



# Senedd Cymru Welsh Parliament Elections 2021: Summary of Party Positions on Food & Land

April 2021

On the 6th of May 2021, people in Wales will vote to elect 60 members of the Senedd – Welsh Parliament (formerly known as the Welsh Assembly). The next term of the will be crucial for the future of Wales's system for agriculture, food and land use. Below you will find excerpts from the manifestos of the following political parties in relation to key issues affecting our food system, farmers, foresters and other landworkers.

- **Welsh Labour:** <https://movingforward.wales/#manifesto>
- **Plaid Cymru:** <https://www.partyof.wales/manifesto>
- **Welsh Conservatives:** <https://www.conservatives.wales/plan-recovery-and-change>
- **Welsh Liberal Democrats:** <https://www.welshlibdems.wales/manifesto>
- **Wales Green Party:** <https://wales.greenparty.org.uk/>
- **UKIP:** <https://www.ukip.wales/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/UKIP-Wales-Manifesto-2021.pdf>

Due to time constraints it has not been possible to include all the parties standing. Please see <https://whocanivotefor.co.uk/> for a full list of candidates and parties, with links to their manifestos. If you have any questions or comments please email [holly.tomlinson@landworkersalliance.org.uk](mailto:holly.tomlinson@landworkersalliance.org.uk)

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## Farm subsidies

**Labour:** Move away from direct payments to payments for environmental benefits such as biodiversity, soil management and carbon sequestration as well as business development.

Farmers will only receive public subsidy for producing food that delivers additional environmental outcomes.

**Conservatives:** Introduce an Agricultural Bill for Wales setting out how our farmers and land managers will be supported with public money for public goods, whilst helping the sector to invest in new technology, become more productive and receive a fairer price for their produce. Guarantee financial support for Welsh farmers at a level of no less than that previously provided for the EU.

**Plaid Cymru:** Introduce a Welsh Agriculture Bill that will place a greater emphasis on public goods such as decarbonisation, sustainable food production, and enhanced biodiversity.

Utilise wider investment to support the transition to more sustainable and diverse forms of land use, including organic farming, regenerative agriculture, agroforestry and mixed farming.

Include a baseline support payment to offer the industry greater economic stability. This support will be used to encourage the highest standards of public health and animal health and welfare, and to facilitate a greater shift towards more low carbon and high nature value farming. Support will target active farmers. It is not clear whether Plaid's baseline support will be area based (eg. funding per hectare), although this has been implied.

Commit to the full use of the EU 2014-20 Rural Development Programme funding by 2023. Retain a commitment to what would have been Wales' share of funding of the successor 2021-27 Rural Development Programme.

**The Liberal Democrats:** Replace Basic Payments Scheme with a system based on public money for public goods, including: sustainable land management for biodiversity gain and for improvements in water quality and pollution levels. Ensure that transition leaves no farmer without financial support during the process. Ensure any future funding scheme for farming provides not a penny less for farming and agriculture.

**Welsh Green Party:** Bring an Agriculture Bill to the Senedd that has been developed with farmers, communities and food movements in Wales. This would set out a roadmap for more food and farming. Including more opportunities for farmers and growers, more stable climate and more space for nature.

Bring in a Green New Deal for food and farming, designed by the farming communities and people of Wales.

Ensure that all farming and land uses protect and enhance the soil. Achieving the net-zero goal demands action to restore soil in Wales.

**UKIP:** Uphold Basic Farm Payments for a minimum of five years. Subsidies would focus on re- equipping farmers and improve land management. Upland farms will continue to receive financial support for economic, social and cultural reasons to support the rural economy.

## Overall Food System

**Labour:** Develop a Wales Community Food Strategy to encourage the supply of locally sourced food in Wales.

**Plaid Cymru:** Develop a food system strategy for Wales by establishing a cross sector Food System Commission, to be tasked with developing a roadmap towards a food System that's fit for future generations.

Establish a consultative Rural Senedd to strengthen the voice of rural communities.

