

Farming for the Future: a joint LINK and Farming 1.5 summit to map a route to a sustainable future for farming in Scotland.

Summary:

On 19 April, Scottish Environment LINK's Food and Farming Group and Farming 1.5 panel members held a workshop to identify a route map towards sustainable farming in Scotland. The aim was to put forward practical solutions to achieve agreed visions of future farming in Scotland articulated by the Scottish Government, LINK and Farming 1.5 and to define what and how farming subsidies must deliver in Scotland for future generations.

The resulting route map (below) is a working document and as such will be updated regularly. This initial version has been shared with both LINK's Food and Farming Group and Farming 1.5 panel members and with the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs.

Key themes that were highlighted in the discussions were:

1. **Working together:** we will only achieve the necessary major reform if we work together and with a much wider range of participants. LINK's Farming campaign may help to widen supporters of this vision and map.
2. **Resilience:** we are aiming to build resilient food systems as well as a resilient farming sector and rural communities as well as nature and climate resilience
3. **Urgency and political will:** we need to implement change now; this involves difficult decisions and the need for leadership. Consensus and negotiation will help us make the changes.
4. **Balance:** a Just Transition to the new future is vital and change needs to be implemented fairly
5. **Communicating need for change,** what does change look like, what the risks, impacts and benefits to taxpayers and consumers, farmers and land managers, nature and climate.

Next steps:

LINK's Food and Farming Group and Farming 1.5 members are in strong position to help take forward the steps identified to address the challenges.

Voice:

Our members are ready to be fully involved in a transparent process. The current ARIOB gives unequal weight to the key issues – big farming, small farming, climate, biodiversity and food security & affordability. It should be reviewed, in parallel with a broad consultation and engagement process with all stakeholders.

Understanding:

LINK's new Campaign, Farm for Scotland's Future, aims to provide informative and engaging context for the need for change. We are aiming to launch it in the week beginning 17 June and are currently developing messaging, already tested with a public audience, and digital resources.

Process:

The [Farming 1.5 reports](#) and LINK's recent briefing provide our expert input into developing policy and practice. The LINK briefing is a living document, which we hope to develop and publish publicly soon.

Stories:

Both Farming 1.5 members and LINK's Food and Farming Group include practising farmers and policy experts. Stories of success and ambition are available through both. An example is the short film from the Farming 1.5 panel [here](#).

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VISIONS

We will transform how we support farming and food production in Scotland to become a global leader in sustainable and regenerative agriculture.
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

a Scotland in which we eat more of what we produce and produce more of what we eat - all balanced with environmental targets.
LINK

reducing total emissions from agriculture while maintaining food production per capita.
FARMING 1.5



PURPOSE

FOOD, CLIMATE, BIODIVERSITY

CHALLENGE

POWER OF NEW PARTNERSHIP, BEYOND LOBBYING

OPPORTUNITY

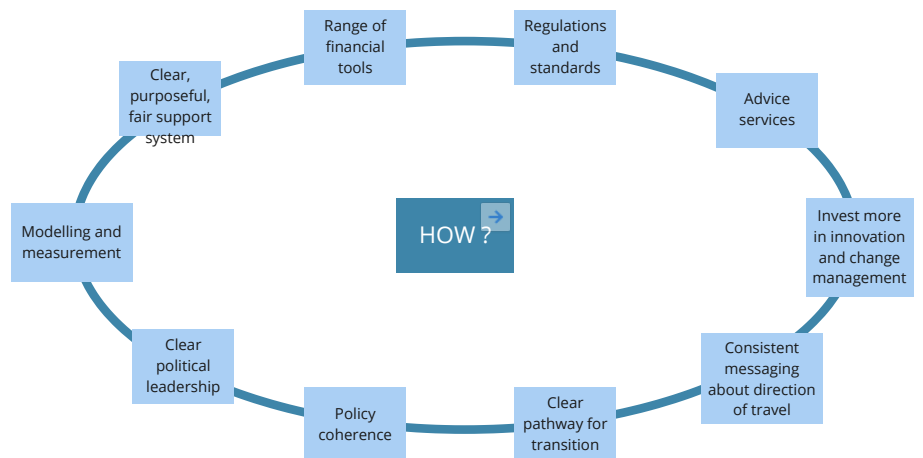
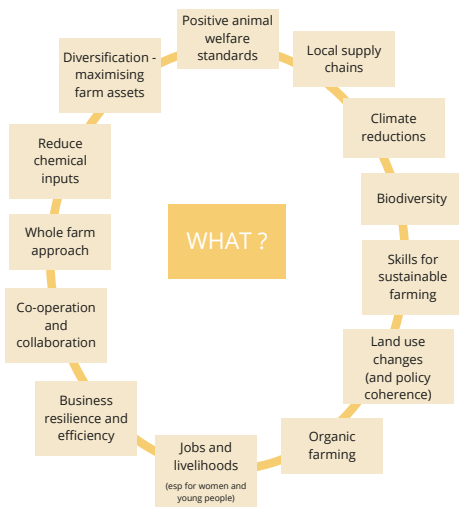
BUTE HOUSE, UN, FM STATEMENTS

IMPERATIVE

URGENCY, SCALE, NEED OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

CLARITY

DESTINATION, DEFINITION, BUDGET



CHALLENGES



VOICE

Involving other stakeholders in the process in a constructive way

UNDERSTANDING

Providing informative and engaging context for the need for change.

