

THE BRITISH HORSE SECTOR

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU

Size

- **1.82m**
voters who regularly ride
- **3.2m**
voters who are riders
- **51%**
of ex-riders want to ride again
- **~1m**
horses
- **250,000**
people employed
(directly and indirectly)

Value

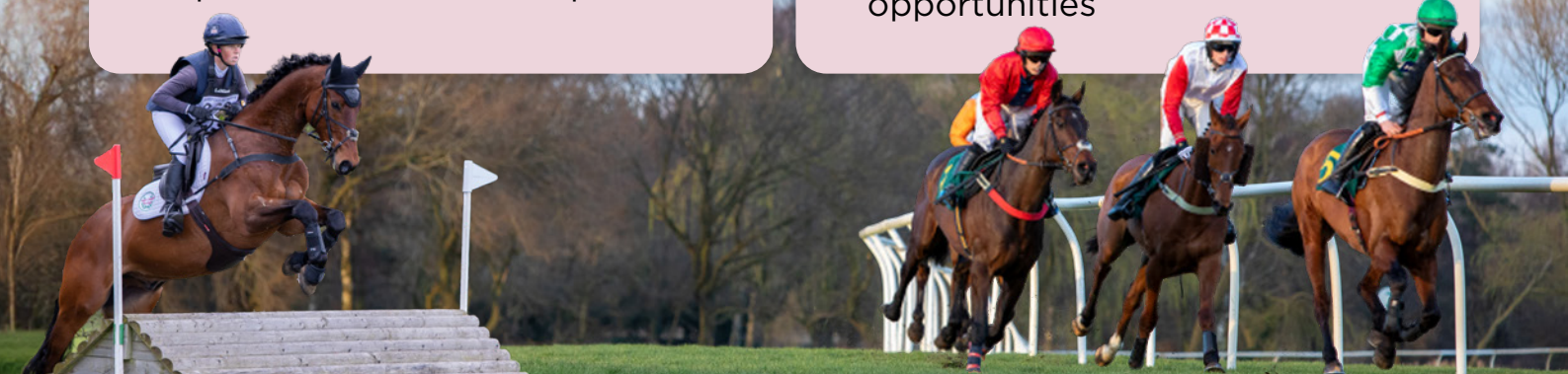
- **£9bn**
contribution to the UK economy
 - £5bn non-racing
 - £4.1bn racing
- **Second largest**
rural employer in the UK
(after agriculture)
- **£500m+**
value of overseas trade
- **18,000**
equestrian businesses

Breadth

- Inclusive physical activity
- Highest proportion of sport participants:
 - who are women
 - who are over the age of 45
 - who are disabled
- Programmes for those facing mental, social, physical challenges and for disengaged young people
- Women and men compete on an equal basis in all horse sports

Profile

- Global leader in Thoroughbred racing and breeding
- Internationally recognised as a leading light in equine welfare
- Front runner in equestrian sports, including the Olympics
- Soft power asset for Governments and source of inward investment to the UK
- Significant source of rural employment and educational opportunities



HOW GOVERNMENT CAN SUPPORT THE BRITISH HORSE SECTOR

Partnerships

- Aligning digital regulations across devolved authorities
- Supporting an integrated national disease protection plan
- Sharing dedicated animal welfare officers on a regional basis
- Government and industry collaborating on policy development

Business

- Helping us to recruit and retain the right skilled people to care for our horses
- Introducing a “smart”, welfare friendly border process, recognising high health horses
- Facilitating our world-leading racing, breeding and horse sports sectors
- Supporting existing and new export markets for British equestrian products

Equine Health and Welfare

- Passing legislation for digital equine ID and traceability
- Advancing high standards of horse health and welfare
- Mitigating the risks of drug resistance
- Licensing or registering equine businesses and charities
- Reviewing the court system for handling welfare cases
- Supporting equine research funding through the horserace betting levy

Opportunities

- Promoting riding as a great physical activity for all ages
- Preserving riding schools and providing alternative inclusive inner-city opportunities
- Improving sustainable access to safe on and off-road riding
- Expanding educational opportunities and apprenticeships
- Leveraging of the sector as a soft power asset
- Growing trade and inward investment