**Conservatives:** Nothing specific.

**Green Party:** Deliver a 10-year transition to agroecological food production and nature restoration, helping farmers work with nature. Their proposed Agriculture Bill would create:

- More opportunities for farmers and growers
- More community involvement
- More food produced in Wales that is consumed in Wales
- More local food supply chains
- More space for nature
- More healthy environments (no net pollution footprint)
- More stable climate (no net carbon)

Hold a Citizens' Assembly on food and farming in Wales, to consult on our proposals and develop the policy so that it truly reflects what people across Wales want and need.

**UKIP:** Strive towards greater self-sufficiency. On average, the UK is only 65% self-sufficient in temperate agricultural products. UKIP will implement a "Buy Welsh Campaign", targeted at consumers to purchase locally.

## Forestry

**Labour:** Expand the new National Forest extending from North to South Wales.

Create 30 new woodlands and connect habitat areas. Strengthen the protections for ancient woodlands. Build on progress to creating a sustainable timber industry.

Recent Agriculture Bill would include support for woodland creation including agroforestry and clamping down on illegal felling.

The current Labour Welsh Government target for increasing woodland by at least 2000 hectares per year, rising to 4000 asap.

**The Conservatives:** Plant at least eight million trees a year, to soak up around half a million tonnes of CO2 a year, whilst also reducing flood risks.

**Plaid Cymru:** Forest creation target involves planting a 100,000 hectares of mixed woodland per decade in Wales, resulting in a total increase of 300,000 hectares by 2050. The 'right tree in right place' approach for forest restoration.

Work with farmers and land managers, as part of their agri-environment role, to extend hedges, shelterbelts, stream side and field edge habitats.

Tree felling will require a special license and the planting of additional trees in return

**Liberal Democrats:** Support plans for a National Forest for Wales. Increase tree cover on farms with payments under a Hedges and Edges Scheme, supporting climate-smart, nature-friendly farming.

Update and improve tree protection legislation as part of plans for a new Welsh Planning Act.

Make every town in Wales a Tree Town, with every council preparing a long term Tree and Woodland Strategy to deliver and sustain a minimum of 20% tree cover in urban areas and 30% tree cover for all new developments

**Green party:** Expand the Glastir woodland management schemes to develop appropriate responses to local pressures and opportunities for wildlife to flourish in and around woodland in Wales.

## Small farm subsidies

Neither specific funding for small farms nor removing the current 5-hectare limit for subsidies are mentioned in any of the parties.

## Council, community and social farms

**Labour:** Develop a Wales Community Food Strategy to encourage the supply of locally sourced food in Wales. Expand the successful scheme supporting community groups across Wales to create or significantly enhance green spaces accessible to and valued by local communities, including:

- 2000 pollinator habitat sites.
- 1000 community food growing sites.
- 200 community orchards cultivating native fruit.
- 100 'Tiny Forests' – dense and diverse woodlands the size of a tennis court.
- 50 habitat creation schemes at rail stations and transport interchanges.
- 50 sensory gardens for therapeutic purposes, delivered in partnership with health charities and the Welsh NHS.

**Conservatives:** Empower local communities to establish neighbourhood plans, allowing them to influence where development should happen, what their communities should look like, and what they should include

Introduce a Community Ownership Fund and Right to Bid to support the takeover of assets such as libraries, pubs, leisure centres and green spaces, particularly those threatened with closure or development.

Establish a single point of access for benefits and support schemes administered in Wales and explore the possibility of automatically passporting Universal Credit claimants to this.

Introduce a Community Empowerment Bill.

**Plaid Cymru:** Introduce a moratorium on the sale of public assets, including land, into private hands without robust covenants to ensure they remain of community and public benefit.

Support the development of urban farms in creating ultra-local food systems in cities.

Enact a new Community Rights Act and explore a community wealth fund to empower communities to buy community assets, including land, and a new national service to support them in the process.

**Liberal democrats:** Nothing specific on community farms. Potentially relevant policies include: Pass a Community Empowerment Act to give communities more power in design how communities look and feel, the services and facilities available, give residents a stronger voice, and support community organisations. Propose to introduce a community right to buy, but only in reference to empty town centre shops.

**Green party:** Increase the opportunities for urban food growing, including new community farms, orchards and allotments, through the revised planning system proposed in our policies.

Promoting diversity in farming through a range of initiatives that will see better representation of people of colour employed in the farming sector and bringing a richer diversity of skills and experience to our land and dinner tables.

