systems, provide additional public goods such as clean water and healthy soils, adding to the resilience required for future food production. They should be central to discussions, not marginalised or excluded from the debate about UK agriculture and its importance to society.

Genuine public consultation should be an evolving, ongoing and integral process, and corporate power in the food system must be challenged. All this is vital, or UK agricultural research will continue to be dominated by a few narrow interests. The importance of agriculture goes way beyond narrow issues of yields, or even production, and there are many key issues to research, from the way we use our land to the nature of our food systems, especially in the context of climate change and biodiversity loss.25,26