

Looking Forward: Supporting the Uplands

Discussion Workshop Report

An Uplands Alliance Event kindly hosted by Defra



11:00 – 17:30
22 September 2016
Defra Offices, London

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Facilitation & Environmental Training

Objectives

In the workshop we will:

1. Share insights on how to motivate and support upland land management;
2. Explore the potential impacts of four upland support scenarios;
3. Collate recommendations for policy planning and evidence gathering.

Agenda

Time	Session	
11:30	Welcome	Professor Michael Winter & Dr Julia Aglionby, Uplands Alliance
	Seeing change as an opportunity	Professor Mark Reed, Newcastle University Minette Batters, NFU Deputy President
	Capturing what's good	Small group discussions
	Outlining the scenarios	Christopher Price, Director of Policy & Advice, CLA
12:45	Lunch	Kindly provided by Defra
13:45	A few words...	Sonia Phippard, Director General, Environment & Rural Group, Defra
	Uplands Alliance – update	Professor Michael Winter, Chair, Uplands Alliance
	Exploring the scenarios	Facilitated group discussions
15:40	Break	Refreshments served
	Drawing out our recommendations	Facilitated group discussions
	Looking forward...	Plenary feedback & next steps
17:30	Close	

Welcome

Professor Michael Winter, Chair, Uplands Alliance welcomed the, in excess of eighty, attendees to the workshop (see Appendix 1). He passed on his thanks to Defra for hosting the event and the organisations shown on the right for their financial contributions towards the workshop costs.

Julia Aglionby, Vice Chair, Uplands Alliance remarked how the event's oversubscription showed a pleasing high level of interest.

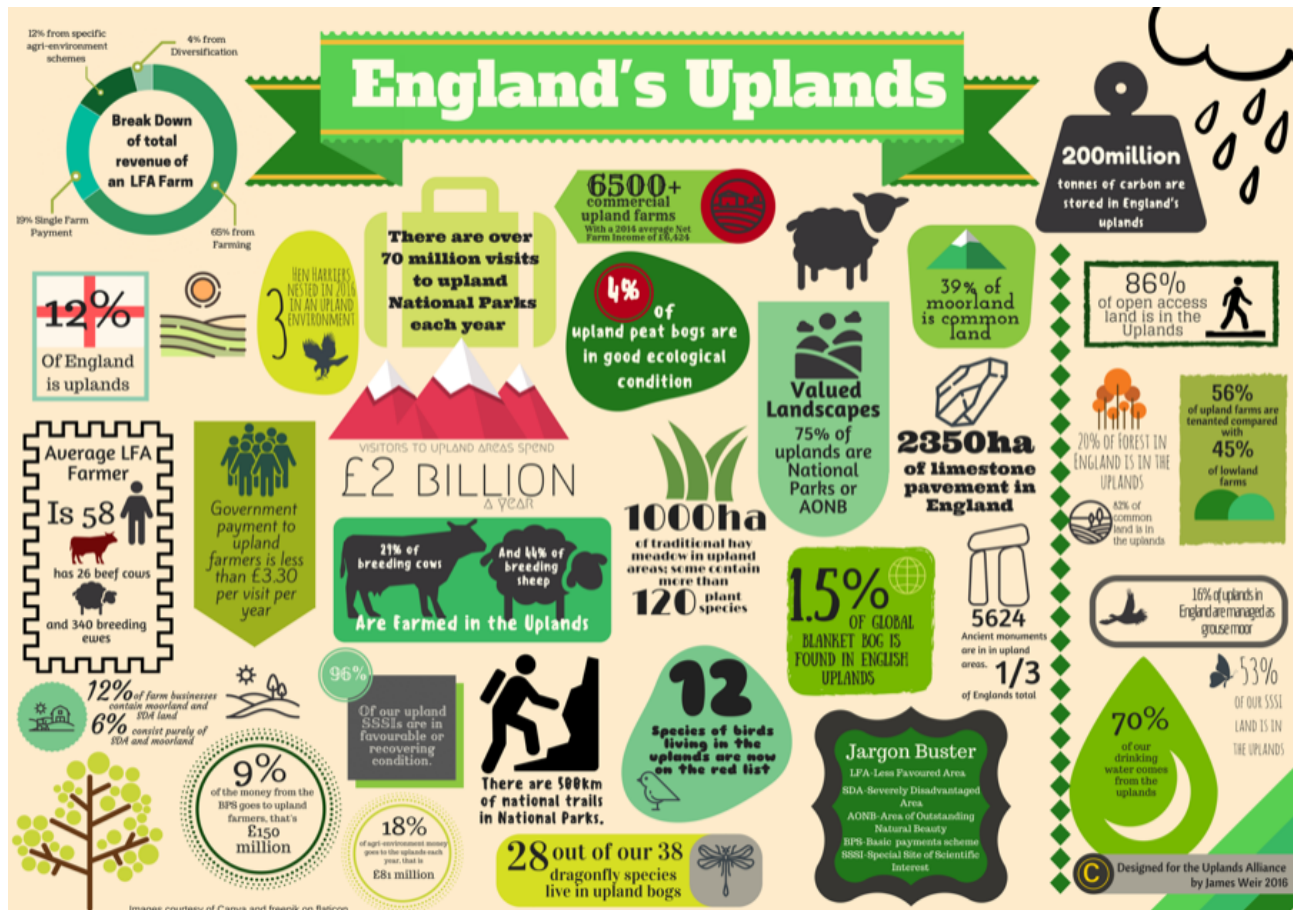
She noted that there are many other people and organisations who could have been included in the discussions and made a plea to those present to send out the message that today is just the start of the conversation. Julia commented that it would be the *quality* of the conversations had during the day that would be of greatest importance.

A huge thank you to...



Julia stressed that the four scenarios for the day's discussion were put together by the Uplands Alliance Steering Group and are intended to be provocative. She asked that attendees approach the discussions in a spirit of 'Appreciative Inquiry', looking to grasp what is good about the scenarios.

A draft 'Uplands Infographic' was presented with an intention that it supports informed discussions around the uplands. Details of the data sources used were also provided. A large version of the Infographic was on the wall to provide an opportunity for participants to annotate any errors or omissions during the day.

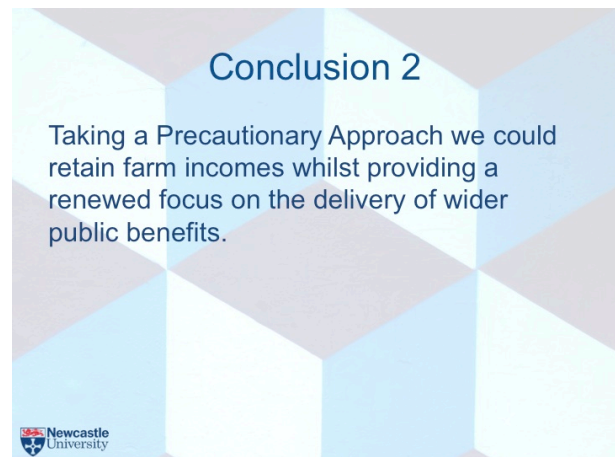
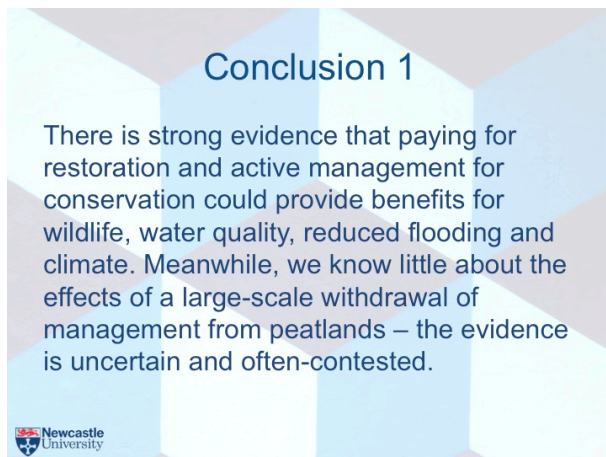


Seeing change as an opportunity

Professor Mark Reed from the University of Newcastle introduced his research as an interdisciplinary piece of work, stating that the main focus of it is peatlands, due to the wealth of evidence in this area, but that the comments are relevant across all of the uplands.

