



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

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The background image shows the exterior of the Welsh Parliament building (Senedd Cymru) in Cardiff. The building has a modern design with a large, curved wooden roof and glass walls. In the foreground, a large number of colorful rubber boots (wellies) are displayed on a wooden platform, arranged in rows. The boots are in various colors including green, brown, red, blue, and yellow. The text "Senedd Cymru Welsh Parliament" is visible on the building's facade.

Conservation in Farming and Food

(ACBA7007)

Lecture Outline

- Sustainable farming Scheme
- Rewilding (should we or should we not?)
- Sustainable farming Scheme:
- [Rewilding and Sustainable Farming? Can we have blissful Co-existence \(padlet.com\)](#)

For sustainable farming? Changing the narrative?

- The current food system doesn't work for everyone, and it certainly doesn't work for the environment. Industrial farming has turned agriculture into a leading source of greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, and is driving the extinction of species.
- Changing our food system to one based on the principles of the circular economy is one of the most powerful things we can do to tackle climate change and build biodiversity. We can achieve this and provide healthy nutritious food for all.
- Not only do we produce food in a way that won't work in the long term, but we also waste almost a third of it while nearly 10% of the world's population go hungry.

[Circular Economy and Food | Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#)

Big Food Redesign Challenge

[Big Food Redesign Challenge: It's time to redesign food](https://ellenmacarthurfoundation.org)
(ellenmacarthurfoundation.org)



[Is your food brand serving the planet?](https://ellenmacarthurfoundation.org)
(ellenmacarthurfoundation.org)

Activity

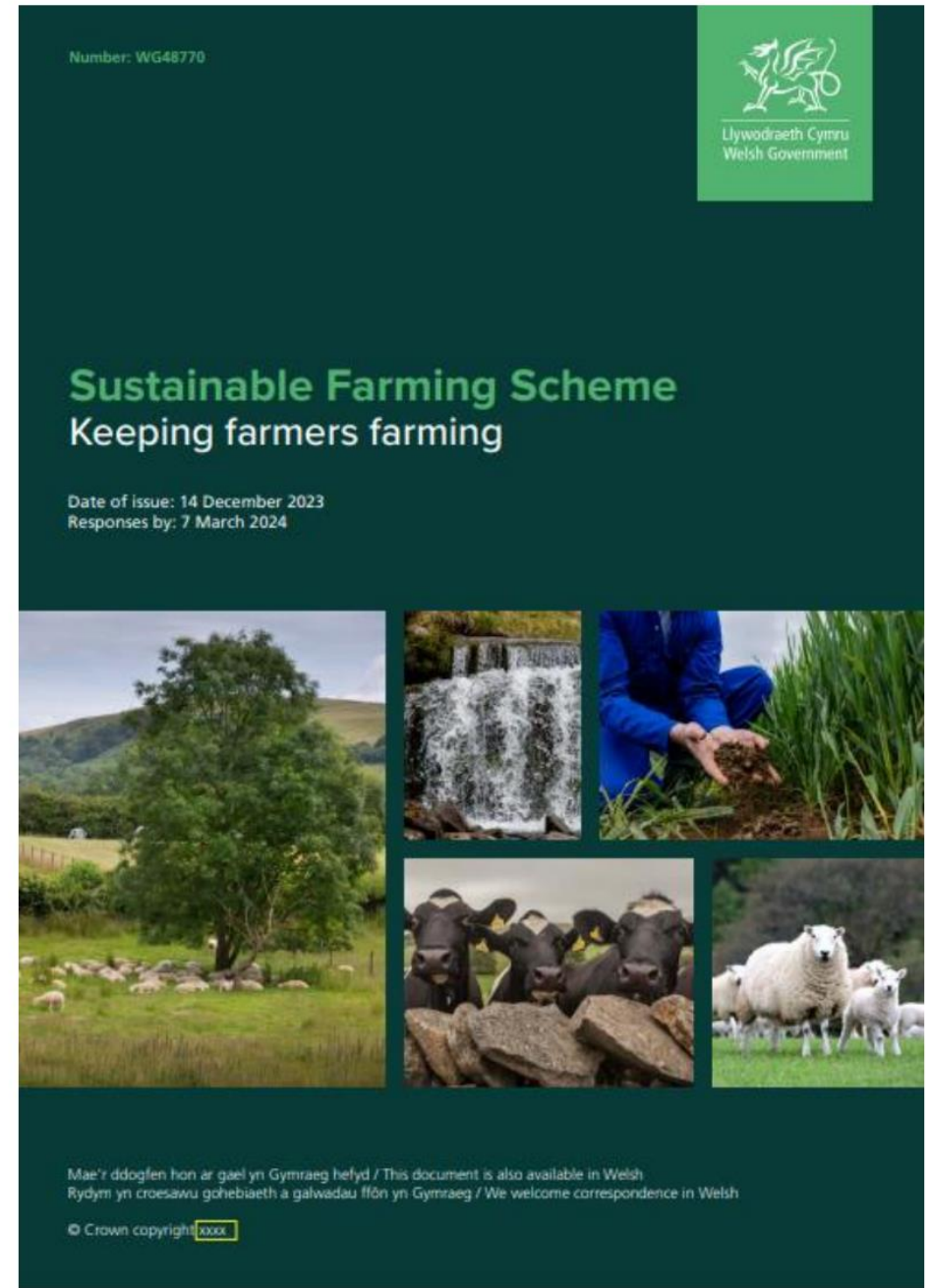
Using your research from last week (rewilding), we will be creating an engaging response to the SFS called “ **Rewilding and Sustainable Farming? Can we have blissful Co-existence**’

