

Parish Forum Meeting 25 October 2016

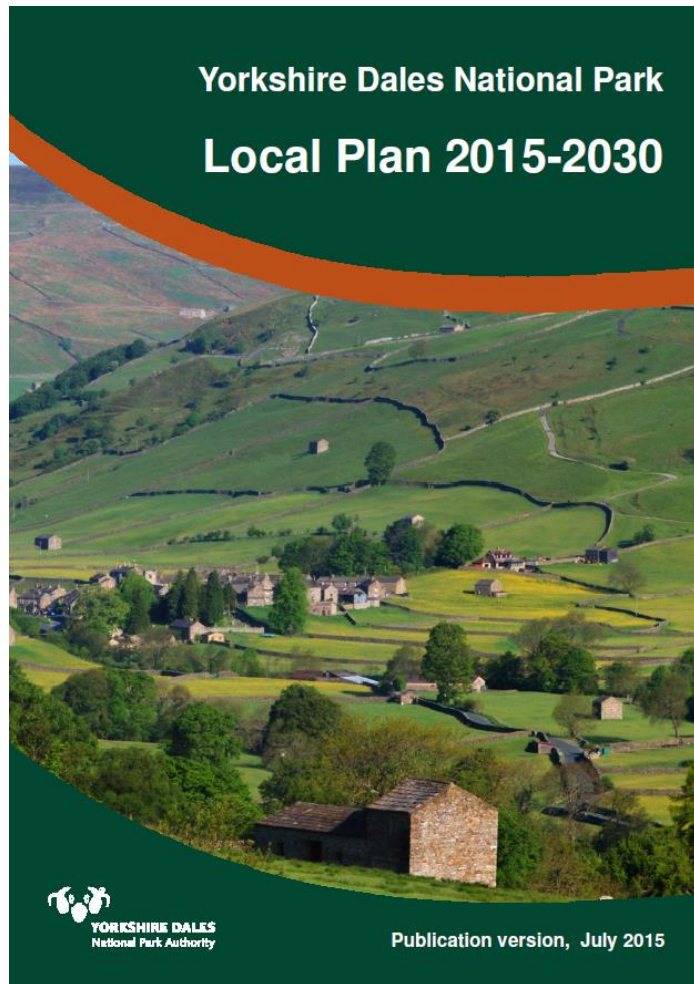
Welcome

Ian McPherson
Deputy Chairman NPA

Conversion of Roadside Barns

Peter Stockton
Head of Sustainable Development

Yorkshire Dales Local Plan barns policy



L2 Conversion of traditional buildings – acceptable uses

.....change of use of traditional buildings will..... be permitted within existing settlements and building groups or other suitable roadside locations.

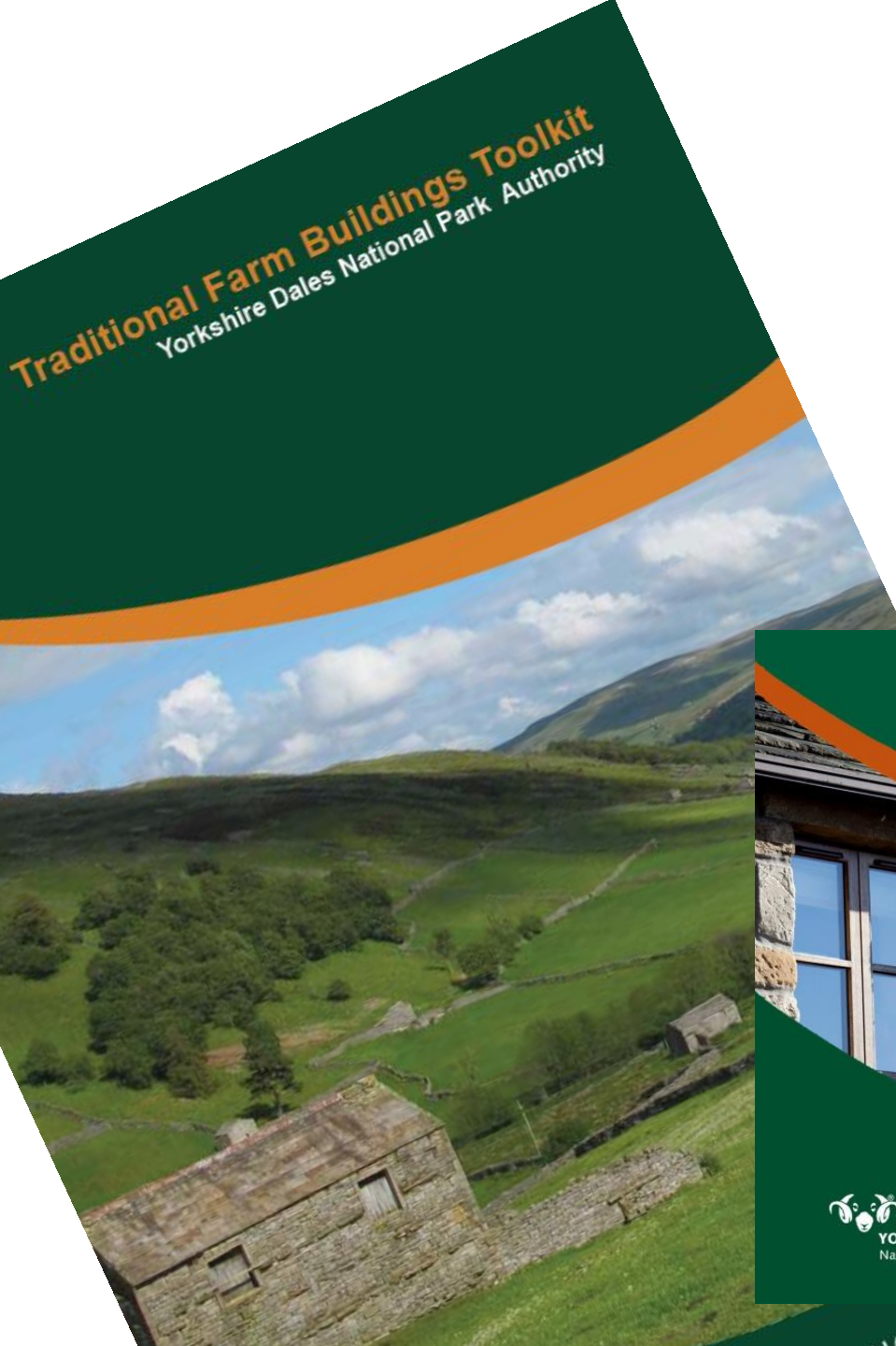
.....Proposals for change of use to a dwellinghouse for continuous occupation will be subject to a local occupancy restriction

