

Royal Welsh Show 2023

First Minister

Opening Ceremony

Day and Date:	Monday 24 July
Time:	Information redacted FOIA s38 – Health and Safety information
Location:	Marquee outside the front door of President's Pavilion (adjacent to the Vice Presidents & Governors Pavilion)
Audience:	Royal Welsh Agricultural Society dignitaries, guests and invited VIPs
WG in attendance:	Minister Rural Affairs, Deputy Minister Social Partnership, Permanent Secretary
Contact:	Information redacted FOIA s40(2) – personal information PA to Aled Jones – RWAS Chief Executive, Tel: Information redacted FOIA s40(2) – personal information

The ceremony will start promptly at Information redacted FOIA s38 – Health and Safety information so please arrive in time to take your seat. Minister Rural Affairs, Deputy Minister Social Partnership and Permanent Secretary will also be seated.

You are invited to speak during the ceremony – speaking notes are below.

The Chair of Council, Nicola Davies, will introduce the First Minister. This will be towards the beginning of the ceremony, before the Show President is invited to introduce the three individuals that will officially open the show including Mr John Homfray, the 2023 Show President of the Feature County Glamorgan.

To note The Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, will be at the Show and we assume she will attend the ceremony. No further info at present.

An opening fanfare will be played by the Royal Welsh Regimental Band. The Show will be officially opened by

Welsh Government officials will be observing the ceremony and will be on hand if you require anything.

Speaking Points

- Agricultural Societies and Shows have a long and prestigious history and are at the centre of rural communities in Wales. Each one has an important role in promoting sustainable farming and food production to the wider public and in supporting community cohesion as well as the culture of Wales and the Welsh language.
- We aim to create a prosperous, resilient and sustainable farming sector for future generations, and support the future of rural communities. However, the climate and nature emergencies pose the biggest medium to long term threat to food production in Wales.
- We are supporting farmers to manage their land sustainably to balance the needs of the current generation with those of the next, whilst supporting the resilience of Welsh-speaking communities.
- Our Agriculture Bill is “made in Wales”

- It has sustainable land management at its core
 - Its objectives will underpin our future Sustainable Farming Scheme.
 - Through these, we are taking significant steps to recognise the importance of rural communities in tackling the climate and nature emergency.
- I am proud of our support for farmers.
 - We have made £237.2m of BPS payments this year.
 - Our 2023 BPS budget will remain at £238m and, subject to available budget funding, at current levels in 2024
 - Welsh farmers continue to benefit from EU RDP funding until the end of the year and we are working to maximise the EC funds available. New schemes for farmers have opened under our new domestically funded programme worth over £227m.
- Rural Wales is open for business.

- The Welsh Government will continue to invest in rural Wales as part of our ambitions for a fairer, greener economy.