

## Upland Pathways to Success 24/03/2022

Attendees: [REDACTED]

### Actions

- [REDACTED] (all) Understand how we will operate/utilise existing relationships with key academics (e.g. Newcastle University) – scope out financial implications of that
- [REDACTED] To engage with Defra Economist and Analysts – exploring what we can do with existing data (e.g. forecast data)
- [REDACTED] Pull together scheme timelines so we can factor in when options are coming on stream
- [REDACTED] to consider right approach in making Minister(s) aware – in context of wider work
- [REDACTED] to come back to [REDACTED] on draft project spec to confirm and finalise
- [REDACTED] to explore private/blended finance
- [REDACTED] Start pulling together list of key people – to develop a ‘sub group’
- All – UA meeting 29/03. 1) agree farm types, 2) agree viability criteria, 3) develop key questions
- [REDACTED] to schedule in next meeting – done (05/03 3pm)

### Notes

- Comment from [REDACTED] via email: “This is looking good to me and must recognise the urgency in developing it - many upland farmers are heading rapidly into financial crisis and knee jerk type survival reactions will do little to deliver anything of value in the longer term. On partners to strengthen this there is CCRI and Exeter university agricultural economics dept too. I feel there must also be some content around business consolidation rather than just diversification as future models”
- We should bring in academics where possible – e.g. Newcastle University (Hill Farming), University of Exeter, [REDACTED] etc. We can also use the farm business data/ business income data
- [REDACTED] – we need to pull together a list of key people so we can start to explore further, to work to budget implications and identify gaps
- These 5 scenarios are ‘model farms’ and we should try to work from the data sets we already have
- Would be good to know what we can do with the forecast data for 21/22 came out end of Feb – not sure if it is indicative or full data sets?
- [REDACTED] farm types – How do we match those against the data?
- The guide is about showing how people move from where they are to where they need to be, in light of changes happening
- We should also highlight early options, such as in SFI & FiPL - people need to be aware of that – need to be mapping in the pathway
- We should also map out next 6 years – farmers need to be a year ahead so they can account for that in their farming decisions. Important for people to have certainty that they’re going to be accepted into schemes
- We should gather questions to ask the Defra evidence team in terms of key data questions, for example, are they able to tell us how many people in upland farms? Which type of upland farms are in schemes?
- Plan for the next UA **meeting 29/03** – Test and agree the 5 farm types ([REDACTED]), agree viability criteria ([REDACTED]), test scenarios/how we will work ([REDACTED]), what are the key questions/what will help people to include in the guide? ([REDACTED]) – what if I half or

double my stock numbers? How are we best to capture those questions? What changes could farmers make? Scenarios we'll test the farmers against. Next steps

- **Next UA engagement** – 6 weeks or so – should explore if there is a smaller group interested – create a sub group