Aim

5.8 To allow traditional buildings to be put to alternative uses where the building and its location is able to accommodate the intensity of the new use and associated impacts.

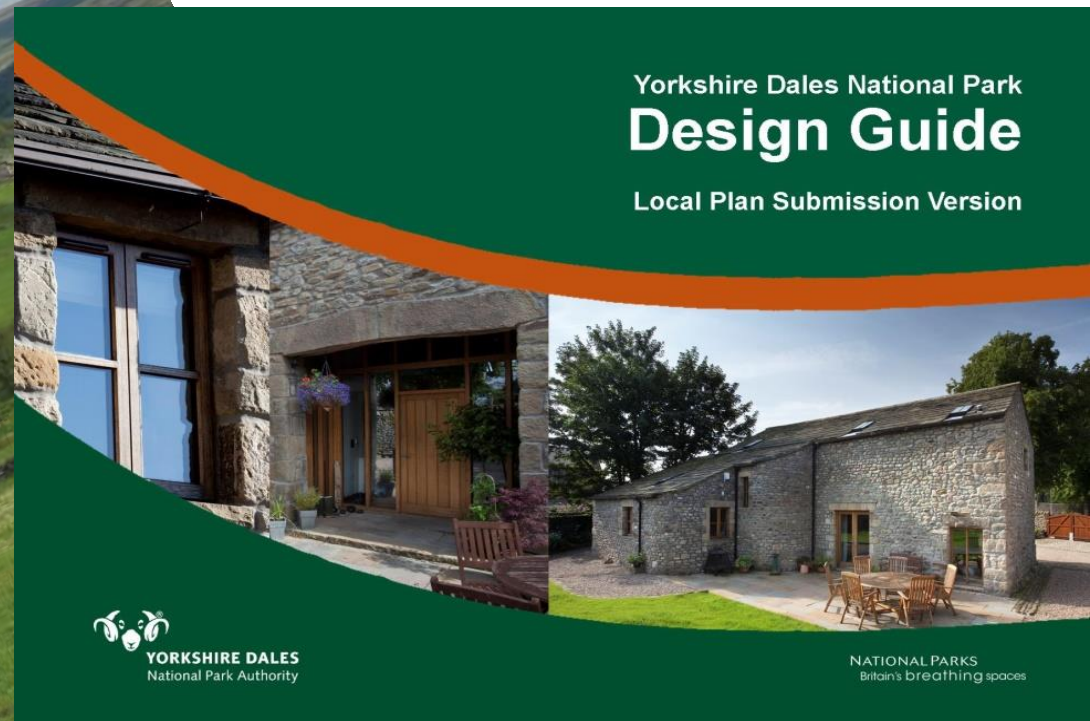


- a significant expansion of local planning policy
- Intensive residential uses are now permitted for suitable 'roadside' barns
- 'Roadside' excludes buildings that are not in close proximity to a road or track ie. isolated 'field' barns
- Field barns and other isolated traditional buildings may still be permissible for less intensive uses that do not need direct vehicular access or parking eg. barn 'pods', horses, camping barns