- [Rewilding and Sustainable Farming? Can we have blissful Co-existence \(padlet.com\)](#)

Sustainable Farming Scheme

- [Sustainable Farming Scheme | GOV.WALES](https://gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme)

Details of the development of a new Sustainable Farming Scheme commencing in 2025.



Co-design

- Food for thought....
- **How was co-design achieved?**
- **Could more be done in this space?**

- **1,043 unique responses** were submitted to Brexit and our Land, our consultation on how we initially proposed to continue to support farmers after leaving the EU.
- we received **508 unique responses** to our Sustainable Farming and our Land consultation, which set out our revised proposals for supporting farmers.
- we received **232 responses** from individuals and organisations on our proposals for the legislative framework to support Welsh agriculture.
- **over 1,500** farmer contributions in each phase of co-design.

What about rewilding?

- [Sustainable Farming Scheme | GOV.WALES](#)



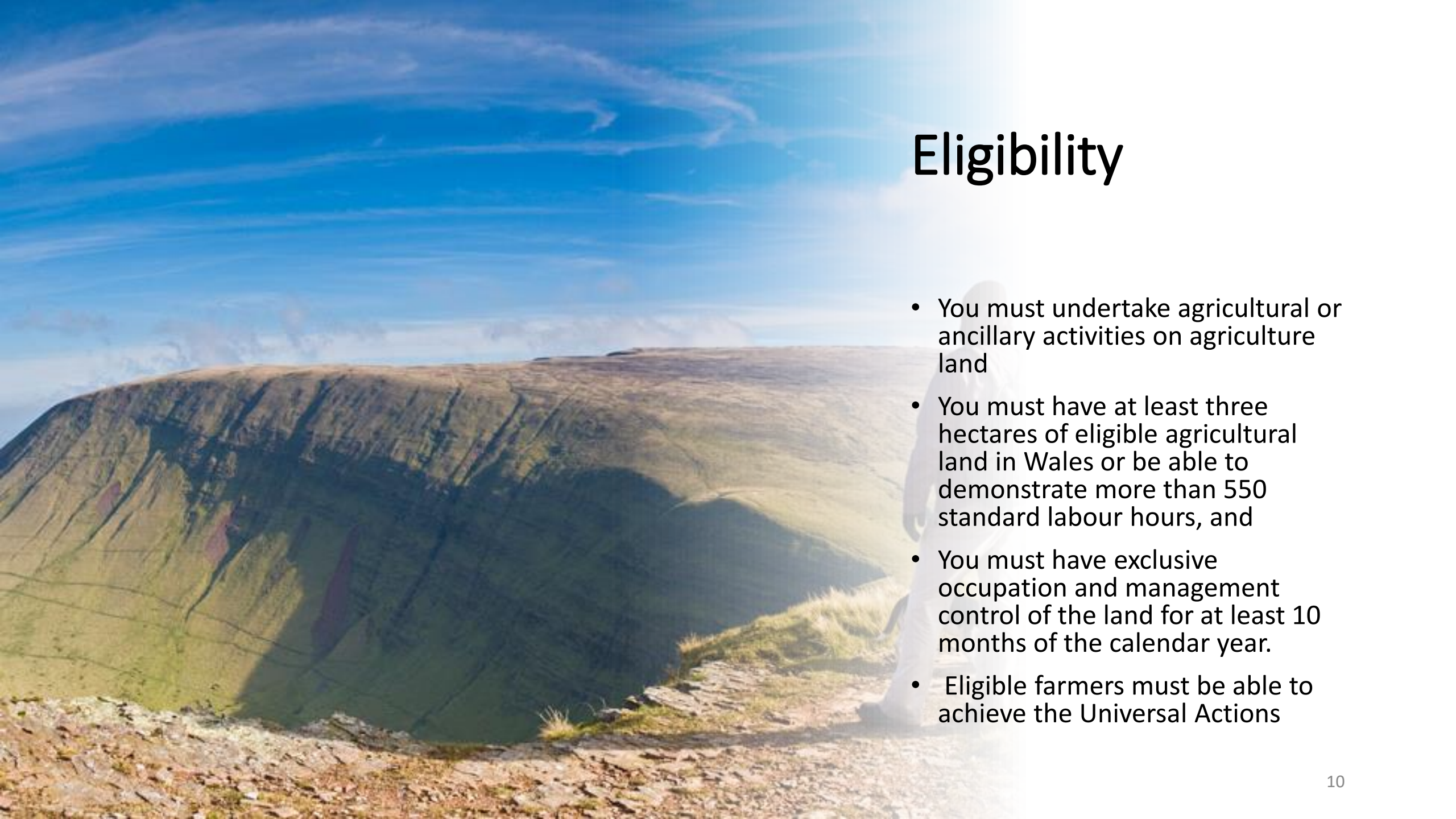
Discussion

- Construct an argument for the case for and against Monbiot's standpoint.
- Should our landscape be wild?
- Use the 2019 rewilding conference to guide your argument.

Scheme Structure

- **Universal Actions:** These include 17 mandatory actions that every farmer will need to undertake to receive and Universal Baseline Payment. These include actions relating to soil health planning, looking after habitat, improving animal health and welfare, benchmarking and looking after the historic environment. In addition, farmers will have to adhere to two scheme rules:
 - At least 10% of each farm is managed as habitat
 - At least 10% under tree cover as woodland or individual trees
 - Payment for 'public food' – replacing subsidies for public good





Eligibility

- You must undertake agricultural or ancillary activities on agriculture land
- You must have at least three hectares of eligible agricultural land in Wales or be able to demonstrate more than 550 standard labour hours, and
- You must have exclusive occupation and management control of the land for at least 10 months of the calendar year.
- Eligible farmers must be able to achieve the Universal Actions



