

The Transition from EU to UK Law

- The enormity of the Brexit deal hit regulators on both sides of the Channel
- A series of transition periods were set up during which, UK law would be changed.
- For seed treatments, EU law said that there should be free movement of seed across EU borders irrespective of whether a member state had authorised any seed treatments on the seed
- **UK proposed to transition this rule until end 31 December 2023**



What a Lack of Seed Treatments looks like



The Seed Treatments that we are talking about

KORIT® 420 FS

Bird Repellent



Fungicide



Wireworm Control

Starting point – January 2023



- Transition Period is coming to a head at the end of 2023
- After this time, it will be illegal to plant treated seed with unregistered products
- Not **our** problem

- Transition Period is coming to a head at the end of 2023
- Companies have had a number of years to get these products registered but have not done so
- Not **our** problem



Options for Activity

1. Do Nothing

- Accept that the seed treatment loss is a “done-deal”
- Maize will be planted and some of it will be taken out
- Result: there will probably be less forage available in 2024

2. Seek Regulatory Solution

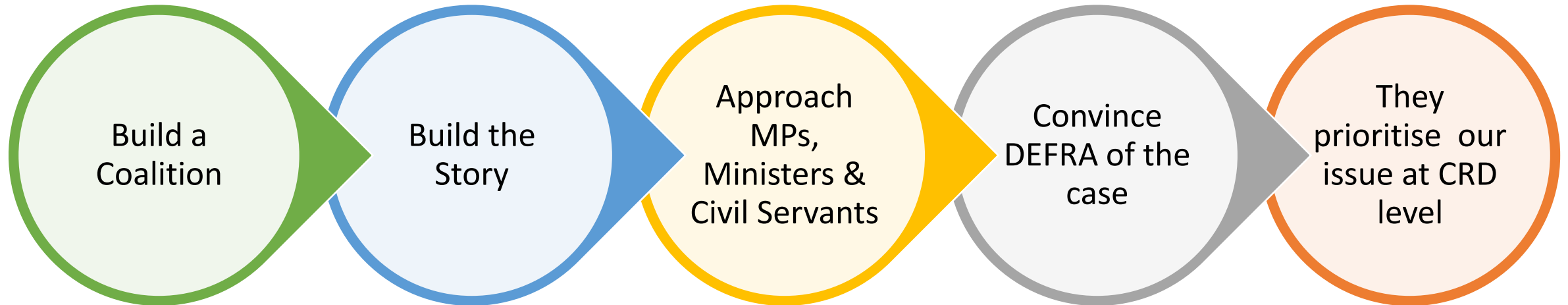
- Focus on changing the CRD view of things
- We are pretty sure they won't but at least when the result of #1 happens, we can say that we tried