He gave the context of the Referendum result to withdraw from the EU and likened it to a huge experiment, opening the question of whether to continue to actively manage the English uplands. Mark's response to this question is that if we do nothing, then peatlands will degrade and habitats will deteriorate etc. He also commented that if funding for farmers decreases, then lowland farmers would be likely to adapt, but that farming in the uplands is more precarious. The withdrawal of the UK from the Common Agricultural Policy is an opportunity to review the basis on which we pay farmers.

Mark had two conclusions: 1) there is strong evidence that paying for habitat restoration and management could provide real environmental benefits, and 2) there is a need to take a precautionary approach.



Mark commented on the four scenarios provided for discussion, saying that scenarios one and two were more akin to the current system, whilst scenarios three and four presented some rather different approaches.

Minette Batters, Deputy President of the NFU, began by stressing the importance of those in the agricultural sector first seeing clearly what they have to offer. Minette stated that a number of things were paramount: a strong livestock industry in the uplands; the preservation of farm incomes; uplands that give a lot of benefits e.g. cultural, wildlife etc; and the need, going forwards, for profitable farm businesses.

Minette questioned whether the rewilding of the uplands fits with the Government's sustainability agenda, though thought that the future of the uplands was about both food and the environment.

She considered that there was a need to stop using jargon in order to make things understandable for consumers.

Minette stressed that there is currently a great deal of uncertainty for farmers, not just in people's businesses, but in their lives too. Her final thought was that farmers are the solution to the uplands.

The content in the Q&A session that proceeded the presentations was as follows:

Q: Is it a challenge or an opportunity?

MB: An opportunity – we can choose to shape it, to do what is right for the UK

MR: For many people this feels like a real challenge, although the 2020 guarantees have calmed it for a while. What we do today can help.

Q: Would it be easier if we spoke as individuals today?

MB: As here from the NFU, I have to represent the issues of others and it is important to do that.

MR: I am doing my best to represent the scientific community – everyone here needs to decide whom they represent.

Q: Where does the tenant farmer fit in all this?

MR: I don't think that any of the scenarios represent a shift from giving money to landowners to giving it to tenants. It is, of course, easier to work with landowners, and the onus so far has been on them to deal with tenants.

MB: Needs some fresh thinking and tenant farmers need to be kept in the conversation.

We need to properly define our public goods and get our message out politically.

Comment: There is an active Tenant Farmers' Association.

Capturing what's good

This session sought to capture what worked historically, or works presently, with the current support system for the English uplands.

In pairs or threes participants discussed what they felt are the elements of the current or historic support systems for the English uplands which work / worked well. Each point was put on a separate post-it.

The post-its were all placed on a 'Capturing what's good' area on the wall at the front. A few examples were shared from the floor. Some of the themes that emerged from the responses were as follows:

- Local networks and advice
- Landscape based benefits
- Elements of HFA
- Leader programmes
- Targeting key habitats and species
- Benefits of decoupling
- Inclusivity
- Partnership approach
- Keeping communities in the uplands
- ESA

The verbatim responses can be viewed in Appendix 2.

Outlining the scenarios

The purpose of this session was to present the four scenarios to be explored after lunch.

In Julia Aglionby's introduction to Christopher Price, she noted that the four scenarios do not focus on amounts of money, but clarified that groups should feel free to include this topic as part of its conversations.

Christopher Price, Director of Policy and Advice at the CLA, began by stressing that the models are just vehicles for discussion – the discussion is not to be about choosing the one preferred model. He also asked that attendees discuss them as they stand rather than critiquing what has been selected for discussion. He felt that the difference now, compared with under the CAP, is that a case has to be made for receiving money.

Christopher explained briefly some of the thinking behind the scenarios:

Resilient Land-based Businesses: The focus is not just on farms but upland businesses, looking to make them more resilient, meaning more business-like as well as having more consideration for the environment. In this scenario, not all of the money goes directly to the farmer or owner of the business: some goes to research and development.

Vibrant Cultural Landscapes: This scenario works on the understanding of a value that people place on the culture of the uplands. It focuses on the economic aspect of that, including tourism and the urge to buy local because of the sense of story.

Local Schemes for Local Outcomes: This scenario considers the diversity of the landscape. The uplands can be divided into areas and characteristics, and the scenario looks at whether more can be done to engender that sense of locality.

Outcomes rather than Actions: This scenario is about Natural Capital and payments for ecosystem services. It is based on market-based solutions i.e. you pay for what you get.

A few words...

After lunch Sonia Phippard, Director General, Environment & Rural Group, Defra reflected on the importance of the uplands and the need to achieve a viable system of support post Brexit.

Sonia was pleased to see the significant turn out for the event – a true measure of the importance of the uplands. She and Defra valued the input, this was the start of a number of discussions relating to the future of land management, agriculture and environmental policy that Defra can't conduct in isolation.

Sonia reflected on the iconic nature of the uplands, landscapes that are important for visits both nationally and internationally, that are home to important species and habitats and have a special place in our hearts and the country's heritage. Any changes will have an impact, which will need to be carefully considered. Brexit provides a moment to ask some big questions around our priorities for the uplands. There is a need to hold a national debate to develop a system of support that works, providing the shorter-term certainty as we develop the longer-term direction.

In responding to questions Sonia Phippard proposed that we should be radical in conception while being realistic about implementation and that while Defra is looking to relieve the burden of redtape we need to ensure accountability for public funds. The pace of change will be driven by the national process for leaving the EU but it is likely that some things will continue while others change and that changing too fast is rarely helpful.

Uplands Alliance – update

Michael Winters addressed the meeting with an update about the work of the Uplands Alliance (UA), in lieu of an AGM which had to be postponed earlier in the year.

He described the UA as a loose coalition of the willing. Those in the Alliance need to be committed to and passionately interested in the uplands. The UA takes no positions, nor does it lobby. It is underfunded and Michael stressed gratitude to the many organisations, including DEFRA, who have contributed funding, especially for today's event.

He described the members of the UA as willing to do things and to help others if wanting to run an event etc. concerning the uplands.

Julia added that the strength of the UA is in its balance of membership: farmers, policy makers, environmental groups, and academics. She explained that academics are vital in informing the rest and providing evidence, and then in turn the UA can try to inform policy-making.

Exploring the scenarios

This session provided an opportunity to explore the impacts of each scenario on the English uplands.

Discussions took place based on each group's allocated scenario. The process was as follows:

- Responses were sought on the *positive or negative impacts* of the scenario on the English Uplands at: a) the upland farm scale; and b) a landscape scale.
- The group then reflected on content of this exercise and noted down:
 - a) What are the most significant human **responses** to the scenario
 - b) What are the most significant environmental **results** emerging from the scenario?
 - c) What are the biggest **risks** resulting from the scenario?
 - d) What are the most important evidence gaps emerging from the scenario that need to be filled by **research**?
- Individuals then voted for what they considered to be the *three most significant* points made under each of the Responses, Results, Risks and Research categories.
- The votes were totalled and the results used to inform the feedback to the whole group. This was captured by completing up to four statements in the format:
Looking forward we need to make sure we...

