

National Food Strategy

The independent review led by Henry Dimbleby with an advisory panel of experts has recently been published. There are far reaching recommendations based evidence received from 1600 people involved or interested in the food system and cover the following:

- Introduce a sugar and salt reformulation tax. Use some of the revenue to help get fresh fruit and vegetables to low income families.
- Introduce mandatory reporting for large food companies.
- Launch a new “Eat and Learn” initiative for schools.
- Extend eligibility for free school meals.
- Fund the Holiday Activities and Food programme for the next three years.
- Expand the Healthy Start scheme
- Trial a “Community Eatwell” programme, supporting those on low incomes to improve their diets.
- Guarantee the budget for agricultural payments until at least 2029 to help farmers transition to more sustainable land use
- Create a Rural Land Use Framework based on the Three Compartment Model.
- Define minimum standards for trade, and a mechanism for protecting them.
- Invest £1 billion in innovation to create a better food system.
- Create a National Food System Data programme.
- Strengthen government procurement rules to ensure that taxpayer money is spent on healthy and sustainable food.
- Set clear targets and bring in legislation for long-term change.

There has been mixed reactions to the report with recommendations on salt and sugar tax amongst the most controversial with the report recommending a £3/kg levy on sugar and £6/kg levy on salt sold for use in food manufacturing or catering. The government has agreed to respond with a white paper within 6 months.

Find out more at [National Food Strategy](#)