

ST GEORGE'S HOUSE
CONSULTATION



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Attracting and Supporting New Entrants to Agriculture

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For further information please visit our website: www.stgeorghouse.org or contact our Programme Director at gary.mckeone@stgeorghouse.org



CONSULTATION REPORT

In July of this year St George's House hosted a major consultation on the topic of attracting talented young people into the farming industry.

The challenges are obvious: production of food from the land will be of vital importance to the increasing human population over the working life of young people starting their careers in the next few years.

It is not simply a matter of producing food in larger quantities but producing it in ways that make optimum use of finite supplies of water and farmable land; that consume less energy from fossil fuels, limit emissions of greenhouse gasses, and minimize stress on the natural environment. Add food security and animal welfare to the mix and the complexities are readily apparent.

Key people from across the industry, not least young people themselves, gathered at St George's House to grapple in depth with the issues.

Download your FREE copy of our report here:
www.stgeorghouse.org/farmingreport

St George's House, located in the grounds of Windsor Castle, was founded in 1966 by H.R.H The Duke of Edinburgh and the then Dean, Robin Woods. Their vision was to establish a safe physical and intellectual space where people of influence in every area of society could come together to tackle issues of national and international significance.

The House hosts an annual programme of consultations on a wide range of topics in our efforts to nurture Wisdom through dialogue. Participants at our consultations usually spend twenty-four hours with us, working through a carefully structured programme of presentations, plenary sessions and group work. They also have an opportunity to enjoy Evensong in St George's Chapel and to avail of a private late-night tour of the Chapel, resting place of ten British monarchs and home to the Ancient Order of the Garter. We believe the spiritual and historic surroundings deepen the discussions for all our guests, of whatever faith or none.

In our quest to nurture Wisdom and to effect change for the better in our society we ask participants to argue cogently and listen carefully, to persuade and be persuaded, and to be open to the possibility of changing one's mind. Openness, honesty, trust and respect are our watchwords.

A St George's House consultation offers a rare opportunity in this 24/7 world to spend time focused on a particular issue without distraction. In this way, a topic is fully explored and reflected upon; diverse opinions are aired; high-quality disagreement encouraged. Consensus may or may not emerge but by the end of their time at St George's House participants will have a profound understanding of the issue to hand and a deeper appreciation of the people concerned with that issue.

Thank you.