



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Daniel Zeichner MP  
Minister for Food Security and Rural Affairs  
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

By Email

Our Ref: EC06429/EG

1 September 2025

Dear Daniel,

Re: The Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme

I was recently contacted by a farmer in my constituency regarding the Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme that is set to end on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

They have expressed how beneficial the scheme has been for their farm, as it has enabled them to invest in their infrastructure, grow their production, implement more sustainable practices and stay relevant within the industry.

I understand that there are 32 registered Producer Organisations in the UK, representing over 1000 growers and 43% by value of all UK grown fresh produce. The farmer in my constituency is worried that without an adequate replacement scheme, they will be unable to maintain their operation to the same high standards.

Please could you outline how the Government is planning to replace and improve upon the Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme in the wake of its closure?

Thank you for your attention to this important issue – I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Ellie Chowns MP  
Member of Parliament for North Herefordshire

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**Member of Parliament for North Herefordshire**  
**House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA**