



# 2025 SUCCESSES

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.

## This is our shared success:

### 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

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 OVER £660 MILLION IN AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT FOR 2025/26:

Guaranteeing continuity of vital schemes:

- £424m for BPS & Greening
- £50m for SSBSS & SUSSS
- £65.5m for 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### SECURED A SMALL HERD DEROGATION TO 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 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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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 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**

Secured the inclusion of combinable crops in fair dealings legislation following sustained lobbying with UK farming unions, responding to a crisis in the malting barley 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.

## **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.

## **NFUS' SHELFWATCH IDENTIFIED £500 MILLION OPPORTUNITY**

Research revealed untapped market potential for Scottish farmers and crofters, highlighting the need for stronger local sourcing. ShelfWatch proved instrumental in driving over 15 retailer discussions on the opportunities and challenges facing Scotland's farmers, crofters, and growers.