

We are delighted to announce the official launch of the internationally significant UK Food Valley on 2nd November at the Epic Centre, Lincolnshire Showground. [Sign up](#) now for your free place and help us promote widely by sharing with your colleagues and networks.



FOCUS ON FACING UP TO THE LABOUR SUPPLY CHAIN – THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY BLOG BY PROFESSOR SIMON PEARSON, LINCOLN INSTITUTE OF AGRI-FOOD TECHNOLOGY (LIAT)

The challenges in securing staff are not unique to farmers and food processors, with sectors from hospitality, to transport, care and the health services also reporting shortages of workers and resulting inevitably in growing competition for labour across the whole economy.

The days of relying on migrants have gone and whilst the horticultural sector has been able to secure some concessions for the food chain, such as the Seasonal Agricultural Workers scheme (SAWS), long term it is clear the politicians wants to see a focus on recruiting more UK based workers.

Continued...

SECTOR PROGRESS & HIGHLIGHTS

- Introduction from Simon Pearson
- **YOUR NEWS:** UK Food Valley Website Launching 2nd November
- Midlands Engine Team Visit UK Food Valley
- LEP Annual Conference to Launch the UK Food Valley
- Bowmans Cold Stores Sold to New American Owners
- PepsiCo UK Investing £24 Million in Lincoln Factory
- **NATIONAL NEWS:** Government Announces Delay in New EU Import Food Checks
- Norwegian Ambassador To UK Visits #Madegreatingrimsby Seafood Cluster
- **EVENTS & KEY DATES:** New UK Events for Agritech Innovation and Recruitment
- FPC Careers
- Meet the Buyer B2B Event
- Open Invitation: All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) On Fisheries To Host Aquaculture In The UK
- The Farming Innovation Programme Launching In October
- **AGRI-TECH HOT FUNDING LIST:** Natural Environment Research Council
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- Productivity HUBs Programme

FOCUS ON FACING UP TO THE LABOUR SUPPLY CHAIN

Continued...

Requests for SAWS type schemes in other sectors have been rejected by government but the new immigration policy whilst making it harder to use migration to meet the demand for lower paid staff, is more generous in allowing higher paid, highly qualified staff with specific skills to move to the UK.

Since 2016, the introduction of the National Living Wage has increased labour costs for those on the old minimum wage by about 40% once overheads are taken into account. Government and the opposition are committed to increasing the National Living Wage again, so we can expect further rises. Coupled with the current shortage of workers, this means the pressure to increase wages is not going to go away and indeed salaries are now rising at the fastest rates in decades.

But it is not just about pay. Other surveys show that public perceptions of food chain working conditions is normally that conditions could be poor, with many thinking food chain jobs can be cold, wet, physically demanding, and boring. Of course, we know that this is not true and often the reverse, with many exciting food sector jobs in conditions which are often better than in other industries, but these deep-seated stereotypes take a long time to change, and we have to collectively seek to correct misconceptions.

There is no doubt that we need to address wage rates, improve promotion of the industry and the career paths it has historically adopted, and keep improving conditions to attract workers. This is especially true for the next generation, with multiple reports identifying that younger workers have

different aspirations in relation to their work/life balance and want to have jobs which have impact. Being part of feeding the world, addressing sustainability and delivering tasty and nutritious products should appeal to young people, but only if we also ensure pay, conditions and career prospects match up.

So how can we address all these competing pressures and still have viable businesses?

In short, the answer has to lie in productivity. As someone with a farming background I have always known that productivity is about using resources such as sunlight, water, nutrients and energy to produce food. Part of this is also about reducing waste at every stage of production and distribution. But arguably we are now facing an even bigger challenge, because there is little point in investing all the effort, expertise, skill and money which our farmers use to grow crops or produce livestock, if we then lack the workforce to harvest, process and distribute the fruits of our labour.

If we accept there will not be an unlimited supply of workers in the future, then the key productivity metric we have to focus on is increasing labour productivity. Whilst good working conditions, training and supportive cultures can help and will be needed, to deliver a step change in productivity we will have to radically reconfigure production processes and investment in technology. We will need new production facilities, new equipment and to invest in skills.

Continued...

YOUR NEWS

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There is a long way to go, but Greater Lincolnshire is leading this transition, with the university team that I lead at LIAT and the National Centre for Food Manufacturing team, led by Prof Val Braybrooks, working on this challenge at every stage of the food chain, alongside inspirational businesses such as OAL and Saga Robotics.