Each group also had a 'Rant Board' to capture any areas of frustration emerging from the discussions.

The content generated by the groups was as follows:

Resilient Land-based Businesses

Premise

We can best deliver the outcomes we are seeking from the countryside by enabling and empowering farmers and other landowners to run sound businesses that nurture and make best use of their human, environmental and financial assets to face future changes in our climate and economy. Support will be targeted to maximise resilience across our environment, economy and communities. Businesses strong in all three measures will deliver better for society. Levels of direct support would be relatively low and potentially reduce over time, with the funding emphasis on enabling farmers and others to maximize income from a range of sources reducing reliance on government support. There would be additional funding at national level in order to stimulate demand for and help ensure a fair price for local products.

Key Features

Payments per hectare will be linked to:

- Continuing practical and business skills development including participating in group sessions
- Maintenance and improvement of natural and financial capital including benchmarking with similar businesses
- Monitor flow of environmental goods and services through regular audits

Additional payments available for:

- Investing in efficient & or innovative technology for enhancing environmental, soil or animal welfare systems
- Diversification grants
- Improvements for flood mitigation, biodiversity and water quality
- Specific measures for improving resilience to climate change

Money invested at national and local level for:

- Product marketing promoting British products, linking food with a healthy environment and local landscapes
- Improving collective bargaining capacity with supermarkets

Resilient Land-based Businesses (Group B)

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- Empowering farm business.
- Help them realise and capitalise on the whole range of assets.
- Toolkit to realise and access new environmental markets.
- May be positive at present must be based on income forgone.
- Benchmarking and independent view of income forgone.
- High levels of management skill.

Negative Impacts

- Where does the payment go – tenant or owner?
- Tenant farmers? Proportion of benefits to business vs estate.
- Long-term benefit vs short term tenancy.
- Does this infer a need to review tenancy law?
- Still linked to acreage therefore best of
- Consider balance of moor / in-bye.

Landscape Scale

Comments:

- Serious thought / agreement on landscape value needed.
- High risk / high reward possibly limited by breadth or EGS.

Positive Impacts

- Other side of this is that if farmers do improve business resilience they minimise their own risk.
- Need cooperation to deliver landscape scale.

Negative Impacts

- Mechanisms for the income when from public purse is out of farm control.
- Less likely to deliver a landscape vision.
- It's not easy to co-operate in order to deliver at a landscape scale.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Are farmers more or less profitable?	7
2 nd	Reaching an agreement difficult.	4
2 nd	Tenant vs landlord arrangement.	4
4 th	Collective vision – how?	1
4 th	Customer understanding of EGS.	1

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	We could get them more efficiently.	9
2 nd	Some efficiency must come from learning from stuff we already know / do.	2
3 rd	We could get better results.	1

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Markets / value difficult to realise.	8
2 nd	Deficit in knowledge base of the countryside	4
3 rd	Conflicting objectives.	3

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	Creating markets.	8
2 nd	Turn compliance cost into EGS / payment / audit.	3
3 rd	Governance structures of market system.	2
4 th	Creating real EGS value.	1
4 th	Valued green space	1

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Captured value of environmental goods and services is our diversified / income.
- Communicate well the value of what we do.
- Create frameworks to realise that value, but fairly.
- Simple toolkits to achieve the above.

Resilient Land-based Businesses (Group G)

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- Good to focus on core farming business (and livestock sector).
- Tourism also inescapable links to environment.
- Improve farming bargaining power.
- Healthier relations with consumers / society.
- Stimulate generational change / support young farmers.

Negative Impacts

- Uncertain future trade conditions.
- Will consumers understand?
- If Pillar 1 cut too far / fast big numbers of farms will collapse.
- Very hard to force change in businesses and measure / audit environment.

Landscape Scale

Positive Impacts

- If it could get farmers and others learning together e.g. on soils.
- More positive image of farming with the public.
- Put back slaughter / cutting infrastructure.
- Improve communication to identify win-win change.
- Move from a bureaucracy-led approach to a transactional one
- Extend existing good examples – networks, AHDB too.

Negative Impacts

- Shock of reversing all previous payments.
- Private companies won't pay for it all.
- Everyone might 'fall out' some winners and losers.
- Impact on wider economy / community e.g. As Pillar 1.
- Maybe don't link payment to hectare – recognise the stock management.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Need to have a wider-than-business focus: folks contribute much more value.	7
1 st	Some farms just aren't viable without underpinning aid.	7
3 rd	Get away from 'slipper-farming' (rents and BPS only)	4
4 th	Some will thrive and some fail.	3
5 th	Good to help farm businesses but be realistic.	2
6 th	Need to do it but ensure <u>collective</u> working / planning.	1

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	Need particular focus on commons to continue to their use.	7
2 nd	Neglected areas could drag the rest down (ticks, less access)	5
2 nd	Less farming of marginal land unless there is the support to do so.	5
4 th	Access to capital grants for landscape is likely to have a good take up by many (most) farmers.	4
5 th	Loss of focus on aspects such as landscape maintenance – loss to environment and livelihoods.	2

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Removing trade tariffs – consumers will abandon the UK farmer.	8
2 nd	Need to really tackle the supermarkets power: is it possible (maybe not)?	4
2 nd	Many more 'ups and downs' from a more market led approach as prices rise and fall more vulnerable to market changes.	4
2 nd	It will favour some businesses more – overall, will see net decline in number of farmers.	4
5 th	Risk to tourism if landscape is degraded – tourism will suffer.	3
6 th	Potential costs of maintaining public benefits could <u>increase</u> in a quasi-market approach to support focused too much on business.	1
7 th	Risk to access with abandonment – scrub and ticks!	0

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	How many farms disappear if you take away direct support.	6
2 nd	More investigation of supply chain / food system and where money goes.	5
3 rd	Need to understand current farm's economic situations and options better.	4
3 rd	What would we need to pay to maintain what we value to a good standard?	4
3 rd	How to find the best scale for local integrated and collective planning.	4
6 th	How to ensure <u>farmer</u> is supported, rather than owners?	2
7 th	How to secure a bigger share of tourism income?	0
7 th	Develop more diverse markets for sheep products (wood etc.)	0

Position	Research Needs	Votes
7 th	Possibilities for regional / upland brands – how far can we grow them?	0
7 th	Research cumulative impact on food production of <u>no</u> support.	0

Rant Board content (Group G)

- Cheap food comes from this system.
- Consumers need to understand what they get.

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Recognise livestock production is at the heart of the whole process.
- Support the broad mix of upland farms and through them, the whole community, and environmental products (don't just focus on the few).
- Bring the public with us – ensure they understand the links / value and have a healthier relation to food production.
- Help politicians / policy to talk more to people on the group, in these areas: listen to indigenous technical knowledge and support two-way knowledge / learning (R&D experts and farmers).
- Maintain and grow farmer networks.
- Have clear, simple / adaptable approaches with wriggle-room locally.
- Where good relations / practices exist, don't dismantle them / lose them.
- Sustain good business and environment and trusted relationships.

Vibrant Cultural Landscapes

Premise

Hill and upland farms and commons are the building blocks of our most valued landscapes such as National Parks and AONBs and of a disproportionately high percentage of our SSSIs. They underpin the tourism industry, provide a destination for recreation and well being and are the source of over 60% of breeding ewes in the country and produce the very best of local produce linking food and the cultural landscape. We need to keep families actively farming to maintain and enhance these cultural landscapes that are so beloved by the public.