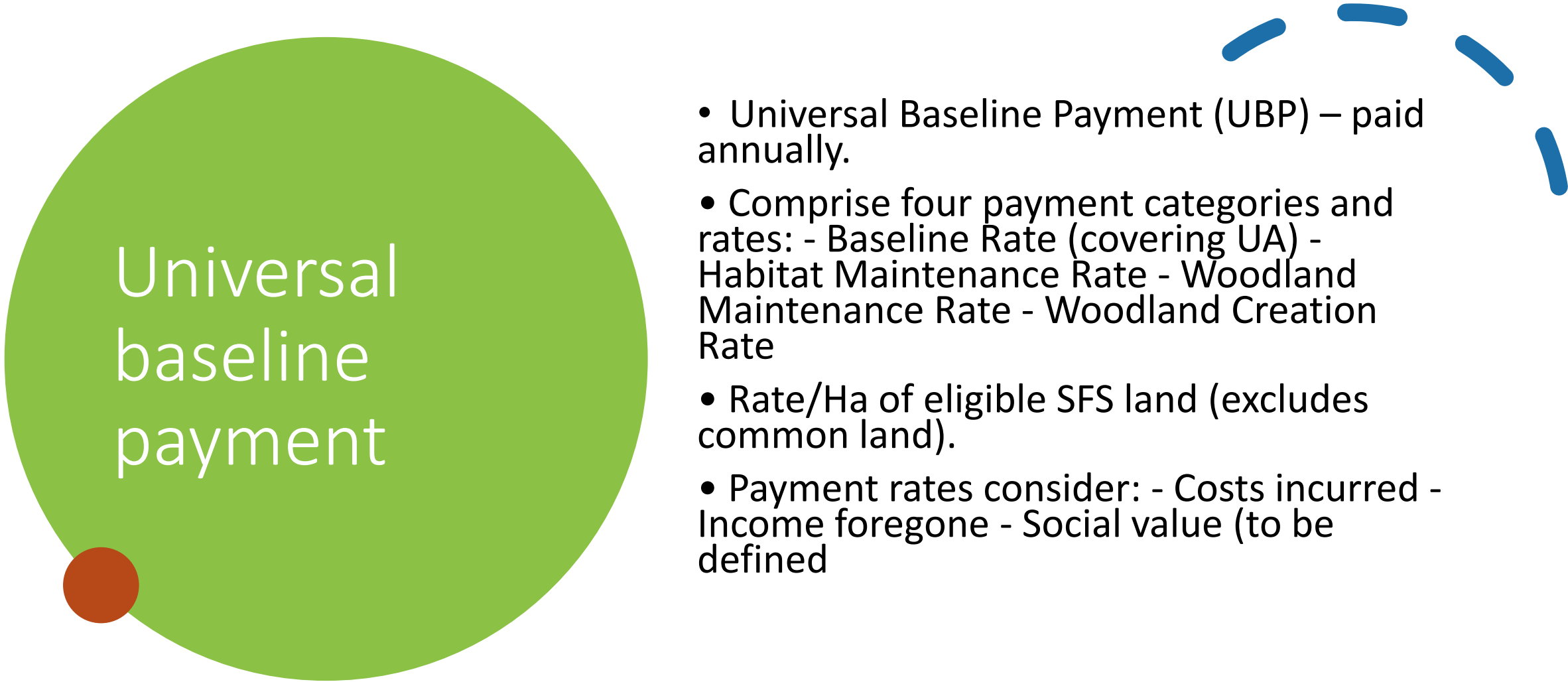
10% Habitat

- The Habitat Baseline Review 1 will indicate amount and type of habitat on your farm.
 - The following count towards the 10%:
 - 11 types of semi natural habitat
 - Ponds and scrapes
 - Established broadleaf woodland
 - Hedgerows in good condition
- If you have 10%+ of habitat on entry, you will not be required to create more. • If you have

What about...

Tenant farmers
Cross border farms
Organic farming
New entrants
Common land





Universal baseline payment

- Universal Baseline Payment (UBP) – paid annually.
- Comprise four payment categories and rates: - Baseline Rate (covering UA) - Habitat Maintenance Rate - Woodland Maintenance Rate - Woodland Creation Rate
- Rate/Ha of eligible SFS land (excludes common land).
- Payment rates consider: - Costs incurred - Income foregone - Social value (to be defined)

Integrated impact assessment of SFS (Activity)

- [Integrated Impact Assessment Template - English \(gov.wales\)](#)

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Useful links:

Read the following:

- [Anger at ‘shocking scenario’ projected by impact assessment on government scheme – NFU Cymru \(nfu-cymru.org.uk\)](https://nfu-cymru.org.uk)

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Working for the environment: farmer attitudes towards sustainable farming actions in rural Wales, UK

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Abstract

Recognition of land management impacts on water quality and flooding, and climate change-induced increases in storm intensity and flood risk, have led to interest in farmer provision of ecosystem services alongside food production. However, pathways for practical design and funding of agroecological interventions are less well