PROCESS

Tapping into our expertise to build better policy and practice

STORIES

Telling positive stories and creating the political space for action

Clarity needed on definitions and terms

Glossary?

Different levels of ambition

Can they align?

There are many similarities

Are the differences in delivery?

VISIONS

We will transform how we support farming and food production in Scotland to become a global leader in sustainable and regenerative agriculture.
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

payments linked to biodiversity and low emissions

Direct payments

Restore natural capital

Using tech and innovation

a Scotland in which we eat more of what we produce and produce more of what we eat - all balanced with environmental targets.
LINK

10% of farms for nature

RESILIENT food system

Farming WITH nature

A SYSTEMS approach

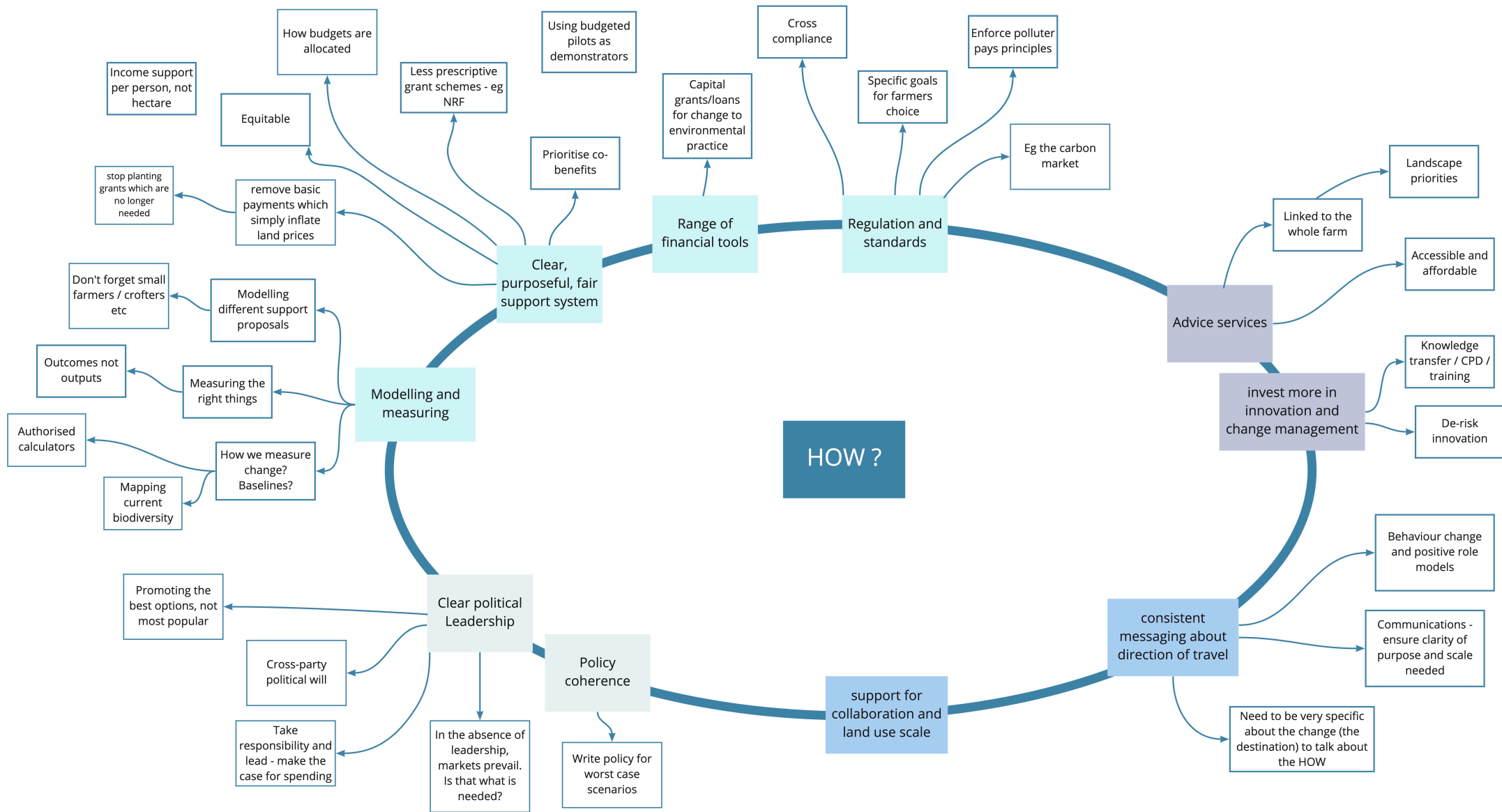
Reform the PAYMENTS system

reducing total emissions from agriculture while maintaining food production per capita.
FARMING 1.5

10% of farms for nature

whole farm contracts to deliver on farming and nature from 2024;

rapid uptake in low methane breeding for cows and sheep



CHALLENGES