Key Features

- A payment per ha for the active management of upland landscapes
- An uplift if you work with your neighbours delivering on a landscape scale
- An enhanced payment for the first 50 ha to support family farms
- Additional annual payments targeted at biodiversity, water quality, carbon and flood mitigation options
- A capital grant scheme for landscape, woodland and environmental features
- A dedicated commons scheme with facilitated advice

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- Universality (farmers).
- Successful businesses.
- Environmental legislation food from uplands.
- Local production opportunities.
- Positive for collaborative work.
- Capital grants.
- Farmer will leave / change.
- Environment payments supported farming.
- Young farmer support rural (anybody).
- Payment / ha – continuity, control.
- Collaborative networks.

Negative Impacts

- Objectives assumed food production too limited.
- Niche product to mass market.
- Non specific collaboration.
- Lack of people.
- Reduces innovation
- Right people on land?!
- Full farm rewilding
- Prescriptive approach.

Landscape Scale

Positive Impacts

- Food and cultural landscapes.
- Collaboration.
- Capital grants (hedges / walls).
- Structure for problem solving.
- Circular economy.
- Public goods.
- Rewilding.
- Insert need for farming.
- Recouple landscape with outcome areas.
- NFM perception.

Negative Impacts

- Business vs environment over aspirational?
- Farmers may leave.
- Lost understanding.
- Perception.
- Rewilding / abandonment.
- Grouse shooting support.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Some people might find it does not reflect the aspects of culture and nature they want.	6
2 nd	The cultural landscape option means I can carry on as before.	5
3 rd	Safe and predictable.	4
4 th	Advice / knowledge exchange – adaptive process.	2
4 th	Capturing what the cultural landscape is.	2
6 th	Maintenance of the landscape fabric and diversity.	1
6 th	Public appreciation.	1
6 th	Depends on form of it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue present trends; Shift to economically viable whole landscape where reversal of trends is rational business decision. 	1
6 th	Tranquillity and peace. People like to feel they are in an unchanged landscape (even if it actually has).	1
6 th	Continue what I am doing.	1
11 th	Education of the public and farmers.	0
11 th	Commoner issues.	0
11 th	Something I can buy into for the future.	0
11 th	This is too remote for me.	0
11 th	Cleverer language (more nuanced).	0

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	Some environmental improvements in some places.	6
2 nd	Too much focus on iconic wildlife not habitat diversity.	5
3 rd	The species that are managed will continue or thrive, those that are declining will continue to decline.	4
4 th	Farm engagement with landscape.	3
4 th	Depends on format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi abandonment and intensification; Appropriately management landscape elements deliver whole range of public goods. 	3
6 th	Soil conservation especially in peatlands.	2
6 th	May limit radical change.	2
6 th	Reconnecting people with nature and culture.	2
9 th	Flood risk prevention.	1
9 th	One person's scrub is another's abandonment.	1
11 th	Potential for positive outcome from collaboration.	0
11 th	Status quo.	0
11 th	Rare breeds and genetic resource might benefit.	0

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Public and political rejection.	5
2 nd	Will the public pay enough?	4
2 nd	Stagnant practices supporting the status quo instead of improving.	4

Position	Risks	Votes
4 th	Biodiversity declines, continued flood risk, water quality issues. Risk that current problems will continue and get worse.	3
4 th	Will struggle to adapt to change and reduce innovation.	3
6 th	Not enough benefit.	2
6 th	Too similar to existing.	2
8 th	Limited opportunities for young people in upland areas.	1
8 th	Lack of innovation.	1
10 th	Doesn't suit a national scheme.	0
10 th	We target what we can measure not what delivers the public goods.	0
10 th	Cultural landscapes all things to all men – easy to 'make savings', no positive net results continued debate over 'social licence' of farming there.	0
10 th	Maintains status quo.	0
10 th	Too narrow for national interests / concerns.	0
10 th	Landscape is 'valuable' on lowlands too, but uplands has more added value in terms of public goods – need to tie that closely in payment rationale.	0

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	How should public pay for cultural landscapes – will business pay for cultural landscape?	6
2 nd	What is the cultural landscape that we all want?	4
3 rd	Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) payments	3
3 rd	Understanding what cultural landscapes are and who they are for?	3
3 rd	Spaces to listen and harness tensions	3
3 rd	Do cultural landscapes deliver for society, biodiversity and the economy?	3
7 th	Where exactly will national flood management bring best results?	2
7 th	Market opportunities and upland farmed assurance schemes that deliver public goods.	2
9 th	Setting the 'envelope' of acceptable change and coping with the vast range of payment (or not) rationales that throws up.	1
10 th	Smarter creative land management mixed outcome.	0
10 th	Water quality attenuation from improving soil structure on (compacted) in-bye land.	0
10 th	Out-wintering and animal health. Can out-wintering be a good thing if managed well?	0
10 th	Who is it for?	0
10 th	Does the public want this and willingness to pay.	0
10 th	Better understanding of interplay between animal health and agri-environment schemes.	0
10 th	Who pays?	0
10 th	Come to a shared understanding at policy level of what various cultural landscapes should provide.	0
10 th	Working out what needs to be paid for, how much and how?	0
10 th	Have a local support and advice infrastructure to operate this.	0
10 th	Whether locally sourced produce gives enough of a value add to define and invest.	0
10 th	Science research versus natural change? Too many variables.	0

Rant Board content (Group C)

- Internet not working.
- Length of schemes against length of tenancies. FBT.
- Land managers (not just farmers). Come on – talk to each other!
- Sod anecdotal evidence. Response: No, its valid social science frame.
- We need young people to be encouraged to work in upland areas.

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Articulate diversity of cultural landscapes (pros and cons).
- Integrate land use discussion, and rural business.
- Supporting creative and innovative land use.
- Adapt or die! Public perception (value).

Vibrant and Cultural Landscapes (Group E)

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- Local ownership – potential to.
- Holistic.
- Delivering range of public benefits.
- Keeping communities on the farms.
- Capital grants to farmers and deliver public goods.
- Base payment should be explicit for outcome.
- Help farmers survive the first year of farming.
- Enables management of cash flow – business planning.

Negative Impacts

- Stifles other activities.
- Not helpful to those outside protected landscapes.
- Doesn't think re. efficiency, succession and productivity.
- How to define family farm.
- Difficult for new entrants.
- Empowers farmers less – makes farmers into park keepers.
- Farmers can choose who they work with.

Landscape Scale

Positive Impacts

- Cross sectoral – recognises all different sectors. Holistic.
- Tradition farming can be a tourist attraction in itself.
- Keeps communities together at landscape scale – living landscape.
- Recognises value of farmer's input to society.
- Recognises importance of commons.
- Mechanism (ESA) worked – people could engage with it and cheap to run.