understood. Effective design and implementation of sustainable farming initiatives have been linked to human-centred aspects including stakeholder engagement and provision of social and economic co-benefits. To obtain information on Welsh farmer perspectives on sustainable farming actions and aid development of agroecological policy and design guidance, Welsh farmer perspectives on sustainable farming were obtained through discussion, online polls, and questionnaires. Participant-identified barriers to action included incorporation of return on initial time and cost investment in long-term farm budgets, occurrence of extreme weather events, and tenanted land. Decision-making processes were rooted in community discussion to balance perceived needs of the land and farm business, with communication preferences expressed for bilingual farm advice provision and support of farmer-to-farmer knowledge transfer pathways. In addition to responding to research questions, participants identified interdependent components of economic, social, cultural, and environmental sustainability necessary to achieve positive environmental outcomes, and expressed environmentally oriented farming identities linked to environmental guardianship and caretaking. Design of tree-planting schemes was discussed as an example of this interlinkage, with positive attitudes expressed for land sharing at small spatial scales, but not at the whole-farm scale.

Keywords Sustainable farming · Environmental land management · Wales · Public goods · Land sparing

[ACBA7007: Follet et al \(2024\) \(uwtsd.ac.uk\)](https://uwtsd.ac.uk)

[Potential economic effects of the Sustainable Farming Scheme Phase 4 Universal Actions Modelling Results \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales)