London: A growing city

Sarah Williams
Looking back....
GC Dagenham Farm

Forty Hall Farm

Keats Farm

Patchwork

Sutton Community Farm

Hawkwood

What’s different now....
UK picture: Hort sector worth £3.2bn, trade gap, retail led, shrinking land, labour and skills gap
Land: 7% of greenbelt in London, which is 22% of land in London, 59% agricultural
Peri-urban farming in London
Better infrastructure
Training, skills and networks
What next? On the horizon
Questions: our focus

- Should farming in the Metropolitan Green Belt outside Greater London should be considered peri-urban and/or part of this discussion?
- How do we get more info on farms and land?
- Is agro-ecological the right approach?
- Is it useful to map/model potential demand from changes in dietary behaviour?
- What else do we know or would it be useful to know around training and skills?
Questions: next steps

• London has a Food Strategy, has declared a Climate Emergency and signed up to other initiatives – so how can farming be used to deliver on these commitments?

• GLA Environment Team are looking at a rewilding and tree planting programme. What can we learn from and integrate from that? Could some of the trees be fruit and nut bearing and what are the implications for markets and infrastructure?

• From 2021/22 the Mayor will have a significant Learning and Skills budget – how can that be used?

• Other funding e.g. Good Growth Fund – how could this be channelled?
Looking forward......