Enabling more local food production through the provision of growing spaces, community gardens and orchards using a reformed planning system. Enabling local community-supported growing schemes with affordable local good quality food for all.

Local food growing and the development of local markets provides affordable quality food. Everyone has access to green space through revived and new pathways, mini-forests and local green spaces

## Horticulture

**Labour:** 1000 community food growing sites and 200 community orchards cultivating native fruit.

**Plaid Cymru:** Aim to considerably increase the level of organic farming in Wales and significantly grow the horticulture sector.

**Liberal democrats:** nothing specific

**Green party:** Introduce statutory targets for local, public sector procurement in Wales, including a phasing-in period. This will incentivise an increase in horticultural production and processing in Wales and strengthen local supply chains.

Increase opportunities for growers.

**Conservatives:** nothing specific.

## Supply chains & procurement

**Labour:** current Labour Welsh Government proposal for agriculture includes section dedicated to ensuring short supply chain support.

**Conservatives:** Support Welsh firms to bounce back from the pandemic by giving them priority for government contracts by proactively promoting opportunities, particularly to micro and small businesses.

Use our exit from the EU to encourage the public sector in Wales to 'Buy Welsh' to support our farmers and reduce environmental costs.

**Plaid Cymru:** Agricultural sector will be a key component of an increasingly localised food system.

Base an alternative economic strategy on a Local First principle and give preference to Welsh businesses in public procurement.

Provide start-up funds for creating publicly or cooperatively owned shops specialising in domestically produced products to give people access to high-quality food, give producers direct access to customers and to reinvigorate town centres.

Pass a Public Procurement Act placing a statutory duty on public bodies to adhere to national procurement guidelines. Break up contracts where possible into the smallest possible lots to enable small companies to bid.

Launch buy Welsh and buy local campaign.

Create an online sales platform for Welsh food for domestic consumption.

Introduce deforestation-free targets in procurement policy in Wales as part of our transition to utilising locally-produced and sustainable goods.

Specific commitments to increase Welsh processing capacity across the board and specifically create new local food processing facilities in Llanidloes and Brecon. Support the creation of a Welsh Wool Research Centre in Newtown to add value through technology and information transfer in the development of new enterprises.

**Liberal democrats:** Pass a People's Procurement Act, requiring local authorities to commission small local businesses and supply chains as a priority, whilst making other rules more flexible giving greater scope to invest in longer-term contracts.

**Green party:** Introduce statutory targets for local, public sector procurement in Wales, including a phasing-in period. This will incentivise an increase in horticultural production and processing in Wales and strengthen local supply chains.

Localising food systems so that control of production, distribution and access to food is increasingly in local hands. Progressively increase the proportion of our food grown in Wales year on year, improving food security and quality.

## School meals & health

**Labour:** Maintain commitments to provide free breakfasts for all primary school pupils; abolish holiday hunger by building on the School Holiday Enrichment Programme. Continue to meet the rise in demand for Free School Meals resulting from the pandemic and review the eligibility criteria, extending entitlement as far as resources allow.

**Conservatives:** Introduce healthy school dinners that are sourced locally. Help those on the lowest incomes by funding a programme for children in receipt of free school meals to cover all school holidays for the whole of the next Welsh Parliament term.

**Plaid Cymru:** Provide free school meals for all children in families receiving Universal Credit, extending to all primary school children by 2026 children, using quality Welsh produce.

School meal contracts will be procured locally wherever possible so that children will learn where their food comes from and develop the habit of eating nutritious, locally produced food early in life, meaning they will be healthier, with benefits for economy and the environment.

Encourage healthy eating by monitoring access to healthy food in the most deprived communities, ensuring cookery is on the curriculum, and explore the legislative options of a Junk Food Tax.

Expand social prescribing including gardening.

**Liberal democrats:** extend provision of Free School Meals during the school holidays beyond the pandemic and to invest in programmes which tackle holiday hunger, isolation, and exclusion.

**Green Party:** Ensure that menus in schools, colleges, universities, hospitals etc. include varied and nutritious vegan/ plant-based options at all times.

## New entrants & training

**Labour:** 125,000 new apprenticeships (not specific to land or food work).

Put into law our successful social partnership approach with employers and unions to improve workers' rights, drive up the quality of jobs and public services, and strengthen the economy

Everyone under the age of 25 an offer of work, education, training, or self-employment

**Plaid Cymru:** Local authority farms will play a key role. Plaid will work with public bodies and the wider third sector to identify ways of protecting and enhancing the public farm estate as an important foothold for new entrants in the future.

Develop a strategy to bring new and young entrants into agriculture. Work with Wales Young Farmers' Clubs (YFC) to develop and grow the key role they play in our rural communities

Encourage innovative agricultural products and producers of healthy local food. Implement the recommendations of the 2020 ColegauCymru report on Further Education and Building Better on vocational education including investment in apprenticeships. Enhance workforce skills in agriculture.

**Liberal democrats:** create a Centre for Vocational Education and Training (not specific to land or food work). Support new entrants in agriculture.

**Green party:** More food is grown in and around our cities, with easier planning and provision for allotments/ community gardens, with all new development having access to green space and/or growing land. Green spaces available for all locally, with green trails to country outskirts and support for city and urban wildlife and biodiversity. There is more local engagement in greening schemes and parks, including clean river and water courses.

**Conservatives:** Ensure availability of Seasonal Agricultural Workers. Nothing specific for new entrants.

## Climate Emergency

Note that most of the parties have detailed plans for renewable energy generation. This is not covered fully below. Please see their manifestos for more information.

**Labour:** 2050 net zero target (current policy). Make sure that nature and climate are on the agenda of every public service and private sector business, and we will be looking to see an environmental return on any public investment.

Support the Wales TUC proposals for union members to become Green Representatives in the workplace

Uphold current policy of opposing the extraction of fossil fuels in Wales, both on land and in Welsh waters, using the powers available to Welsh Government and maintain fracking ban.

**Conservatives:** Tackle climate change by ensuring Wales meets our net-zero carbon emissions target by 2050

Create 65,000 jobs in Wales over the next Parliament, with at least 15,000 green jobs.

Build the M4 relief road, which was halted by Welsh Labour Government on climate change grounds.

**Plaid Cymru:** Set a Wales 2035 Mission to decarbonise and to reach net zero emissions. A £6bn Green Economic Stimulus to help create 60,000 jobs.

Ensure that all departmental budgets within Government are aligned with nature and climate restoration.

Require local authorities to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions within their area through setting local GHG budgets. Local government pension schemes should divest from fossil fuels.

**Liberal democrats:** Create a package of investment of £1bn per year to fight the climate emergency, creating new jobs, stability for supply chains and businesses, and investing in new technology. This represents funding across both private and public sectors and is a combination of realigning existing funding and creating new funding. Figures are based on those published by the Future Generations Commissioner's 10 Point Plan to fund Wales' climate emergency.

**Green party:** Net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Green New Deal for Wales including a green transformation fund which would raise finance to issue bonds to fund: building thousands of zero carbon new homes each year; installing rooftop solar on every hospital; converting thousands of houses to warm zero carbon homes each year; replacing all diesel buses in Wales with electric buses assembled in Wales

Public spending should prioritise new jobs for the climate & ecological emergencies.

Calling for immediate disinvestment of Welsh Local Authority funds in fossil fuels which is long overdue and is in direct contradiction to commitments to climate action.

Cooperating internationally to scrap subsidies for air fuel and for the introduction of a frequent flyer tax.

**UKIP:** Most of UKIP's proposals in this area would reverse UK & Welsh Government action to date. This includes proposals to:

- Scrap the UK's Climate Change Act (2008); take the UK out of the Paris Climate Agreement (2016) and end subsidies for renewables.
- Support a regional referendum on the M4 relief road and championing the building of the M4 relief road.
- Oppose the devolution of Air Passenger Duty.
- Offer local referenda on wind farms.
- Invest in nuclear energy and establish small nuclear power plants to off-set the reliance on energy sourced from gas.
- Explore the benefits of tidal energy by calling on the UK Government to review its decision to abandon the Swansea Bay tidal lagoon.

## Biodiversity



**Labour:** Expand the successful scheme supporting community groups across Wales to create or significantly enhance green spaces accessible to and valued by local communities, including:

- 2000 pollinator habitat sites.
- 1000 community food growing sites.
- 200 community orchards cultivating native fruit.
- 100 'Tiny Forests' – dense and diverse woodlands the size of a tennis court.
- 50 habitat creation schemes at rail stations and transport interchanges.

**Plaid Cymru:** Introduce a Nature Act with statutory targets to restore biodiversity by 2050.

Invest in developing an extensive network of wildlife sites with a particular focus on improving existing protected sites.

**Liberal democrats:** Declare a Nature and Biodiversity crisis, setting out the cross- government and societal actions needed to leave a thriving planet for future generations.

Agree Nature and Marine Recovery Plans, to clean up our environment and our waters, protect species, and ensure that our environment can thrive.

Introduce legally binding nature recovery targets with regular milestones, backed up by monitoring and reporting.

Pass a Wildlife Act for Wales, creating clarity and consistency on wildlife protection legislation.

**Conservatives:** Establish a £20 million Wales Wildlife Fund to support conservation efforts across Wales.

**Greens:** Appoint a new Welsh Government Commissioner for Biodiversity and Animal Protection to reverse the decline of biodiversity in Wales. The Commissioner will develop a task force and set plans for the recovery of Welsh ecologies, landscapes, animals and plant life.

- Supporting Marine Spatial Plans to reverse the decline of the marine and coastal environment of Wales, including: more Marine Conservation zones; an end to destructive forms of fishing; rewilding of the marine environment e.g., reinstating destroyed seagrass ecologies in Wales.
- Supporting sustainable fisheries in the transition to operation within biologically safe limits.

**UKIP:** Abandon re-wilding schemes and prevent farmland from reverting to scrub.

## Pollution Control & Environmental Governance

**Labour:** Introduce a Clean Air Act for Wales, consistent with World Health Organisation guidance (not specific to agriculture). Extend the provision of air quality monitoring to encourage positive behaviour change to reduce exposure and eliminate pollution at source.

Enforce a moratorium on the consenting of all large incineration facilities.

**Plaid Cymru** Introduce a new independent environmental governance body for Wales to address the environmental governance gap created by Brexit.

Introduce a Clean Air Act for Wales (not specific to agriculture).

Increase the environmental enforcement budget of Natural Resources Wales and ensure fines are of sufficient scale to be a greater deterrent to pollution. Use new advances in digital technology to measure deforestation,

habitat loss, genetic and biological diversity, the quality of soil, and the cleanliness of river and ocean water regularly and accurately.

Revisit the Nitrate Vulnerable Zone regulations, which are currently Wales -wide and introduce more targeted regulations combined with a voluntary approach.

Work with farmers to reduce the use and impacts of fertilisers, pesticides, herbicides, antibiotics and the extent of nitrate run-off.

**Liberal democrats:** Increase resources for Natural Resource Wales to enable investigation and prosecution of incidents of pollution, supporting targeted interventions based on the polluter pays principle.

Address the gap that our departure from the European Union will leave in environmental policy and governance

Pass a Clean Air Act in the first 100 days to tackle dirty air and the poor health outcomes it causes (not specific to agricultural pollution)

**Green party:** Regulate pollution of all kinds – industrial, agricultural and consumer-based pollution will be subject to stricter regulation with an increase in monitoring capacity.

Help farmers to reduce the artificial-input-based agriculture that accounts for a large proportion of the pollution of watercourses with nitrates, phosphates and sediments from fertilisers, all of which pose threats to biodiversity.

Raising the legal status of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act, to ensure that more decisions are informed by wellbeing and environmental goals, consistent with Welsh Government commitments to a Wellbeing Economy.

**Conservatives:** Scrap Natural Resources Wales to improve transparency and create two separate organisations focused on the commercial and the current regulatory function.

Create the Independent Office for Environmental Protection and Climate Change for Wales, to hold the Welsh Government and other public bodies to account in tackling climate change and protecting our environment.

Introduce a Clean Air Act to tackle pollution and reduce the incidence of respiratory diseases

Reverse the Wales-wide Nitrate Vulnerable Zone and work with farmers on the voluntary code already agreed to reduce pollution.

