

Information for Stakeholders: Research Programme 2025 – 2026

BACKGROUND

Brexit launched an era of new trading relationships between the United Kingdom and EU countries, with significant impacts and issues – many unexpected or not properly understood – for food supply networks that connect with the United Kingdom, Ireland, and the countries of continental Europe. And recent geopolitical and environmental factors have heightened some of the challenges.

Global 78's food logistics research programme is independent, impartial, and politically neutral. Focused on time-critical temperature-controlled food supply networks that use RoRo ferry services, its findings will support business strategy development by stakeholders in multiple categories.

TRACK ONE: FOOD SUPPLY NETWORKS

With the support of Campden BRI.



1. Milestones in the EU Trading Relationship
2. Food Trade Flows from 2023 and 2024
3. End-to-End RoRo Networks
4. Regulation and Compliance
5. Information Systems
6. Future Supply Chain Innovation
7. Strategy Essentials (*including what businesses must do for ESG*)

In-scope food trade flows are meats, fish, dairy, fresh produce, and prepared foods. Other temperature-controlled and time-sensitive traffic (e.g. pharmaceutical) will also be considered. Importantly, this track explores the issues in the Northern Corridor impacting Northern Ireland.

TRACK TWO: FRESH PRODUCE SECTOR

With the *Fresh Produce Journal* as the media partner.



1. Milestones in the EU Trading Relationship
2. Fresh Produce Trade Flows from 2023 and 2024
3. End-to-End RoRo Networks
4. Regulation and Compliance
5. Information Systems
6. Future Supply Chain Innovation
7. Strategy Essentials (*including what businesses must do for ESG*)

In-scope time-critical fresh produce trade flows are fruits and vegetables (baby leaf salads, lettuce, spinach, tomatoes, and berries); as well as plants; and flowers. This track comments on the status and impact of border inspection regimes at locations including the Sevington Inland Border Facility.

TRACK THEMES (throughout both tracks)

- Planning for Logistics Resilience
- Identifying Cost Drivers
- Achieving Service Improvement
- Developing ESG Strategies

STAKEHOLDERS

The Programme continues to receive excellent support from stakeholders across multiple sectors. Stakeholders include growers and packers, cargo owners, agents, traders, food manufacturers and processors, wholesalers, retailers, food service companies, RoRo ports and ferry lines, transport and logistics companies, banks, insurers, equipment providers, government agencies, and many others.

OUTCOMES

The industry-funded programme gathers evidence across sectoral and geographical boundaries in the UK, Ireland, and on the Continent to provide essential guidance for improved food supply system strategies. Participants receive bimonthly commentary on key themes and latest findings. Sponsors can additionally look forward to Strategy Guidance Reports and workshops in late 2025.

SCOPE

As described the two complementary tracks are 1) Food Supply Networks and 2) Fresh Produce Sector. Their scope covers food import and export trades – mostly temperature controlled and time critical – that rely on RoRo ferry services; grouped in turn as South-East, Northern Corridor, and South-West.

APPROACH AND WORK PLAN

The Global 78 ethos is to collaborate closely with all participants. Confidentiality is key, supported by mutual Non-Disclosure Agreements to promote effective communication of data and understanding. Face-to-face interviews and field work are features supporting a real-world grasp of analysis results.

RESOURCES

Andrew Morgan, the Programme Lead for the specialist research team, has over 30 years' research and advisory experience in food and beverage logistics and supply chain management. A Chartered Member of CILT(UK), he is a committee member of its Ports, Maritime and Waterways Forum.

TIMELINES

From its start in January 2024, work is planned throughout 2025 and 2026. Delivery of the first Strategy Guidance Reports and (hybrid) strategy workshops is scheduled in late 2025.

PARTICIPATION AND SPONSORSHIP

Industry participation and sponsorship are both essential. Single track sponsorship comes in at £5,000 (GBP) and dual track at £10,000 (GBP) with VAT charged in addition as applicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER INTEREST PLEASE CONTACT

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