My expectation is that in 10 years' time we will be looking back on a decade of revolution in a digitised food chain, with more automation and robots working in every part of the sector. But technology alone will not be a panacea, workers will be earning more, be better trained and will enjoy being at the forefront of a thriving sector. Of course, this will take effort and investment, but I look forward to working with you to deliver on the potential this creates for our industry and the workers we need within it.

Professor Simon Pearson

Director of Lincoln Institute of Agri Technology / Professor of Agri-Food Technology

UK FOOD VALLEY WEBSITE LAUNCHING 2nd NOVEMBER

The new site will be revealed at the LEP Conference and UK Food Valley Launch on 2nd November. [Register here](#). Look out for some familiar faces, and some less so, shouting loud and proud about the UK Food Valley as we reveal the brand and launch in the lead up to the conference.

For a sneak preview click here for:

[Sarah Louise Fairburn](#) – IMP & Maker

[Judith Batchelar](#) – Sainsburys

[Jaime Pulido Fentanes](#) – Saga Robotics

[James Truscott](#) – Branston



YOUR NEWS

MIDLANDS ENGINE TEAM VISIT UK FOOD VALLEY



On 27th September Sir John Peace, Chair, and Rachael Greenwood, Executive Director of Midlands Engine, visited Lincoln Science Park, the university and the south bank of the Humber. Following a morning looking at decarbonisation and lunch discussing the Freeport and marine renewables sector, the visit went to Youngs Seafood to discuss the potential of the UK Food Valley.

The UK Food Valley programme was introduced by Sarah Louise Fairburn, Deputy Chair of the LEP and Chair of the Greater Lincolnshire Food Board, and Martin Collison, AgriFood Advisor to the LEP. They explained how the UK Food Valley is focusing on three main themes: digitalisation and automation in the food chain; low carbon transition; and, promoting the production and consumption of naturally good for you food.

Simon Dwyer of the Grimsby and Humber Seafood Alliance and Simon Smith, Chief Executive of Youngs Seafood then explained the scale, expertise and

ambition of the Grimsby seafood processing sector. They explained that Grimsby sells over £2 billion of fish per year with its companies directly supporting 6,000 jobs, which rises to 10,000 staff including the associated supply chain.

Grimsby is the second largest seafood cluster in the Northern Hemisphere and is a growing and international cluster at the forefront of the international food sector. Youngs Seafood itself became part of the Canadian Sofina Group earlier in 2021 and has seen good growth in the market as consumers have increasingly embraced seafood products in recent years.

The seafood cluster stressed that it is a key part of the UK Food Valley agenda, producing a low Carbon protein and one which is recommended by government as part of a healthy diet. The Seafood 2040 strategy developed by the industry with government has set a target to increase fish consumption to 2.0 portions per person per week by 2040, which would be worth an additional £1 billion in sales. The UK Food Valley fish processing cluster centred on Grimsby, which already processes 50% of the fish consumed nationally, aims to lead this growth in the seafood industry.

YOUR NEWS

THE GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE LEP ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH THE UK FOOD VALLEY



We are delighted to announce the return of the **LEP Conference 2021** and the official launch of the internationally significant UK Food Valley on **2nd November at the Epic Centre, Lincolnshire Showground**. [Sign up](#) now for your free place and help us promote widely by sharing with your colleagues and networks.

Listen to Sarah Louise Fairburn, our LEP Food Board Chair, introducing the UKFV in her compelling one minute [overview](#), and potential investors and collaborators can additionally get a sneak preview of the new website, by contacting kate.storey@lincolnshire.gov.uk, to access further video introductions from industry leads via a VIP password.

The LEP Conference will highlight the LEP's impact ten years after its creation, provide an update on progress on the levelling up agenda, and highlight our game-changing sectors such as freeports, defence, and clean growth, delivered by our home-grown industry experts and leaders.

The UK Food Valley is an ambitious development to create a top 10 global food cluster in Greater Lincolnshire with the potential to create an additional £2bn of GVA and 11,000 jobs by 2030 and offers opportunities across multiple industries and disciplines. Alongside the launch will be a special investor conference to showcase and promote this nationally significant opportunity across multiple industries and sectors.

Whilst you will see some changes as we remain mindful of social distancing and staying safe, there will be the same essential mix of keynote speakers, experts, discussions, and networking opportunities that delegates have come to expect. We look forward to welcoming you and your colleagues in November!