Increase penalties and improve enforcement for fly-tipping, dog fouling, graffiti and littering to ensure that those responsible pay for their actions.

**UKIP:** Overturn Welsh Labour's decision to designate all of Wales as a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) and implement a localised, evidenced-based approach to tackle nitrate pollution in collaboration with farmers and stakeholders.

## Animal Welfare & Health

**Labour:** improve the qualifications for animal welfare inspectors to raise their professional status. Require CCTV in all slaughterhouses, we will ban the use of snares, and restrict the use of cages for farmed animals. We will not allow the culling of badgers to control the spread of TB in cattle.

**Plaid Cymru:** use subsidies to incentivise highest standards of animal welfare. Commit to using the most effective measures to control and eradicate TB utilising lessons from elsewhere in the UK and beyond. We will also support work to tackle other animal health challenges such as Bovine Viral Diarrhoea and Sheep Scab.

**Liberal democrats:** Work with the sector to improve the welfare of farm animals, including live exports, and wider issues such as public sector food procurement and labelling. Ensure that animal welfare standards are as least as good if not better than those we enjoyed as members of the European Union.

**Conservatives:** Promote honest labelling to enhance consumer choice, including distinguishing between stunned and non-stunned slaughter methods and introduce CCTV in abattoir

**Green party:** Commissioner for Biodiversity would also strengthen animal welfare for farmed animals and pets. Strengthening animal standards in abattoirs and ensuring effective monitoring systems are in place.

**UKIP:** Launch a new bovine TB eradication.  
Ban non-stun slaughter in all slaughterhouses. Install CCTV in every slaughterhouse in Wales.  
Increase the maximum jail sentences for animal cruelty.  
Ensure the UK Government fully implements UKIP's policy to ban all live animal exports.  
Ensure all meat products are accurately labelled to include the method of rearing and slaughter.

## Genetic Modification

**Labour:** Welsh Labour Government has kept Wales free from cultivating GM crops. Manifesto implies that this policy would continue.

**Green party:** Maintaining Wales GM Free status including imported maize.

## Planning

**Labour:** Ensure that each region in Wales has effective and democratically accountable means of developing their future economies with coordinated regional transport and land use planning.

Working in partnership with Councils, the voluntary sector and community groups, we will create **more community green space in town centres**. We will repurpose public space for outdoor events, markets, street vendors, pop up parks and 'parklets'.

**Conservatives:** Overhaul the Welsh planning process, with new technology and cutting red tape whilst putting communities first.

**Plaid Cymru:** Reduce the number of community councils and given them planning powers and an economic development role in promoting local business start-ups, social enterprises and co-operatives, tourism, small-scale renewable energy schemes, and recycling. Use the planning system to make natural green spaces available in people's communities as a basic right.

Place a greater emphasis on flood prevention in planning guidelines.

**Liberal democrats:** Pass a new Planning Act for Wales to revolutionize the planning system, ensuring a fairer more transparent system for residents and developers.

Give the Future Generations Commissioner powers and resources to scrutinise and challenge planning decisions.

Update and improve tree protection legislation as part of a new Welsh Planning Act.

Provide support for farmers to replace industrial farm buildings with small rural housing developments, helping to reignite communities and provide positive places for young people to build their futures.

**Green party:** Harmonise planning law and environmental law by integrating them into a new Planning and Environment Act linked to the Wellbeing of Future Generations legal framework and Wellbeing Economy commitments.

Prioritising the use of planning to conserve, restore and where possible enhance, valuable landscape, ecological, geological, historical, archaeological, cultural and rural features. Planning authorities should support, among other things:

- Carbon sinks (e.g., forests, peatlands) and countryside renewable energy sources
- Low emission farming practices and preventing pollution from intensive agriculture Reforestation and growth of native species
- Development of Welsh forestry and wood products consistent with biodiversity
- Increasing food security and connections between food production and consumption
- Rewilding of land to help restore damaged and depleted nature in Wales

Ensuring a presumption against development in areas at risk from river flooding and against development on previously undeveloped land, high quality agricultural land and important natural areas, for example ancient woodland, and against building on land directly adjacent to such areas.

Supporting the Wales One Planet scheme and improving its accessibility with feedback from stakeholders and communities.