Negative Impacts

- No flexibility.
- How to work out landscape value.
- Outside landscapes support landscape both farms and at landscape scale.
- How to distinguish most important areas for targeting?
- Stifles inventive management of environment challenge to persuade HMT to pay for this.
- Gap is culture – access, archaeology.
- Gap on tourism goods – access, education, historic environment.
- Don't actually know what public want – danger of reaching wrong outcomes.
- How to leverage private income – tourism tax.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Stifles initiative.	5
2 nd	Opportunity for public to engage with what they are paying for.	2
3 rd	Next generation may not engage with delivery of cultural landscape.	1
3 rd	Trusted local advice is vital to deliver this scenario.	1
5 th	Keeps families together on land.	0
5 th	This scenario could be delivered as easily by one farmers as lots of little farmers.	0
5 th	Creates economies of scale and purchasing power.	0
5 th	Capacity maintained to manage the land.	0

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	Woolly – need to understand co-benefits. Environmental results will be accident rather than design.	5
2 nd	Potential for environmental outcomes to be lower if underlying payment high.	4
3 rd	If farms become driven by profit, farmers will not engage with agri-environment – this scenario will prevent this.	1
3 rd	Trusted local advice is vital to deliver this scenario.	1
5 th	Creates economies of scale and purchasing power.	0
5 th	Capacity maintained to manage the land.	0

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Fossilised farming businesses.	4
2 nd	Removes autonomy.	0
2 nd	Public doesn't understand what paying for.	0
2 nd	Could lead to conflict rather than collaboration.	0
2 nd	Public buy-in is not only decision-making tool.	0

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	Would this scenario deliver for ecosystem services?	3
2 nd	What are the valued elements of an upland landscape?	2

Position	Research Needs	Votes
3 rd	How to keep flexibility in system in this scenario.	1
3 rd	Future business models where lower lamb exports and developing more local markets.	1
3 rd	Willingness of public to pay.	0
3 rd	How to maintain and enhance a cultural landscape.	0

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Properly understand concept of cultural landscapes – hence initial scepticism.
- Do not stifle incentives (business and environment).
- Develop environmental outcomes of the concept.
- Local community and wider public buy into the concept (HMT).

Local Schemes for Local Outcomes

Premise

There is significant diversity among the English Uplands and the most effective outcomes will be achieved through each locality (e.g. a National Park / AONB) being empowered to design support schemes that suit their area. This will enable us to move from merely incentivising to motivating farmers as they become connected and engaged with schemes that deliver the public goods and services the private market place fails to pay for. This would also allow areas to build upon excellent but underfunded local Hill Farming Projects where appropriate.

Key Features

- In each Defra area one or more local organisations (e.g. a National Park / AONB / LNP) would convene a partnership to design and monitor the scheme
- Payments would be approved locally and made nationally
- The partnership would design a scheme that met the local needs and outcomes of that area with some common requirements across all areas

The payments could include:

- A cultural landscape maintenance payment per farm – tiered by farm size and capped (mandatory)
- Multi-annual payments for environmental enhancement (mandatory)
- Training for business and environmental management
- Small capital grants for new technology and environmental improvements
- Succession transition support
- Common Land schemes (where appropriate)
- Diversification support payments

Local Schemes for Local Outcomes (Group D)

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- Certainty of benefits at the farm scale.
- Can see more easily what they can do / deliver at farm scale.
- Generate fresh ideas / impetus to deliver.
- Will help diversify (keep farmers farming where they are).
- Ownership and empowering farmers (provide them a basic toolkit to help).
- Develop greater sense of certainty longer term.
- Better dialogue between farmers in community.
- Engagement in design of monitoring = better results.

Negative Impacts

- May not get full range of outcomes delivered.
- Risk that lots of farms will opt out.
- Could be more expensive to administer.
- Risk that could stifle innovation.
- Could create an uneven playing field (support in some areas and not others).
- No metrics to measure success of schemes (multiply at landscape scale).

Landscape Scale

Positive Impacts

- Able to reflect diversity.
- Provides clarity of purpose.
- Possible simplification – one scheme per landscape scale area e.g. Netherlands.
- Ability to select from a suite of national options according to the local relevance.
- Local / collective ownership of decision making.
- Better use of local knowledge.
- When achieve consensus it can lead to more support for actions.
- Opportunity to develop shared vision.
- Enables better targeting, spatial planning.
- Clear accountability, governance and decision making, trust.
- Delivering together = more than the sum of the parts.
- Faster collaboration.
- Common land option included.

Negative Impacts

- Complex to maintain level of continuity.
- Local scale could work against national ambitions.
- Tensions between delivery of some outcomes.
- Getting agreement over what outcomes could be difficult.
- Will only work if right farmers are involved. Need good facilitator that can engage with all, manage expectations.
- Tensions if felt some contributing more than others e.g. due to geography.
- Tensions between common land managers and users.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Pride in what's being delivered – can understand individual role.	8
2 nd	Farmers will feel more engaged / motivated. Feel listened to / more valued.	5
3 rd	Community cohesion.	4
4 th	Better understanding of what the issues are.	2
4 th	Individuals driven to do better	2
4 th	Shared and agreed. Everyone knows what is expected.	2
7 th	Individuals would want to succeed – not to let neighbours down!	0

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	Bigger scale = better results (landscape scale benefit).	8
2 nd	Continue to build on positive work done already.	7
3 rd	Common land option would deliver better, wider outcomes.	6
4 th	Variety of 'restoration' models.	2
5 th	Regulatory safety net – continued compliance.	1
6 th	Timescales for environmental response will differ. Need to understand reasons why.	0

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Loss of expertise in NE etc. to support scheme	5
2 nd	May opt out.	4
2 nd	Communication not happening at right level to achieve results.	4
2 nd	Mediocrity in outcomes – not ambitious enough.	4
5 th	Lack of focus on strategic national targets.	3
6 th	Potential for disagreement.	2
6 th	Alienation of others if feel excluded e.g. water companies.	2
8 th	If scheme ends risk of bad feeling and lost investment.	1
8 th	Keeping young people in farming – succession planning.	1
8 th	Does resource exist to support the scheme initially?	1

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	Demonstration farms – evidence of what works and where.	8
2 nd	Collation of evidence so far – look at best practice.	6
2 nd	Development of simple metrics system.	6
4 th	Wider than environmental. Need more 'social scheme'.	4
5 th	Look beyond UK – what works, experience.	0
5 th	Research and demonstrate farms / schemes important – but need capacity to make it happen.	0
5 th	Does it work? Metrics to better understand what works.	0

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Have effective and pro-active and inclusive facilitation to encourage engagement and support throughout length of scheme.
- Clear and shared vision of what the scheme aims to achieve and develop simple metrics system to assess how scheme is working.
- Have all of the right stakeholders (particularly farmers) involved in development of the scheme for their area from the start.
- Ensure that all beneficiaries have a clear understanding of upland management and the resulting benefits to society.

Local Schemes for Local Outcomes (Group F)

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- If farmers are empowered to become more involved in scheme design, schemes might be more attractive and highly adopted.
- Affinity for sense of place if locally devised. Farm and landscape.
- Cultural payment based on people actively managing land but not capped.

Negative Impacts

- Cultural payment based on people actively managing land but not capped.

Landscape Scale

Positive Impacts

- Help public become aware of public goods derived from a healthy uplands.
- Farms more motivated and valued if public goods supplied are understood.
- Local might not take adequate account of science. Need balance of local and national knowledge.