Traditional farm buildings toolkit and design guidance

Advice to owners and developers about heritage significance, development options and planning design guidance



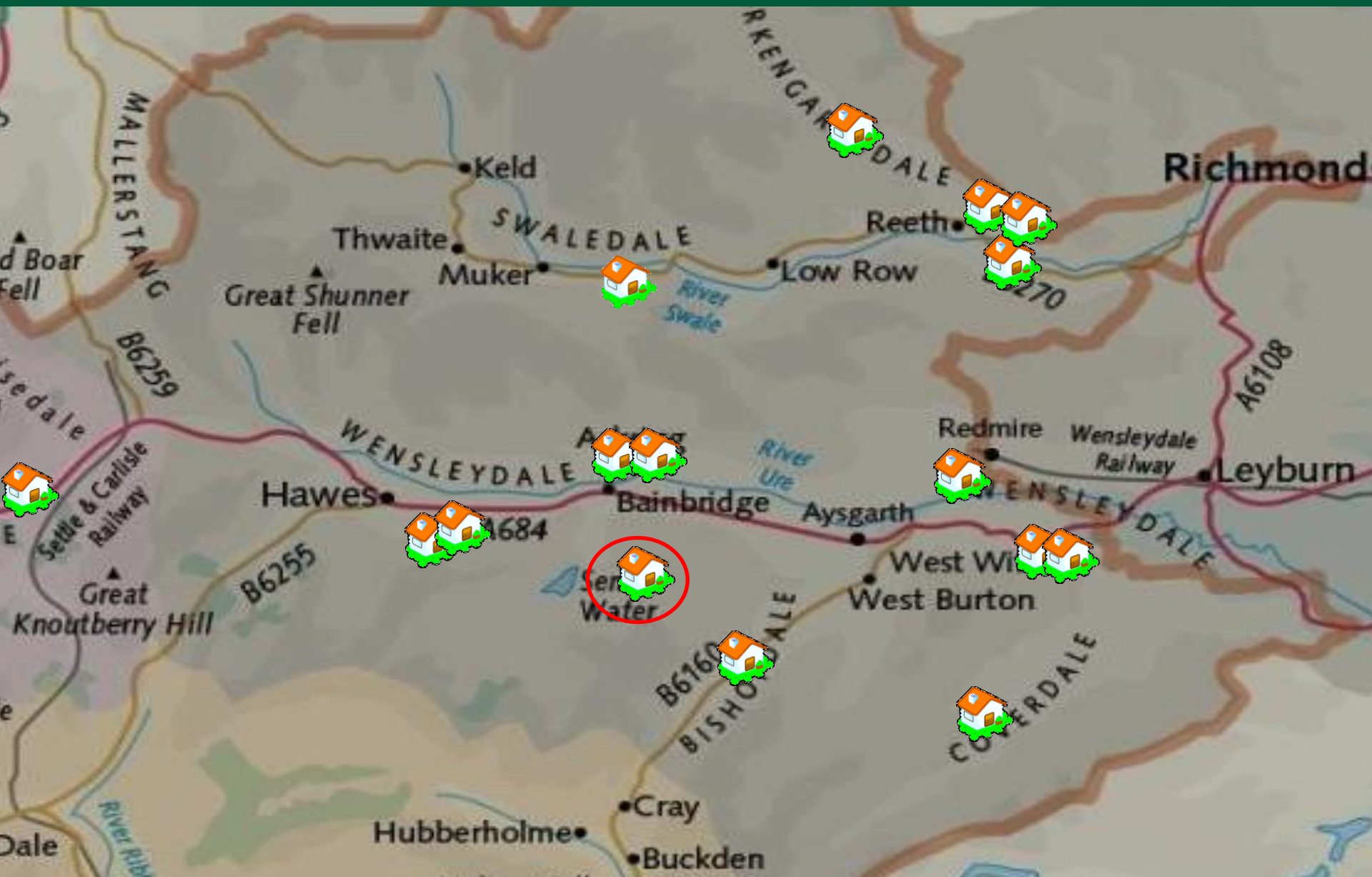
Low Row, Swaledale residential barn conversion



