

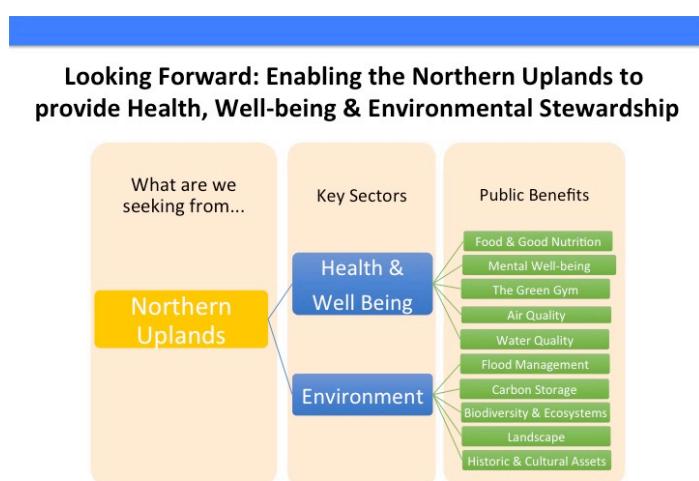
LOOKING FORWARD: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE NORTHERN ENGLISH UPLANDS

Workshop on 13 January 2017: Newton Rigg College, Penrith, Outcomes

An Uplands Alliance Event funded by the Lake District, Peak District, North York Moors, Yorkshire Dales and Northumberland National Park Authorities

The focus was on the public benefits the Northern England uplands provide society; and how these could be supported and enhanced in the future.¹ Attendees included farmers, landowners, public agencies, environmental NGOs and academics from across the North of England.

Participants were encouraged through the image below to broaden how they viewed public benefits from the uplands and in particular consider health and well-being as a key sector to which the uplands provides extensive benefits.



What Principles should post EU Exit public funding follow?

Financing

- Focus public money on delivering public goods in the uplands
- Provide government support for developing private markets for public goods where possible

¹ The workshop built on the Uplands Alliance event held in London in September. The outputs of which can be viewed at: <https://uplandsalliance.wordpress.com/2016/11/11/the-future-of-englands-uplands/>

Scheme Approach & Scope

- Within a national framework allow local tailoring of schemes
- consider the role of National Parks and AONBs
- Use a Landscape Scale / Catchment Approach
- Adopt an outcomes approach rather than relying on prescriptions

Motivation and Ownership

- Empower and Enable farmers as key agents of land management – 70% of the uplands are farmed
- Clear, simple schemes that pay on time

Looking Forward the most important actions needed for the Northern Uplands are...’

Identifying Common Ground

- Engage and work with a wider group of upland land interests
- Capture consensus and produce a Concord
- Create a joined up response to the two 25 year plans

Improved Communications

- Create public support for investing in the Uplands through communication and learning – capture the imagination – hearts and minds - stories
- Share a clear collective message from stakeholders
- Convey a consistent message to Defra

Influence Policy

- Respond positively on behalf of the Uplands to the 25 year plan consultations
- Help to develop schemes that have a national framework, but are locally tailored and include new approaches identified
- Ensure the economic and social value of the uplands is relevant to the Northern Powerhouse
- Highlight integration of rural social, environmental and economic issues – e.g. farming, housing, broadband

Increase Knowledge and Skills

- Improve evidence base and valuation of the benefits the Uplands provide and develop mechanisms for public and private funding
- Pilot new schemes and new approaches e.g. outcomes based schemes
- Enhance skills and knowledge of farmers, advisors & agencies