#LEPConference2021 #UKFVLaunch

YOUR NEWS

BOWMANS COLD STORES SOLD TO NEW AMERICAN OWNERS

Started in the 1970s, Bowman's Stores began providing contract cold storage and associated services to other food companies over 20 years ago and has become a key part of the food chain infrastructure serving the food industry in south Lincolnshire.

The business provides:

- 29 temperature-controlled stores accessed via 47 loading bays which in total can take 8,000 pallets, as well as three ambient storage areas
- An independent QA inspection service
- Frozen storage which holds 22,000 pallets
- Blast freezing
- Tempering in three programmable pods to offer controlled tempering of frozen products
- Delivery service to and from customer production sites

In late May 2021, Americold Realty Trust acquired

Bowman Stores in a deal worth £74.1 million.

Americold [Cold Storage Warehouse & Supply Chain Management \(americold.com\)](https://americold.com) has 246 facilities globally with over 1.4 billion cubic feet of space, in countries including: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States

This means that the Spalding site, with 10 million cubic feet and four acres of expansion land, is now part of the world's largest integrated network of temperature-controlled warehouses.

Cold stores are essential to the food chain and watch out for a report on cold storage capacity and development in Grimsby in a future edition of the newsletter. The UK Food Valley expects to see further consolidation and investment in the cold storage sector, as the industry responds to changes in the supply chain and embraces the move to Net Zero.

PEPSICO UK INVESTING £24 MILLION IN LINCOLN FACTORY

On 8th September Pepsico announced plans to invest in its Lincoln factory by mid-2022 to satisfy growing demand for Quavers. The investment will upgrade facilities, meet growing consumer demand and secure the listed building's future.

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YOUR NEWS & NATIONAL NEWS

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The investment will see existing machinery at the city centre site replaced by new equipment, including a compact packaging machine, which will also create training opportunities for employees. This will include apprentices, some of whom will be upskilled in using the state-of-the-art equipment and technology.

Pepsico report that already one of Britain's iconic snacks, Quavers have continued to grow in popularity over the past year and are now bought by nearly one in three households in the UK. The investment will increase capacity at the factory, enabling the Lincoln team to produce more Quavers to satisfy this demand.

It also follows PepsiCo's multimillion-pound investment in its Skelmersdale and Coventry Walkers factories to install specialist compact packaging machinery, leading to a 30% reduction in outer packaging on average across snacks multipacks. The new equipment at Lincoln will help remove even more packaging from the supply chain.

This supports Pepsico's vision to build a world where packaging never becomes waste, forming part of a global commitment to reducing, recycling

and reinventing packaging.

Nigel Beilby, Lincoln Site Operations Manager, Pepsico, said: "We've always had a strong heritage in the Midlands, providing jobs to almost 2,000 people in the region across our factories in Lincoln, Leicester and Coventry.

"For decades, our Lincoln factory has brought much-loved Quavers snacks to consumers up and down the country, and with this state-of-the-art technology, we're confident that the site will continue to serve the nation for many years to come."

Kwasi Kwarteng, Business Secretary said: "It's brilliant to see PepsiCo doubling down on its commitment to Lincoln through this significant investment in the city centre factory that Walkers has called home for more than half a century.

"This investment will help to deliver on our plan to spread opportunity across the Midlands by future-proofing the jobs of the factory's outstanding employees by training them to use state of the art equipment, and further bolstering the workforce through their apprenticeship scheme."

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES DELAY IN NEW EU IMPORT FOOD CHECKS

The Government has set out a new timetable for introducing full import controls for sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) goods being imported from the EU to the UK. The new timetable considers the challenges businesses have faced due to the global pandemic, as well as its impact on supply chains across the UK and Europe. The Government believes a more pragmatic timetable will help give businesses time to recover from the pandemic and adjust to the new processes.

Continued...

YOUR NEWS & NATIONAL NEWS

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The controls will now be phased in across 2022:

- From 1st January 2022 - the requirement for pre-notification of products of animal origin, animal by-products and high-risk food not of animal origin which were due to be introduced on 1st October 2021, will now be introduced on 1st January 2022, along with pre-notification for lower risk plants and plant products.
- From 1st July 2022 - The new requirements for GB Export Health Certificates from EU exporters, which were due to be introduced on 1 October 2021, will now be introduced on 1 July 2022.
- Phytosanitary certificates for lower risk plant produce, due to be introduced on 1st January 2022, will now be introduced on 1st July 2022.
- Physical checks on SPS goods at border control posts will now begin on 1st July 2022.
- All current controls for live animals, POAO under safeguard measures and high priority plants and plant products remain unchanged.