Negative Impacts

- Local might not take adequate account of science. Need balance of local and national knowledge.
- Define 'local' – designations / county boundaries may not be right.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Would retain farming families, rural skills and wider communities in the hills.	7
1 st	Continued land manager engagement to scheme.	7
3 rd	Big 'fight' over priorities for money – could be very positive if compromise reached.	4
4 th	Better informed visitors = better experience.	1

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	Ability to prioritise locally important environmental issues that may not be funded / addressed under a national scheme.	11
2 nd	Right activity in the right place for a defined outcome.	3
2 nd	Rewards for milestones (actions and / or improvements) towards key outcomes.	3
4 th	Depends on priority of scheme but 'all-in' would give joined up habitat and better outcomes.	2
4 th	Could prioritise and target improvements to condition of degraded sites that are important for conservation e.g. SSSI or BAP species.	2

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Risk that local partnerships are biased towards or hijacked by special interest groups, leading to delivery of outcomes that benefit a narrow range of interests.	6
1 st	Over complicated grant application schemes means no uptake especially if grant is small.	6
3 rd	Composition of the partnership designing scheme could lead to schemes that are unpopular and un-adopted by farmers.	5
4 th	Capping payments might lead to disengagement of large landowners from schemes and harder to justify area payments to the public.	1
4 th	Continuing direct payments to keep people in the hills (an interpretation of 'cultural maintenance payment') would deliver fewer ecosystem services per unit of funding and may risk public support for 'slipper farmers', leading to a long-term reduction in overall funding.	1

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	Meta analysis of partnership experiences across UK and internationally (in environmental contexts) to identify factors determining success of partnerships, role of group composition and how to build legitimate, effective partnerships.	7
2 nd	Public perceptions research about how public view payments for 'cultural maintenance'.	2
3 rd	Pilot studies.	1
3 rd	Choice experiment or other economic method to determine levels of capping that lead to different types of farm business disengaging. [There were mixed views about capping, consider tapering].	1
5 th	Research could be developed from each 'risk' area which could negate negative impacts.	0
5 th	Research (whether pilot projects or social science / economics) is needed to understand and mitigate each of the identified risks.	0

Rant Board content (Group F)

- The way the scenarios are framed and separated isn't necessarily a useful exercise as there are elements of all that are required going forward. A hybrid approach.
- I generally support this scenario.
- Keep it simple! No more doomsday mapping, inventories.
- Interface with lowlands support where is the 'line'.
- By discussing this scenario, I am not endorsing.
- Local hill farming projects using local empathetic advisors to fine tune delivery.
- Need national priorities to deliver locally.
- Should rural communities decide what society wants from uplands? Or should local priorities consider the views of the majority of the population in that part of the country, who may be urban.

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Have a national-level framework to ensure national priorities are delivered locally.
- The structure and process of partnerships to function properly, to ensure fair distribution of funding and maximise local benefits.
- Balance local and national knowledge, interests and experience to make better decisions.
- Substantial funding for local schemes to deliver local priorities.
- Public must understand the public good they are paying for.

Outcomes Rather than Actions

Premise

Public money should be paid for the delivery of public goods; rewarding businesses for producing those goods and services which the market fails to pay for. The open to all scheme will focus on rewarding the flow of ecosystem goods and services rather than actions and prescriptions that may or may not produce desired goods and services. Payment rates will be based on the value of those goods and services rather than the opportunity cost of not farming (income foregone). The focus would be on improving natural capital and society's yield from that capital.

Key Features

- Each farm / holding would have an independently audited inventory of current natural, cultural and social capital on the farm
- Schemes would include a broad range of public goods including, but not limited to, biodiversity, carbon storage, water quality, flood mitigation, landscape features, historical features, educational access, public access, high animal welfare, disease control
- Farmers would be able to choose from a raft of measures which goods and services they wish to provide and to what level; basic, enhanced and higher.
- A range of metrics for each outcome would be developed to monitor and measure the flow of public goods
- A self-assessment form would be completed each year with 10% of schemes externally monitored each year
- Farmers would be able to engage advisors with earned recognition status to audit their farm prior to self assessment

- Capital grant schemes would enable investment in natural and cultural capital

Outcomes Rather than Actions (Group A)

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- More farmer expertise = more buy-in.
- Easier to help consumers to understand multiple benefits of farming.
- Easier to see real benefits delivered, where payment = outcomes
- Buffer of capital payments to smooth over tough years and ensure good choices that might not be core business needs.
- Pays for and recognises the wider environmental products rather than linked to the single revenue of food production.
- Encourages greater partnership and building trust between managers / experts.

Negative Impacts

- Higher risk on land manager as outcomes either long term or subject to other factors.
- Risk of threatening a sense of independence in single farmers if outcomes are driving big scale overarching outcomes.
- Admin could be complex and time consuming.
- Risk of uneven pricing – geographical discrimination.
- Risk to outcomes – may not be delivered.
- Complexity – needs loads of design 'agents' charter'.
- Outcomes are scalable and encourage progression / continuous improvement.

Landscape Scale

Positive Impacts

- More you put in, the greater the rewards.
- Shared understanding leads to less conflict.
- Unlocks motivation of farmers and their skills.

Negative Impacts

- Transfers cost of productivity to the public purse and away from the market.
- Risk that private sector is crowded out and sees no responsibility to fund.
- Risk too high level / narrow (national) and can't recognise local outcomes / values.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Famer feels shared ownership.	10
2 nd	Society better understands what farming delivers.	7
3 rd	Sets farmer vs farmer.	4
4 th	'Just tell me what to do!'	0

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	Contested outcomes – who decides?	3
2 nd	All the stuff we want and more!	0
2 nd	Fewer floods.	0
2 nd	Cleaner water.	0
2 nd	More diverse landscapes and backed habitats.	0

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Poor design and dealt from on high.	6
1 st	Over-bureaucratic 'agents' charter'. Too complicated!	6
3 rd	Allowable in WTO???	3
4 th	Risk outcomes are not flexible enough to response to change (needs / public benefits).	2
5 th	Can't articulate in simple terms what is the market failure.	1

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	More baselines and effective monitoring.	7
2 nd	What would unlock farmer innovation – how to do 'Citizen Science' with farmers.	6
3 rd	Compiling best practice – avoid re-inventing the wheel.	4
4 th	Valuation – one agreed scheme!	4
5 th	What would represent a shared language?	0

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Create a scheme that delivers a powerful sense of shared ownership in the land manager / farmer community.
- Create a scheme that is simple and has elements of local co-design and management.
- Use this approach to promote and explain the additional benefits farming delivers or society.

Outcomes rather than Actions (Group H)

Upland Farm Scale

Positive Impacts

- Raft of measures.
- Cap grant scheme.
- Common understanding of what we wanted on farm.

Negative Impacts

- Simplification of schemes essential – want simplification, scenario is bureaucratic.
- Different conditions – different results.
- Outcomes delivery – expectations change; excessive bureaucracy.

Landscape Scale

Positive Impacts

- Common understanding of desired outcomes.
- Payments to farmers for maintenance of public goods – footpaths.

Negative Impacts

- Different outcomes in different locations.
- Scheme delivery – staffing costs.
- Outcomes approach – must get paid for actions.
- Environmental benefits of uplands – difficult to assess; no regular ploughing.

a) Human Responses

Position	Human response	Votes
1 st	Uncertainty = unattractive to farmers.	7
2 nd	Farms out of business = loss of employment. Farms and other rural businesses.	6
3 rd	Big farms and ranching. Too risky for small farms.	3
4 th	If outcomes approach simplified might be attractive.	1

b) Environmental Results

Position	Environmental Results	Votes
1 st	Benefits depend on level of grant and level of take-up. No take-up = no benefits.	6
2 nd	Landscape scale could have environmental benefits.	5
3 rd	If ranching less sympathy for environment.	4
4 th	Movement to 'rewilding' short terms benefit, long term disaster.	3
5 th	Ranching first, then could lead to abandonment.	0
5 th	Question: How would scenario work with and without a SSSI?	0

c) Risks

Position	Risks	Votes
1 st	Farmers leave the uplands, farm business failure.	7
2 nd	Failure to achieve desired outcomes.	3
2 nd	Unintended environmental outcomes.	3
2 nd	Loss of landscape value = negative impact on tourism.	3
5 th	No / low take up.	2
6 th	How to cover 'force majeure' that prevents achievement of objectives.	0

d) Research Needs

Position	Research Needs	Votes
1 st	How to simplify to a point where scheme becomes attractive.	9
2 nd	Monitoring protocol (techniques to reduce bureaucracy)	6
3 rd	Defining outcomes.	2
4 th	Defining terms.	1

Rant Board content (Group H)

- No definition of terms.
- No common understanding.
- WTO rules – restriction on income foregone.
- Need continuity of staff – help delivery.
- Outcomes – payment on delivery.
 - Manage expectations.
 - Time delay between cost incurred and payment.
- Scenario not liked
 - More bureaucratic.
 - Less certainty for income.
 - Does not address trade.
- Keep it simple stupid.

