



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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Welsh Government  
Consultation – summary of response

# Closure of the Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme and Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid schemes in Wales

December 2025

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg hefyd / This document is also available in Welsh  
Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg / We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh

## **Action Required**

This document is for information only.

## **Further information and related documents**

Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.

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## **Additional copies**

This summary of response and copies of all the consultation documentation are published in electronic form only and can be accessed on the Welsh Government's website.

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## **Introduction**

The Welsh Government sought the views on the proposal to close the Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme and Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid Schemes in Wales.

## **Background and policy rationale**

Since the UK's departure from the European Union (EU) in 2020, assimilated EU legislation has remained in place, including legislation governing agricultural funding schemes. Included in this are the Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme and the Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid Schemes.

Introduced in 1996, The Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme was designed to provide government financial assistance to Producer Organisations of growers so that they could effectively collaborate and improve the quality and quantity of their production. Since its inception, the Scheme has received no applications in Wales. The Public Intervention Scheme is a market support mechanism designed to stabilise the market in certain agricultural products during severe price drops or oversupply. Through this scheme, the government buys and stores certain agricultural products—such as cereals, butter, skimmed milk powder, and beef—at a fixed intervention price. Similar to this, The Private Storage Aid Scheme works through the government paying producers a set amount to cover the storage costs for certain products for a set period, so that they can be sold when market prices have stabilised. In Wales, these schemes have not been applied for since 2000.

These three schemes do not offer good value for money due to their lack of use and high administration costs. Updated market intervention powers set out in the Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023 allow Welsh Ministers to support farmers through direct payments in exceptional market conditions, providing a much more effective method of intervention to aid farm businesses in a crisis.

Furthermore, changing operational arrangements for the Fruit and Vegetable Aid Scheme and the Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid Schemes following changes made to legislation in other UK nations mean that to continue running these schemes, the Welsh Government would have to design a new implementation mechanism. To carry out these changes would put a large administrative and financial strain on the Welsh Government.

## **The consultation process**

Views were invited as part of a twelve-week consultation, which began on 2 June 2025 and ended on 25 August 2025. The consultation was published on the consultation pages of the Welsh Government's website. Respondents were able to submit their views and comments in Welsh or English, by post, by email or through an online response form. The consultation was shared with a wide range of stakeholders.

This report aims to present the views that were provided in response to the consultation.

The consultation applied to Wales only.

## **Summary of consultation responses**

The Welsh Government would like to thank those who took the time to submit their views and respond to the consultation, all responses will be considered before the proposals are introduced.

There were a total of three responses. This report summarises the responses and does not refer to all the points raised by respondents. All respondents live in Wales and all responses were submitted in English.

## **Fruit and Vegetable Aid Questions**

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed changes set out in this consultation?

66.67% of people strongly agreed with the proposals set out in the consultation, sighting that 'Horticulture growers would be best supported in other ways'. Respondents also stated that growers needed additional support to be viable as a business.

2. Have you ever considered applying for the Fruit & Vegetable Aid scheme in Wales?

33.33% of respondents answered yes, stating that the scheme was 'too complicated' to enter. 66.67% stated no stating that the Welsh Government supported horticultural businesses with other various grant schemes.

3. Do you expect these proposals to affect your business in any way?

Respondents agreed that the proposals will not affect horticultural businesses in any significant way.

4. Do you expect these proposals to affect your community?

Respondents stated that the proposals will not affect their communities in any way.

5. Do you think the Welsh Government should offer an alternative to this scheme?

33.33% strongly agreed and 33.33% agreed that the Welsh Government should offer an alternative to this scheme, stating that 'Further support for horticulture would assist with the growth of the sector'. 33.33% strongly disagreed.

6. We would like to know your views on the effects that the proposals would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

Respondents stated that there would be no effect on the Welsh language due to these changes.

7. Please also explain how you believe the proposals could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

One respondent suggested that 'bi-lingual notes' could be added to all things planted.

8. Do you have any related issues which have not been addressed in this consultation?

One respondent stated that community participation should be encouraged in 'growing fruit trees and bushes', while one respondent suggested that the government should scale back on government support.

## **Public Intervention and Private Storage Aid Questions**

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed changes set out in this consultation?

66.67% of respondents strongly agreed to the changes set out in this consultation, while one respondent noted that they were unaware of what the schemes were.

2. Have you ever considered applying for Public Intervention or Private Storage Aid Schemes in Wales?

All respondents had either not applied for the scheme or were unaware of what the schemes were.

3. Do you expect these proposals to affect your business in any way?

Respondents showed varied views on this question with 33.33% of respondents strongly agreeing, 33.33% of respondents neither agreeing or disagreeing and 33.33% of respondents strongly disagreeing.

4. Do you expect these proposals to affect your community?

Again, respondents showed varied views on this question with 33.33% of respondents strongly agreeing, 33.33% of respondents neither agreeing or disagreeing and 33.33% of respondents strongly disagreeing.

5. We would like to know your views on the effects that the proposals would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

Respondents stated that there would be no effect on the Welsh language due to these changes.

6. Please also explain how you believe the proposals could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

Respondents stated that there would be no effect on the Welsh language due to these changes.

7. Do you have any related issues which have not been addressed in this consultation?

There were no further issues highlighted by respondents.

## **Next steps**

Welsh Government officials have considered all responses and comments which were received and are planning how to take forward the closure of the three schemes discussed in this consultation.