Scotland's First Minister pledged that at least 70% of direct support will be initially allocated to Tier 1 of the future support framework from 2026 onwards.



Secured over **£660 million** in agricultural support for 2025/26:

Guaranteeing continuity of vital schemes, including:

- **£424 million** for the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) and Greening
- **£50 million** for the Scottish Suckler Beef Support Scheme (SSBSS) and the Scottish Upland Sheep Support Scheme (SUSSS)
- **£65.5 million** for the Less Favoured Areas Support Scheme (LFASS)

Secured a 50% increase in Future Farming Investment Scheme (FFIS) funding

Following sustained lobbying, the Scottish Government added **£7.4 million** to the Future Farming Investment Scheme (FFIS), taking total funding to over **£21.4 million** which enabled more than 1,600 businesses to invest.

Launched calls for “Scottish First” in public procurement

Following a Procurement Roundtable with the Public Sector Catering Alliance, we published recommendations for the Scottish public food procurement to better support Scottish produce and highlighting challenges faced by public catering.

Blocked Galloway National Park proposals

Successfully halted plans that would have undermined productive farming through the mobilisation of members, political engagement and formally opposing the consultation.

Secured a small herd derogation to the Scottish Suckler Beef Support Scheme (SSBSS)

Won an exemption for businesses with 10 calves or fewer, removing the 410-day calving interval requirement and reducing disproportionate risks and costs for small herds.

Secured a boost in funding for Sea Eagle Management

Raised awareness of our members concerns which prompted the Scottish Government to add **£534,000** to management schemes and increase total funding for the Sea Eagle Management Scheme to **£970,000** for 2025–26.



Secured a delay to Muirburn Licensing

Worked with other organisations to delay the implementation of the muirburn licence provisions to Autumn 2026.

Defended Scottish livestock sector against 27% reduction

Secured Scottish Government rejection of the Climate Change Committee's proposals for cuts to cattle, sheep and dairy, protecting sustainable Scottish production.

Called attention to the devastating impact of wildlife pressures on farms and crofts

Through documenting members concerns and case studies, we highlighted the impact of ravens, sea eagles, geese, deer, badgers, and beavers on farms and crofts.

Influenced Scottish Parliament legislation

Worked with Ministers and MSPs on the Land Reform Act, Natural Environment Bill and Crofting Bill ensuring our members' issues were heard and listened to. Providing oral and written evidence to Committees, briefings for debates and meetings on key issues.

Our support service, the Scottish Dairy Hub, helped with over 160 enquiries

In a year of volatile milk prices, NFU Scotland's government-funded Dairy Hub provided guidance on product development, employment, training, contract legislation, and research.

Secured extension of Fruit and Vegetables Aid Scheme (FVAS)

NFUS lobbying led the Scottish Government to extend the Scheme, making Scotland the only part of the UK to continue receiving support and providing vital backing for local growers.



Introduced a legal checking service for dairy contracts

Partnered with Gillespie MacAndrew to check all our members' milk contracts in Scotland comply with new legislation and launched a fixed-fee contract checking service across all commodities.

Established a Supply Chain Working Group and launched our Climate Forum

Developments which strengthened member engagement to shape these priority areas for our policy work.

Strengthened support for the tenant farming sector

Reaffirmed our commitment to the tenant sector by establishing a new tenancy working group, supported by dedicated forums for tenants and landlords to provide a safe space for constructive discussion.

Lobbied for fair dealings policy on combinable crops

NFU Scotland worked with UK farming unions to lobby for combinable crops to be included in fair dealing policy, following a disastrous year for the malting barley sector and calling for urgent government action to address pressures in the sector.

Successfully lobbied for £2 million of funding for Next Generation agricultural training

Successfully secured the relaunch of the Practical Training Fund and Land-Based Pre-Apprenticeship programme.

NFUS' ShelfWatch identified £500 million opportunity

Research revealed untapped market potential for Scottish farmers and crofters, highlighting the need for stronger local sourcing.



YOUR NFUS

Fuel card uptake drove major savings

With over 700 of members now signed up to our UK Fuels scheme - collective savings reached over **£108,000** on fuel in 2025.

Members saved £1.2 million on vehicles

In 2025, NFUS members purchased 524 vehicles, achieving an average combined saving of **£1.2 million** through their membership benefits.

SAYFC partnership empowered young voices

Launched a new Young Farmers membership category, giving SAYFC members a dedicated pathway into NFUS and strengthening the next generation's policy influence.

Overhauled member contact experience

Simplified and professionalised processes to make it easier for members to get support.



IN THE NEWS

Shaped national media agenda

Featured across BBC, STV, The Times, and The Scotsman, helping bring key farming issues, like inheritance tax, climate policy and food security, into mainstream press and the national spotlight.

Overall social performance increased by ~26% year-on-year engagement

Strong gains in impressions (+48%) and reach (+36%) led overall growth, supported by steady increases in engagement (+11%) and followers (+10%).



WHAT'S ON

2025 AGM and Autumn Conference commanded national attention

Attracted wide media coverage (BBC, STV) and strong political presence.

Hosted high-level Holyrood reception

Brought together Government Ministers and MSPs from all parties to back sustainable farming at a well-attended parliamentary event.

Next Generation Summits championed future leaders

Two Next Generation Summits brought together emerging voices in Scottish agriculture, key stakeholders, and government officials, including the First Minister.

RHS 2025 engaged NFU Scotland with over 7,500 supports face-to-face

We engaged with over 7,500 members across four days - hosting high-profile political debates, media briefings, and retailer meetings that kept Scottish farming in the spotlight.

Visited regions through the Future Support Policy Roadshow

We held meetings across Scotland with the President and Director of Policy giving members a direct platform to raise key issues and shape our position on future direct support.