Looking forward we need to make sure we...

- Simplify the scheme to a point where it becomes attractive and achievable. [As a group we do not believe the Outcomes Rather than Actions scenario is workable.]
- Learn from the past and incorporate best practice e.g. NW livestock programme; ESA
- Support upland farmers and rural communities.
- Provide sufficient incentive to ensure take up.

And finally...

Michael Winter provided some closing reflections. He thanked everyone for their input and creativity – a huge amount had been covered upon which to ponder on.

A common denominator across the feedback from groups was the importance of engaging with the public over the future of the uplands. The benefits of the uplands need to be clearly and carefully articulated so that an informed debate can take place, persuading both hearts and minds in Defra, the Treasury and the public. Today had been the start of this conversation and there had been more unity than Michael had expected.

Julia Aglionby reiterated Michael's views that there was a need to look outwardly and engage with those who think differently – the challenge was carrying this out with an approach that's not threatening and celebrates all that the uplands can and do deliver.

Appendix 1 – Attendees

First name	Surname	Organisation
Julia	Aglionby	Foundation for Common Land
David	Airey	National Farmers Union
Amanda	Anderson	Moorland Association
Rebecca	Barrett	North Pennines AONB
Minette	Batters	National Farmers Union
Patrick	Begg	National Trust
Richard	Betton	Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services / FCN
Thomas	Binns	Farmer
Kevin	Bishop	Dartmoor National Park Authority
Jeremy	Blackburn	Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
Alan	Buckwell	Institute for European Environmental Policy
Leyland	Branfield	Dartmoor Hill Farmer
Douglas	Chalmers	Friends of the Lake District
Will	Cockbain	Cumbrian Farmer / Natural England Board Member
Adrian	Colston	Exeter University
Rob	Cooke	Natural England
Norman	Cowling	Dartmoor Preservation Association
James	Davies	Defra
Lorna	Davis	Lorna Davis Designs
Alice	de Soer	Central Association of Agricultural Valuers
Tom	Dracup	National Farmers Union
Professor Janet	Dwyer	Countryside & Community Research Institute
Robert	Dyson	Northumberland Farmer
Adam	Fenn	Defra
Marcus	Gilleard	National Trust
Stephen	Harris	Defra
Robert	Helliwell	NT Tenant & Peak District NPA Member
Phil	Holden	Shropshire Hills AONB
Claire	Horton	Defra
Fiona	Howie	Campaign for National Parks
Simon	Humphries	Natural England
David	Jeffels	North Yorks Moors National Park Authority
Paul	Jepson	Oxford University
Wes	Johnson	Newton Rigg College
Gwyn	Jones	European Forum on Nature Conservation & Pastoralism
Keith	Jones	Forestry Commission
Lewis	Jones	South West Water
David	Knight	Exmoor Hill Farming Network
Thomas	Lancaster	RSPB
Phil	Le Grice	Duchy College
Viv	Lewis	Federation of Cumbria Commoners
Tom	Lorains	Federation of Cumbria Commoners
Ken	Lumley	Tenant Farmers Associations
Simon	Lunniss	Rural Payment Agency
Alistair	Maltby	The Rivers Trust
Davy	McCracken	SRUC (Scotland's Rural College)

First name	Surname	Organisation
John	Metcalfe	Yorkshire Commoners
Robin	Milton	National Farmers Union
Pravina	Patel	Defra
Clive	Porro	Defra
Christopher	Price	Country Land & Business Association
Helen	Radmore	Tenant Farmers Associations
Will	Rawling	The Herdwick Sheep Breeders Association
Sim	Reaney	Durham University
Mark	Reed	Newcastle University
Christine	Reid	Woodland Trust
Margaret	Reid	Defra
Joe	Relph	Federation of Cumbria Commoners
Arlin	Rickard	The Rivers Trust
Nicola	Riley	Defra
Claire	Robinson	National Farmers Union
Chris	Rodgers	Newcastle Law School
Chris	Sandom	Rewilding Britain
Claire	Saunders	Prince's Countryside
Gary	Schofield	Upland Hill Farmer
Charles	Scott	Newcastle University
Adrian	Shepherd	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Chris	Short	Countryside & Community Research Institute
Paul	Silcock	Cumulus Consultants
Mandy	Sims	Facilitator, Clearer Thinking
Mike	Smith	National Trust
Pete	Spriggs	Facilitator, Clearer Thinking
Nigel	Stone	Exmoor National Park Authority
Robert	Sword	Daenay Estates
Patrick	Thompson	RSPB
Simon	Thorp	Heather Trust
Kate	Tobin	Forestry Commission
Susie	Turpie	The Scottish Government
John	Waldon	Eclipse
Andrew	Walker	Yorkshire Water
Jonathan	Walker	Moors for the Future
Bob	Walter	
Samual	Wharry	National Sheep Association
Allan	Wilkinson	HSBC
Allan	Williams	Rural Payment Agency
Katherine	Williams	Exmoor Hill Farming
Frances	Winder	Woodland Trust
Michael	Winter	Exeter University
Fred	Worrell	Durham University
Rob	Yorke	Rural Chartered Surveyor

Appendix 2 – Capturing what's good

Theme: Local networks and advice

Individual responses

<p>Policy innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the constraints of CAP we have developed some of the most innovative and progressive Rural Development Programmes in Europe. 	<p>Pre-CAP- more finely tuned to local situation and needs. So locally tailored to meet local situation/needs.</p>	<p>Funding for the creation of farmer lead local farming networks/organisations such as the EHFN and DHFP.</p>
<p>Dedicated, locally-based farm advisers (in ESA's and other projects and initiatives) helping to support farming and guide sustainability.</p>	<p>Consistency and continuity of staff in advisory roles (and extra 'facilitation' roles) – because it takes time to build relationships (this continuity is increasingly missing, but where it has been there, it's been very valuable).</p>	<p>Capacity for local proactive facilitation to encourage farmer engagement in schemes and provide follow up support (e.g. current English facilitation fund).</p>
<p>Support for farmer networks.</p>	<p>Advice and evidence.</p>	<p>National Park targeted schemes worked well.</p>
<p>RDPE – useful and helpful e.g. should be considered leader alongside CAP. FWAC – style farm advisors. Catchment sensitive farming. NE 'new' outcomes approach.</p>	<p>Continuity of project officers delivering environment schemes allowing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice on delivery, rather than penalties Continuity of environmental objectives and what is being aimed for. 	<p>Locally tailored and delivered schemes. Payment by results schemes. Including effective capital payments too.</p>

Theme: Landscape based benefits

Individual responses

<p>Capture the existing profile and good will for the uplands – landscape, economy etc. and build on it.</p>	<p>Capture the long policy approach seen with CAP, while embracing the right change, for security.</p>	<p>Better funded mid-tier countryside stewardship scheme focusing on landscape delivery, collaboration and ecosystem service delivery.</p>
<p>Landscape based schemes. Local based schemes.</p>	<p>Less favoured area support (maybe).</p>	

Theme: Elements of HFA

Individual responses

<p>HFA worked quite well in that it was first land area scheme as opposed to headage. Sample easily policed with optional supplements for cattle and woodland. Dedicated land based advisors.</p>	<p>HFA type</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscape delivery Enhancements for extra involvement Active farmer (minimum live stock rule) Simplicity Livestock farming Hill Farm Allowance. 	<p>Pilot schemes to encourage landscape – scale collaboration e.g. Facilitation Fund Dartmoor Farming Futures – could be great way forward.</p>
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HFA – landscape scale schemes. Good/simple.	Landscape scale schemes i.e. partnerships, the balance land uses.	HFA recognised difference between lowland/upland and rewarded – simple to administer and landscape.
HFA supported socio – economic.	Capital grants for landscape features.	HFA – good for active farmer – not taken by landlord.
Hill Farm Allowance base payment and enhancements.	HFA – robust targeted at farmer.	HFA payments first CSS scheme worked couldn't get ESA.