In addition, the following customs controls will be phased in:

- Full customs declarations and controls will be introduced on 1st January 2022 as previously announced.
- Safety and security declarations on imports will be required as of 1st July 2022 as opposed to 1st January 2022.

The new timeline allows importers, exporters and EU certifiers more time to prepare for the requirements and controls. It will ensure we reduce any anticipated disruption when these measures are introduced.

The changes were particularly welcomed by the Seafood sector in Grimsby whose fresh fish supply is dependent on frictionless trade so that freshness and the shelf life of imported fish is maintained. With substantial imports from Norway, Iceland and the Faroes, as well as further afield, ensuring free flowing trade is essential to the sector.

Simon Dwyer, secretariat to Grimsby Fish Merchants' Association and Greater Lincolnshire LEP Food Board member, has stressed that the industry needs government to move to a digitised system of paperwork and then to allow time to implement these changes before the new rules are brought in.

NATIONAL NEWS



NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR TO UK VISITS #MADEGREATINGRIMSBY SEAFOOD CLUSTER

The Ambassador was accompanied by Simon Dwyer representing the Grimsby & Humber cluster.

Their first visit was to the newly constructed border control post where the Ambassador met representatives of Associated British Ports and their construction partner.

The BCP is planned to be fully operational by 1st January 2022 to check imported products of animal origin for human and non-human consumption plus imported plants from EU & EEA countries.

The Ambassador had an insightful visit to the state-of-the-art flatfish processing plant to see the processing of Norwegian farmed halibut and then went on to the fishmeal and fish oil producer Pelagia, whose headquarters is in Norway.

Finally, the Ambassador attended a round-table discussion with importers of fresh and frozen fish from Norway hosted by Seafish Industry Authority CEO, Marcus Coleman. Importers raised concerns about the preparedness of their Norwegian fresh fish suppliers to provide newly required Export Health

Certification from 1st October as original planned (as noted above the government has now delayed implementation).

The Ambassador commented: "Thank you so much for welcoming us to Grimsby in such a generous manner. It is highly appreciated and of course we together urgently need to address the health certificate issue."

Mike Woods, Chairperson of Grimsby Fish Merchants Association remarked: "The FMA are working extensively not just with suppliers of fresh fish from Norway, but also Iceland and Faroes, to address the challenges around providing the new paperwork in a timely way so as not to have delays in the transportation to Grimsby and the Humber's processing cluster.

"We welcome the Ambassador's visit and are encouraged by his appreciation of the challenges and willingness to seek solutions."

EVENTS & KEY DATES

NEW UK EVENTS FOR AGRITECH INNOVATION AND RECRUITMENT

FPC and LIAT have collaborated to launch two new events for the fresh produce, flower and plant industry on 4th November 2021 at the Lincolnshire Showground.

[FPC Future](#), the agritech event comprises an exhibition and 8 conference sessions and is co-located with [FPC Careers](#), a specialist careers fair for the industry and related sectors which include foodservice, import, retail, logistics, distribution and wholesale.

The conference programme is extensive, with eight conference sessions covering pre- and post-farm robotics and automation, data-driven technologies, plastics and packaging, supply chain waste, carbon supply chains, vertical farming and sustainability.

Other features of the show include tours of LIAT's Riseholme Campus where visitors will see the Strawberry Research and Trial Site which demonstrates the collaborative research focuses on increasing productivity, food safety, and reducing the environmental impact in soft fruit production. The tours also visit Barclays Eagle Lab Farm and

Agri-Robotics Demonstration Space, the Polytunnel Trials Area where the latest development in weeding technology is showcased. The Research Refrigeration Centre is another stop off point of the tour where visitors can find out more about the latest projects involving refrigeration technology.

FPC Future also includes an area for start-up companies and a Dutch Pavilion hosted by the Embassy of the Netherlands which showcases the best in innovation and agritech from the Netherlands. Participants include: Certhon, Crux Agribotics, Hagelunie; Bosman Van Zaal/CMW Horticulture, SmartWash Solutions, Horconex, Grodan/Rockwool, and Ludwig Svensson. Dutch greenhouse specialist Bom Group is exhibiting with an individual stand too.