## Fisheries

**Labour:** Nothing.

**Plaid Cymru:** Work with stakeholders to develop a fisheries and aquaculture policy which has sustainability, investment and industry engagement at its core. Committed to introducing a Wales Fisheries Bill.

**Liberal democrats:** Agree a marine recovery plan.

**Green party:** Supporting Marine Spatial Plans to reverse the decline of the marine and coastal environment of Wales, including: more Marine Conservation zones; an end to destructive forms of fishing; rewilding of the marine environment e.g., reinstating destroyed seagrass ecologies in Wales.

**Conservatives:** Increase funding for fisheries across Wales throughout the next Welsh Parliament and support the regeneration of our coastal communities.

Work with stakeholders to deliver a new fishing strategy for Wales which would be based on the principle of 'maximum sustainable yield'

Place a legal duty on the Welsh Government to maintain fish sustainability for every stock

## Funding & investment

**Labour:** Use £500m Wales Flexible Investment Fund to support economic recovery and expand the Development Bank of Wales patient capital funds to provide long-term lending to small and medium sized enterprises, entrepreneurs and start-ups. Increase the use of equity stakes in business support.

Secure the creation of a Community Bank for Wales, supporting its growth so it has 30 branches across Wales over the next decade.

**Plaid Cymru:** Explore the creation of a Welsh Green Bond to invest in the environment, economy, and infrastructure, and retain a greater share of savings in Wales. Invest in a new Community Bank

**Liberal democrats:** Create a package of investment of £1bn per year to fight the climate emergency.

**Green party:** Green Transformation Bonds encouraging organisations and individuals to invest in a massive roll-out of green infrastructure.

Extending Community Development Finance Institutions (such as Robert Owen Community Banking) as vehicles for local energy finance

Joining with other countries to push for a Carbon Tax that redistributes money gained to citizens and green economy initiatives

Supporting a pandemic windfall tax to raise revenue for green recovery initiatives

**Conservatives:** Work with the sector to invest in meat freezing facilities to improve the shelf life of key exports, such as Welsh lamb, to sell Wales to the world

Design a Shared Prosperity Fund that can target pockets of deprivation in rural Wales

## Food waste and plastics

**Labour:** Abolish more single use plastics.

**Plaid Cymru:** Ban non-essential single-use plastics in 2021, ensure zero waste ends up in landfill and end all waste incineration by 2030.

Introduce binding targets to halve food waste from farm to fork by 2030.

**Conservatives:** Ban single use plastics for nonmedical use such as plastic wet wipes, straws, stirrers, disposable cups and cotton buds to reduce harm to wildlife and blocked sewers and drains

Deliver a deposit return scheme for bottles and cans to promote recycling and minimise waste

**Green party:** proposing a bill to ban single use plastic and legislation to progressively reduce all non-recyclable packaging waste, with a goal for an overall reduction on packaging.

**Liberal democrats:** introduce measures to reduce and re-use waste, make our communities and cities greener, support sustainable farming practices, improve the health of our marine environment, and drive changes in our economy.

## Trade/imports

Note that trade is not devolved and power to decide trade policy sits with the UK Government in Westminster. Welsh Government can lobby and can influence it indirectly through other policies.

**Labour:** Implement a new Export Plan promoting Wales in the world.

**Conservatives:** Maximise the benefits for Welsh producers of new trade deals struck with countries around the world

Establish a £20 million Welsh Ports Development Fund to support an increase in Welsh exports, creating more jobs, alongside the UK Government's Freeport programme.

Work with the sector to invest in meat freezing facilities to improve the shelf life of key exports, such as Welsh lamb, to sell Wales to the world.

**Plaid Cymru:** Make Wales a deforestation-free nation by working with the UK Government to legislate to end the importation of goods that have caused deforestation.

Provide support to producer nations to ensure that supply chains do not contribute to deforestation and are sustainable, inclusive and equitable for farmers, forest communities and indigenous people.

**Liberal democrats:** Work with the UK Government to ensure that it only enters into trade agreements under which imported goods meet the high environmental, food quality and animal welfare standards expected of home-produced food.

**Green party:** Bio-security will be increased to ensure control of the import of animal materials preventing new diseases emerging which threaten both indigenous species and human health.