Theme: Leader programmes

Individual responses

Ability to link envi. food and rural development – leader as an approach offered this.	<p>The original principles of leader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • local ownership • subsidiarity • tailored outcomes • innovation • flexibility • local distinctiveness. 	<p>Leader programmes mark 1 and 2.</p> <p>Bottom up projects around vibrant rural communities.</p>
Leader (the old scheme!) for diversification support.		

Theme: Targeting key habitats and species

Individual responses

Agri environment schemes forced farmers to think “what are we doing”. Recognised the need for a “balance” of food security and environment.	Active farming supported by grants etc. helps to create a landscape that the public want keep's money in the community.	Schemes have practically addressed the challenges of past agricultural practices.
Water co' perspective of what (government) allowing us to invest and work in upland catchments for water quality – quantity and other benefits – biodiversity carbon etc.	Utilising farm grants schemes to provide funding to the “active farmer”. While giving many environmental benefits, HFA schemes etc.	Payments for targeted intervention for key species or habitats e.g. smart scale planting for black grouse or risk management to benefit breeding wades and grazing quality.
Transition from headage to agri-environment payments has encouraged farmers to think about the wider benefits they are delivering.	Ensure some rewards go to farmers for delivering public benefits – nature, landscape, tourism etc.	This has delivered significant amounts of “expensive” habitat restoration (blanket bog).
Agri environment payments like HLS have supported targeted delivery of environmental objectives.	We have developed very well a balanced approach to woodland creation and management for multiple (social economic environmental) benefits.	Schemes have prevented the loss of key habitats and management traditions e.g. hay making tradition rather than shift to more intensive management for silage.
Maintains high welfare standards.	EU life monies have made a huge difference to peatland restoration.	High quality (though low volume) products. With a story.

Theme: Benefits of decoupling

Individual responses

Decoupling and removal of headage payments was a positive step. Risk – abandonment of common grazing and shepherding skills.	Decoupling of subsidy payments from stocking numbers.	Decoupled versus coupled payments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owner 'Active' farmer (tenant).
Decoupling good but – took 'activity' away from the farmer.	Recognition of role/importance of farming, but keep support decoupled.	Facilitation fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within current countryside stewardship programme.
Old countryside stewardship was good and easy to understand and overate by farmers.	One good thing about countryside stewardship is that it combines woodland and open habitats into one scheme – good in principle.	Basic payment schemes and Agri-environment schemes have provided stability/continuity in terms of support.

Theme: Inclusivity

Individual responses

Support that is available to all – inclusive and not hard to get too!	Open to all.	Simple or easy to administer. Scheme, able to deliver funding back to the farmers providing the benefit, HFA.
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Theme: Partnership approach

Individual responses

The few integrated projects which exist e.g. Dartmoor Farming Futures.	Support for capital items like stonewalls and historic buildings maintenance that are valued in the landscape.	Capital works schemes (jobs-enhanced landscape benefits).
Public, private and NGO collaborations to support land management (e.g. scamp).	The uplands are accessible and semi natural – payment schemes have facilitated this.	Catchment sensitive farming is quite a good model – helpful advisors closely connected to a small grant scheme. Could be expanded beyond water.
Positive discontinuing soil protection review – not relevant to all grass farms.		

Theme: Keeping communities in the uplands

Individual responses

Historically agreements were long term (10-20 years) this was a good thing – future agreements also need to be long term.	Support payment have paid for a wide range of features (biodiversity/historic landscapes) and kept farmers in the hills (cultural).	Environmental agreements to keep hill farms viable, but could be improved.
Revitalised Commoners Associations.	SPS/BPS – kept many hill farmer businesses active.	Support for uplands in Pillar 2 has been good for uplands generally and enabled them to keep farming.

Supported rural communities and rural economy.	Diversification – benefits brought by it to communities/economies and scope for more.	Kept family farms managing challenging land which otherwise would have little economic future.
HLS continued. Encourage partnership working. Current CS – nothing from grassland should be retained – options lacking, payment rates too low. High nature value farming – has potential.	When you provide local flexibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leads to ownership and potentially more effective delivery of local priorities Facilitation rather than 'advice' – enabling and empowering rather than prescribing. 	Current system has kept commercially unsustainable farming in place. Markets vs valuing other services – redefine what is sustainable.
We have kept farmers in the uplands.	CAP (was) a social fund kept people in remote areas rural communities culture. Worked well.	Managed landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support tourism etc. Keeps people in hills and so maintains communities.

Theme: ESA

Individual responses

Agri-environmental and direct payments have helped to maintain earning in the uplands.	HFA and ELS – some clarity, ease of administration, focus on 'people'/custodian.	ESAs – locally relevant and tailored to the area and its needs.
Historic. Livestock – headage payments (good) direct to farmer irrespective of whether land owner or tenant or grazier. Annual HLCA review. Deficiency payment for fat lambs, based on market prices. ESAs – simple, farmer could get on with it, cheap monitoring. HLS – commons grazier groups – positive.	ESA worked well simple to deliver easy to understand, addressed landscape re stone wall repair traditional farm buildings and was the first scheme to address environmental concerns/over grazing. Later schemes also worked but over engineered and bureaucratic.	ESAs reflected local conditions and enabled diversity within the uplands to be celebrated.
ESA – good for landscape encouraged diversification – e.g. walling contractors. Capital grant help farm efficiency – not taken by landlord.	ESA – locally designed and defined recognising local distinctiveness e.g. barns and walls	ESA – locally defined schemes (landscape scale) very good for both area payments and capital.
ESA type approach. Broad and shallow scheme. Simple all encompassing. Farmer choice for level of options.	SBI supported to keep people in the hills. Active management and social-economic. 5Ha – 500Ha. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple ESA style schemes Land manager understands what to do and why. 	UELS/ELS but should be enhanced so UELS+/ELS+. So more intelligently designed and universally available (and get rid of BPS).
UELS+ - improve rates and to include 'active farmer' and 'young farmer' components of BPS.	ESA simple delivered landscapes.	Former ESA:- high level of farmer engagement and tailored to local circumstances.

UELS – breadth of scheme included cultural heritage e.g. hefted sheep and being open to all so engaged all farmers.	Past schemes like HFA, ESA and ELS/HLS have all helped support farming (income support) in the uplands.	Farmer ESA – capital grants to maintain landscape features – good for environment and local jobs.
ESA style agri-environment schemes much preferred by farmers over ELS/UELS/HLS/tiered schemes.	Future. ESA payments Best of both please. HLF payments	ESA style of scheme local targets relatively simple local project officers.
Agri-environment schemes – some great examples to build on.	Elements of ESA allowing food producing alongside environment.	