

Dear Prime Minister,

## **An open letter to the Prime Minister on food, farming and COP26**

The COP Presidency gives the UK Government a unique opportunity, as well as the responsibility, to deliver a more resilient and sustainable food and farming system.

We are pleased that a Sustainable Farming Dialogue has been added to the COP Presidency Nature Day. Handled well, this presents a vital opportunity to discuss and agree on the drivers to promote a shift to agroecology and improve food and farming around the globe. Given the critical role of land use, this is essential in the fight to keep global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, reverse biodiversity declines, and to adapt to a changing climate.

The Sustain alliance and our partners are calling on the UK Government and COP Presidency to integrate three key food and farming areas into COP26:

1. Recognise that it is possible for farming to produce food in ways that provide solutions to tackling climate change alongside protecting and enhancing nature, and promote ways to reward farmers for doing so through agroecological approaches.
2. Implement the recommendations of the Trade and Agriculture Commission (TAC) that aim to maintain our current agri-food standards in new trade deals, advocate for improving global standards, and open up UK trade talks to more parliamentary and public participation.
3. Implement those recommendations from the National Food Strategy that will deliver on healthier and more sustainable diets in the UK, including a less and better approach to meat and dairy in public procurement, as well as more fruit, vegetables, pulses and wholegrain foods.

Yours sincerely,



**Letter coordinated by Sustain and supported by:**



**Alexandra Rose  
Charity**



**Allergy Alliance**



**Aquaculture  
Stewardship Council**



**Baby Milk Action**



**Behaviour Change**



**Beyond GM**



**Biodynamic  
Agricultural  
Association**



**The British Dietetic  
Association**



**Caroline Walker  
Trust**



**The Country Trust**



**Chartered Institute of  
Environmental  
Health**



**Community  
Supported  
Agriculture**



**Compassion in  
World Farming**



**Eating Better**



**Farms not Factories**



**Feedback Global**



**Food Matters**



**Forum for the Future**



**Friends of the Earth  
England, Wales &  
Northern Ireland**



**Garden Organic**



**Global Justice Now**



**GM Freeze**



**Health Education Trust**



**Hubbub**



**Landworkers' Alliance**



**Organic Farmers and Growers**



**Pasture-Fed Livestock Association**



**Permaculture Association**



**Pesticide Action Network UK**



**Plantlife**



**Rare Breeds Survival Trust**



**Royal Academy of Culinary Arts**



**Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**



**School Food Matters**



**School of Artisan Food**



**Nourish Scotland**



**Slow Food in the UK**



**Soil Association**



**Students Organising for Sustainability UK**



**The Sustain alliance**



**Sustainable Food Trust**



**The Real Farming Trust**



**UNISON**



**Women's Environment Network**



**World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms**



**Alliance to Save Our Antibiotics**



**Growing Communities**



**Food Ethics Council**



**Common Action on Salt and Health**