

AUTUMN CONFERENCE 2026



13 October 2026 • Nottingham

Delivering Food Strategy Outcomes

Bringing together evidence and expertise to explore the opportunities and challenges shaping the UK's food system.

Programme



Conference Programme

Welcome & Opening

09:30–09:40

Welcome Address

Chris Gilbert-Wood – President, IFST

09:40–09:50

Opening Remarks

Alec Kyriakides – Independent Food Safety Consultant

Session 1: Healthier and More Affordable Food

09:50–10:10

Session 1.1 – Keynote Address

Prof. Ian Young – Chief Scientific Advisor, Food Standards Agency

10:10–10:30

Session 1.2

Lizzy McHugh – Impact and Partnerships Manager,
University of Leeds

10:30–10:50

Session 1.3

Alice Harlock – Director of Technical and Member Services, OPRL

10:50–11:10

Panel Discussion and Q&A

All Session 1 Speakers

20 Minutes Networking Break

AC26

Conference Programme (cont'd)

Session 2: Vibrant Food Cultures

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 11:50–12:10 | Session 2.1
Zoe Plant – New Product Development Manager, Food Works SW |
| 12:10–12:30 | Session 2.2
Dr Ulrike Ehgartner – Research associate, University of York |
| 12:30–12:50 | Session 2.3
Prof. Greta Defeyter – Dean of Social Mobility Policy Engagement, Northumbria University |
| 12:50–13:10 | Panel Discussion and Q&A
All Session 2 Speakers |

Lunch and Networking



Sponsor Spotlight Sessions

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 14:20–14:35 | Sponsor Session 1
Klipspringer (Headline Sponsor) |
| 14:35–14:45 | Sponsor Session 2
National Sanitation Foundation |
| 14:45–14:50 | Food Innovation Toolkit
Food Innovation Special Interest Group |

Conference Programme (cont'd)

Session 3: Good Growth

Session 3.1

14:50–15:10

Prof. Todd Landman – Professor of Political Science and Research Director of the Rights Lab at the University of Nottingham

Session 3.2

15:10–15:30

Harshal Gore – Director of Workforce and Economics, IGD

Session 3.3

15:30–15:50

Judith Batchelar OBE – Food Data Transparency Partnership

Panel Discussion and Q&A

15:50–16:10

All Session 3 Speakers

Closing Comments

Closing Comments

16:10–16:20

Alec Kyriakides – Independent Food Safety Consultant

Drinks Reception



THANK YOU

Our Corporate Supporters and Partners

Headline Sponsor



Compliance with confidence



Daymer Ingredients Ltd



NEMIS
TECHNOLOGIES

M&S

EST. 1884



Accessibility and Inclusion

IFST is committed to making IFST Autumn Conference 2026 an inclusive and accessible event for everyone. We recognise that attendees have different needs and are committed to creating an environment where everyone can participate comfortably and confidently.

The conference venue has been selected with accessibility in mind and offers step-free access throughout. Clear signage will be provided to help delegates move around the venue, and priority seating near the front of the room will be available for attendees who would benefit from being closer to the speakers or presentation materials.

We understand that conferences can sometimes feel busy or overwhelming. A designated quiet space will be available throughout the day for anyone who would like to take a break away from the main conference activities. Members of the IFST team will also be available throughout the event to provide assistance or answer any questions.

Refreshments and catering will include a range of options to accommodate medical, religious and personal dietary requirements. If you have any specific dietary or accessibility requirements, please let us know when registering so we can make appropriate arrangements wherever possible.

To support individual comfort and well-being, delegates will have the option to wear a yellow lanyard if they would prefer not to take part in networking or would like to minimise social interaction during the event. This initiative helps promote personal choice and respectful interactions without the need for explanation.

These arrangements reflect IFST's commitment to creating a welcoming, respectful and professional environment where everyone can engage with the conference, contribute to discussions and make the most of the day. If you have any questions about accessibility or require additional support, please contact the IFST events team before the conference and we will do our best to assist.

Venue Map