3. Seek a Political Solution

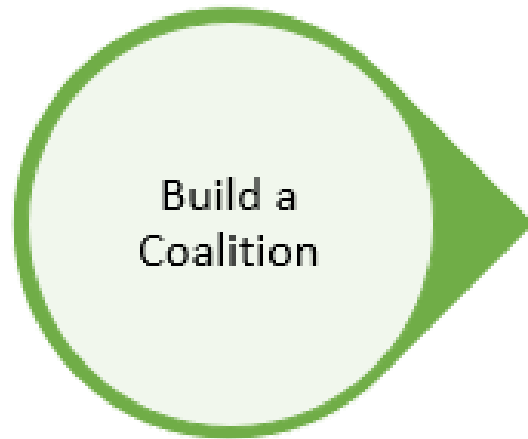
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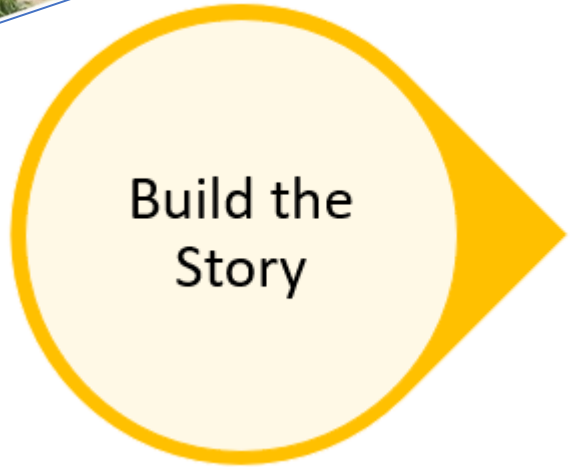
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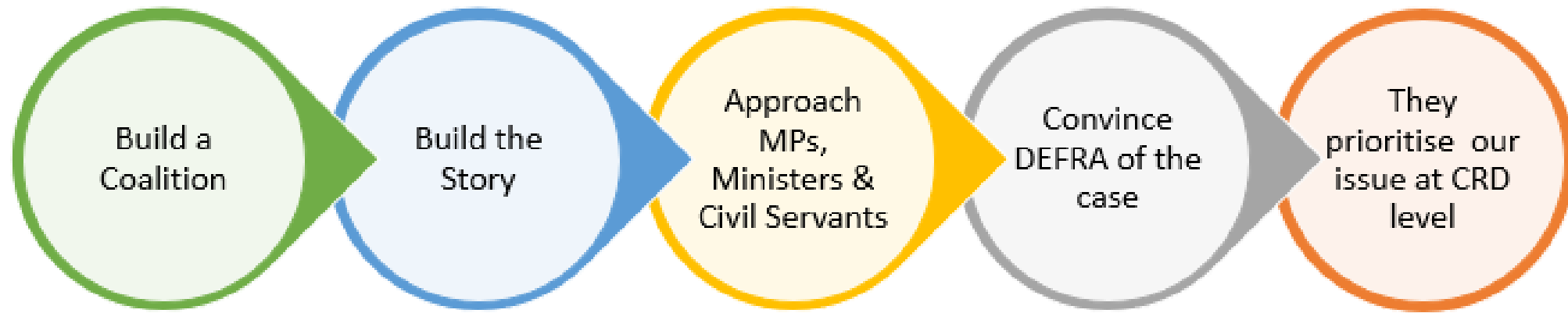
With a finish point of the Summer Recess (end July) to find a solution



- The Maize Growers Association and Seed Breeders (17 Jan) had already started talking to farmers, etc
- But we needed to:
 - ✓ Coordinate their activity
 - ✓ Galvanise the NFU to look at fully endorsing political activity (31 March)
 - ✓ Galvanise the AIC seed and crop protection sectors to start lobbying on this subject



- We had some excellent photos
- ✓ Gather up information on importance of fodder maize to dairy and livestock industry
- ✓ Put together a case study on anaerobic digestion use of maize
- ✓ Track down the evidence – field trials, real crop, anecdotes, photos



- ✓ Letters to constituency MPs
- ✓ Letters to Members of the House of Lords
- ✓ Letters to Ministers
- ✓ Letters asking Deps of Business, Science and Energy to prod DEFRA
- ✓ Get questions asked of DEFRA in both Houses of Parliament
- ✓ Get devolved Governments to ask DEFRA for status updates
- ✓ Get print media to ask DEFRA for comment on articles

Objective:
To annoy DEFRA
Ministers into Action

THE RT. HON. RISHI SUNAK MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

John Charlton
14 Spring Hill
Welbury
Northallerton
DL6 2SQ

Our Ref: ZA59860

11 April 2023

Dear Mr Charlton,

Thank you for your email.


Firstly, I hope I can take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to share your personal expertise, experience and concerns with me – it really is appreciated.

I can assure you that I absolutely understand the importance of our fantastic British farmers and I am proud to be able to represent so many.

In order to provide you with a detailed answer to your specific questions I have written to the Minister directly responsible. I have asked for a formal response and I will, of course, let you know as soon as I have received their reply.