Sponsored by [PML](#) and [Morgan Cargo](#), FPC Future features the

participation of exhibiting companies including: Affinitus, Agri-EPI Centre, BeBa Energy, B-Hive Innovations, CHAP, FruPro, Graphic Packaging International, GrowPura, IDS Imaging, Keltie, Lettus Grow, Lincs County Council/Greater Lincolnshire LEP, Scorpion Vision, and Syngenta, among many, many more leading agritech providers, produce suppliers and importers from the UK and overseas.



[Register here for free](#)

[View the Conference Programme](#)

[Discover the Tours](#)

[Exhibitor and Sponsor list](#)

[Benefits of exhibiting](#)

[Who's signed up to attend](#)

[Latest event and exhibitor news](#)

EVENTS & KEY DATES

FPC CAREERS



This unique careers event promotes a range of careers and opportunities to jobseekers, university and college students across all academic disciplines, from horticulture and agriculture through to business studies, law, the sciences, economics, technology, marketing and languages.

FPC Careers' exhibitors will meet potential employees and will meet more candidates in one day than in weeks of interviewing. The event also provides the opportunity for employers to meet and develop relationships with important educational providers attending with their students.

Exhibitors already confirmed include ALP (Association of Labour Providers), AM Fresh UK, Ambitions Personnel, BerryWorld, Branston, G's Fresh, Henderson Brown, Karsten UK, MDS, MorePeople, Worldwide Fruit, and the Worshipful Company of Gardeners. [Register here](#) / [Meet the mentors](#)

For information on sponsoring or exhibiting, please contact linda@freshproduce.org.uk. For information on visiting, please contact cristina@freshproduce.org.uk.



BOOK NOW FOR MEET THE BUYER EVENT - 5TH OCTOBER

Please note this event is now full, but a waiting list has been open in the event of any cancellations.

Attendees will have the opportunity to arrange 1-to-1, 15-minute meetings with buyers on our virtual platform, network and hear from industry experts.

Potential Suppliers who want to attend the event are invited to register at the following link: [Make UK Meet the Buyer – Food & Drink Supply Chain Registration, Tue 5 Oct 2021 at 09:00 | Eventbrite](#)

MEET THE FOOD AND DRINK SUPPLY CHAIN
Virtual event | Tuesday 5th October

Are you in the food and drink supply chain? Make UK is hosting an event for you!

Looking for a new supplier?
Are you a food and drink producer or equipment manufacturer?

Examples of items/ solutions for procurement might include:

- Raw materials
- New technology
- Robotics for picking and processing
- Logistics providers
- Solutions to boost sustainability
- Technology to battle labour shortages

Looking for a new customer?
Do you want to sell your product directly to a food and drink manufacturer?

Would you like to sell your product/solutions to the supply chain that support food and drink manufacturing?

BOOK NOW

All meetings are free of charge for buyers and tickets will be available for potential suppliers.

To Find out more email memadmin@makeuk.org

Meetings will be conducted via our virtual meeting and events platform.

makeuk.org



EVENTS & KEY DATES

OPEN INVITATION: ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP (APPG) ON FISHERIES TO HOST AQUACULTURE IN THE UK EVENT

In partnership with [Seafood 2040](#), the APPG on Fisheries is hosting an [event](#) on aquaculture in the UK on Tuesday 26th October at 11am.

The event will consider how the aquaculture sector within each of the UK's four nations can develop in an effective and sustainable manner, and the role of government, legislators, and the industry within this development.

Aquaculture - the farming of fish, invertebrates, and plants in aquatic systems - is becoming an increasingly important source of seafood in the UK. Different segments of the aquaculture sector face different but overlapping sets of challenges, including competition for space and resources, complex legislation, limited demand from UK consumers, and environmental issues such as water quality, and lack of access to resources. However, the sector also has the potential to thrive and diversify, become a core part of the UK's 'blue economy', and make a nutritious and sustainable contribution to seafood consumption.

The event is free and open to all, and is expected to be attended by Parliamentarians, policymakers, and industry representatives, among many others.

Speakers and a full agenda will be announced soon. In the meantime, please register for the event [here](#), and contribute to the discussion of the event on social media using #UKAquaculture.

THE FARMING INNOVATION PROGRAMME LAUNCHING IN OCTOBER

DEFRA have announced that the Farming Innovation Programme will launch in October and provide new funding for agriculture and horticulture innovation projects. In October 2021, DEFRA will launch the first of four competitions in the new Industry-led R&D Partnerships fund.

