

Chemical Engineering Matters



UK General Election 2015: Manifesto Digest of the main political parties on Food

Conservatives (see [here](#))

- Will work with industry to develop a 25 year plan to grow, buy and sell more British food.
- Will support a science-led approach on GM crops and pesticides.
- Will push for further reform of CAP.
- Defend the Common Fisheries Policy reforms that include ending the practice of discarding fish and reforming the quota system so that all at-risk species will be fished sustainably.
- Continue to devolve the management of North Sea fisheries to local communities, and rebalance the UK's inland water quotas to smaller, specific locally-based fishing communities.

Labour (see [here](#) and [here](#))

- Ensure that the fishing quota allocation contributes to the restoration and maintenance of a thriving industry and the protection of the marine environment.

Lib Dems (see [here](#))

- Want the reform of EU policies on biofuels and biomass which help drive deforestation, including ending all support for food-crop based biofuels after 2020.
- Will bring forward a comprehensive waste strategy and pass a Resource Efficiency and Zero Waste Act that will include:
 - Encouraging the growth of anaerobic digestion to produce biogas for heat and transport, and sustainable fertiliser, working with Local Authorities to extend separate food waste collections to at least 90% of homes by 2020.
- Ensure farming support is concentrated on sustainable food production, conservation and tackling climate change, shifting CAP payments to the active farmer rather than the landowner.
- Introduce a National Food Strategy to promote the production and consumption of healthy, sustainable and affordable food:
 - Increase the use of locally and sustainably sourced, healthy and seasonal food, including in public institutions, implementing and expanding [Defra's Plan for Public Procurement](#).
- Implement the recent reforms of the Common Fisheries Policy, working with industry and others to develop a national plan for sustainable UK fisheries.

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- Press for a ban on EU-flagged vessels undertaking industrial fishing in the previously unfished areas of the Arctic.

SNP (see [here](#))

- Will promote local food supply, including within the public sector.
- Will support businesses, the third sector and public sector organisations working to boost productivity by using energy, materials and water more efficiently.
- Work to ensure the discard ban is implemented in a way that does not damage the viability of the Scottish fishing fleet.
- Engage with the industry on the review of fish quota management – they want to ensure quotas are managed in common interest with active fishermen having access to the quota they need.