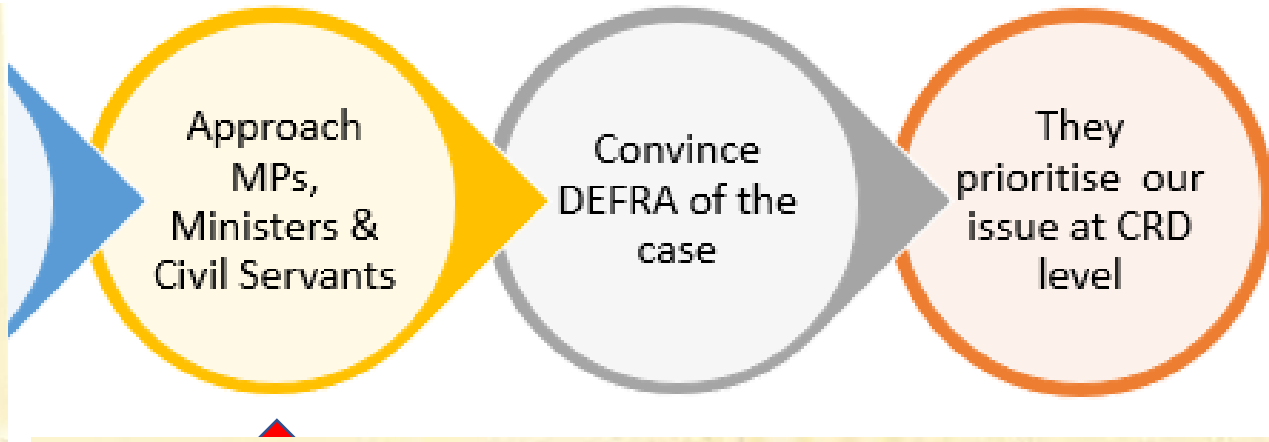
Thank you again for taking the time to contact me. If there is anything I can do to help in the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,



Rishi Sunak
Member of Parliament
Richmond (Yorks)

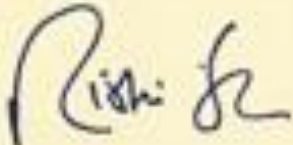
Constituency Office: Unit 1, Omega Business Village, Northallerton DL6 2NJ
Telephone: 01609 765330 Email: rishi.sunak.mp@parliament.uk



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Result



- ✓ Farming Minister Mark Spencer MP announces that a “solution will be found” at Cereals in June
- ✓ At a subsequent roundtable with industry and NFU on 4th July in London, he agrees to two actions:
 - To push back the transition time a few years (requires Parliamentary approval, expected before the end of the year)
 - To fast track Emergency Authorisations for Korit, Redigo and Force (to give breeders time to order seed for 2024)

Result



- ✓ On 13 Nov Defra have communicated to HSE that the Minister has decided to grant the emergency use of Korit 420 FS, Redigo M and Force ST for use on forage maize in England.
- ✓ On Dec 6, the Government passed the Plant Protection Products (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2023 into law. This will come into force on 31 December 2023. Seeds treated with pesticides authorised in the EU can be imported, sold and used in Great Britain for 3.5 years, until 1st July 2027

The Future (1)

- If we put our minds to it we have demonstrated that we can achieve a lot as an industry
- But we should not have to!
 - All three seed treatments are licenced for use in the EU
 - HSE/CRD has continually failed to authorise these seed treatments putting UK agriculture at risk. That is not good enough.
 - DEFRA as policy directors need to lead that change

The Future (2)

- ✓ Genetics continue to be the driver for improved yield and quality
- ✓ Innovation in seed treatments must be encouraged
- ✓ There are new, safer bird repellents coming through in Europe. It is important that the manufacturers apply for UK registration in parallel



Julian Little has advised the MGA and breeders and his contacts and knowledge of the HSE and regulatory authorities has enabled a success outcome.

He deserves a huge vote of thanks and his work has allowed all maize growers to have security of continued maize growing for the next 3 years.