The fund will encourage groups of farmers, growers, businesses and researchers to get involved in collaborative research and development which aim to solve challenges and exploit opportunities for increasing productivity and environmental sustainability in the agricultural and horticultural sectors in England.

Continued...

EVENTS & KEY DATES

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The Farming Innovation Programme will also support knowledge exchange between farmers, growers, businesses, and researchers, to enable results from the projects to be shared widely. The Industry-led R&D Partnerships fund will be delivered in partnership with UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), building on the success of the £90m Transforming Food Production Challenge. There will be four types of competitions within the Industry-led R&D Partnerships fund, designed to encourage applications from a wide range of groups, sectors and regions. Competitions are summarised in the table below.

The competitions open to applicants in early October and bidding rounds will be open to applications for six to seven weeks, with different closing dates for each competition. But the Farming Innovation Programme is a long-term funding programme, and lots more new competitions for ambitious R&D will be run on a regular basis over the coming years.

DEFRA will be sharing lots more information about the industry-led R&D Partnerships fund and how to apply before the competitions open in October. The competitions will be announced in [DEFRA's e-alerts](#) and follow DEFRA, UKRI and Innovate UK on Twitter to keep up to date with news and alerts for our upcoming competitions.

Competition Name	Timing	Length & funding	Outline of aims
Research Starter Projects	Launching October 2021	Projects up to 12 months Total project costs between £28k - £56k	To help farmers and growers with bold, ambitious early-stage ideas develop them further and build a collaborative team – for those who haven't previously received Innovate UK funding
Feasibility Projects	Launching October 2021	Projects up to two years Total projects costs of between £200k - £500k	To test the feasibility of early-stage solutions and to inform decisions on subsequent larger scale R&D projects
Small R&D Partnership Projects	Launching October 2021	Projects up to three years Total project costs of between £1m - £3m	To carry out R&D for innovative solutions that have the potential to substantially improve overall productivity, sustainability and resilience of the sector
Large R&D Partnership Projects	Launching early 2022	Projects up to four years Total projects costs of between £3m - £5m	Larger-scale R&D and demonstration of solutions that have the potential to substantially improve overall productivity, sustainability and resilience of the sector

FUNDING

THE AGRI-TECH 'HOT FUNDING' LIST: A REGULAR LIST OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRI-TECH

If you work in agriculture, farming or food production then these funds may help. The agri-tech research teams at the University of Lincoln are expert at working with industry to build practical solutions to productivity, transportation and growing challenges for food and farming. If you have a process, resource or technology challenge inside your farm or food business, then please do get in touch at:

LAR@lincoln.ac.uk ; or for Innovate UK enquiries at the University of Lincoln: mvals@lincoln.ac.uk.

Agri-tech Business & Food Funding Opportunities

Natural Environment Research Council

The Natural Environment Research Council invites applications for its role of environment in health benefits of connecting with nature call. This supports research exploring the role of environmental quality in the human health benefits of connecting with nature. For more information [click here](#).

Knowledge Transfer Partnership

The [Knowledge Transfer Partnership \(KTP\)](#) scheme helps businesses in the UK to innovate and grow. It does this by linking them with an academic or research organisation and a graduate. A KTP enables a business to bring in new skills and the latest academic thinking to deliver a specific, strategic innovation project through a knowledge-based partnership.' For more information [click here](#).

Productivity HUBs programme

The Productivity HUBs programme is a University of Lincoln initiative, funded by the ERDF. The Programme is aimed at helping businesses in Scunthorpe, Boston and Grimsby to develop, grow and thrive. Eligible businesses will be provided with

either or both of the following:

Business Development

Access to a business development manager who will work with you to identify key challenges and opportunities and help you to develop a plan to drive your business forwards to increased productivity and profitability

Business Acceleration

Aimed at ambitious start-ups that are committed to accelerating the growth of their business. Eligible businesses will get a package of intensive support designed to improve performance and drive growth, and an opportunity to pitch for seed-funding grants of up to £10,000.

More information is available at: <https://productivityhubs.co.uk/>

Contact Gary Mumby, Business

Advisor: GMumby@lincoln.ac.uk | 07989 868 969



**UK
FOOD
VALLEY**

**PIONEERING SUSTAINABILITY
THROUGH INNOVATION**

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