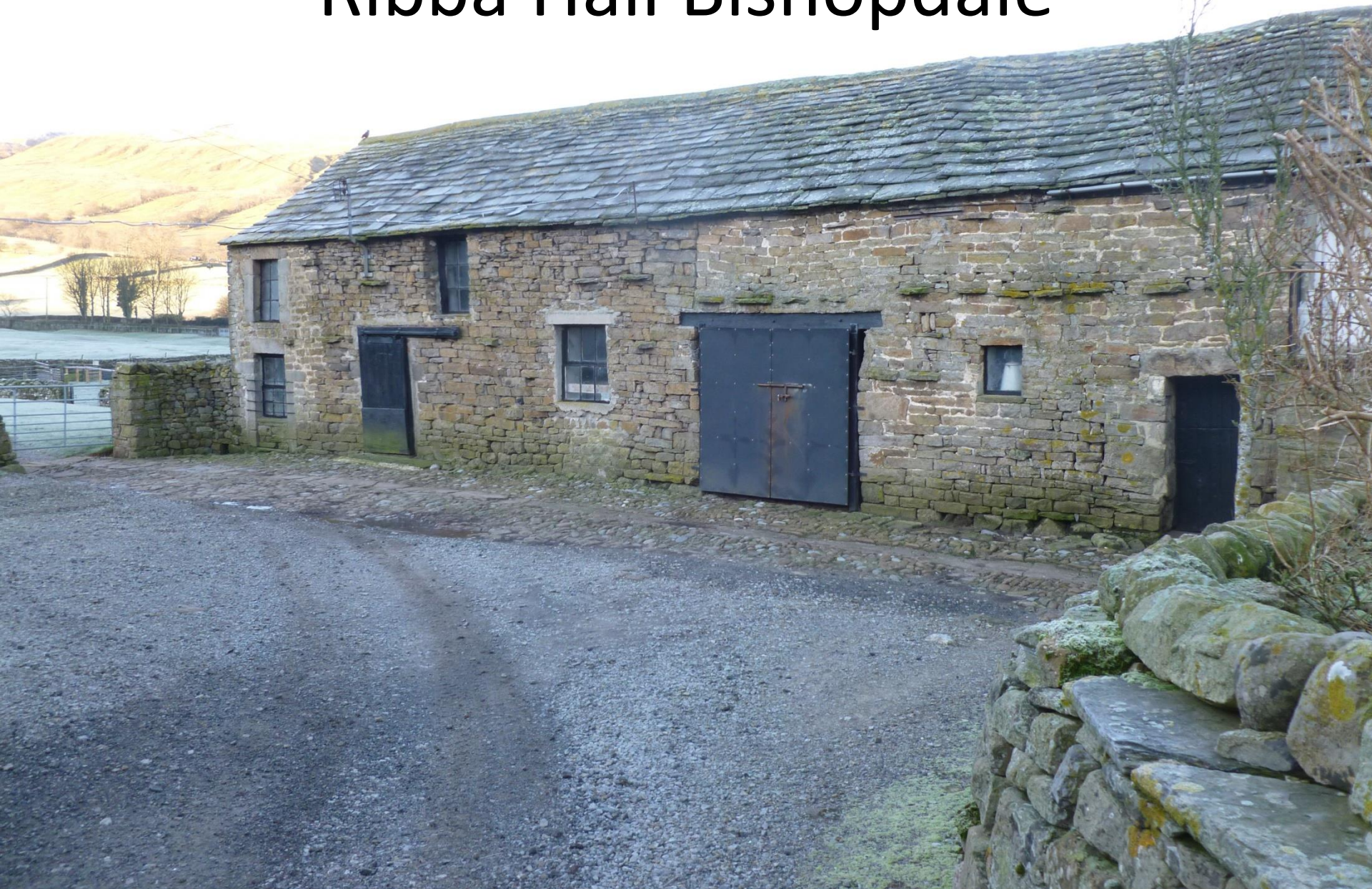
Policy L2 approvals since October 2015; Upper Dales



YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park Authority



Ribba Hall Bishopdale



Cubble Head, Burtersett



Red gate barn, Askrigg





Long Preston



Starbotton

Local Plan progress



YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park Authority

- Public hearings, July 2016
- Consultation on post hearing modifications October 2016
- Inspector's report December (?)
- Promote new policies early 2017 eg.
 - Conversion policy
 - Allocated housing sites (mix of house types)
 - Business sites
 - Farm and land management flexibilities
 - Visitor accommodation
 - Wensleydale Railway

Sustainable Development Fund



YORKSHIRE DALES

National Park Authority

Sustainable Development Fund

Gary Smith

Director of Conservation & Community

SDF facts and figures

- Operated for 15 years
- £2.3 million to 272 projects
- £175,000 available this year
- Over £80,000 given to 11 projects so far this year

What's it for?

- To support projects that result in positive benefits for the Yorkshire Dales National Park:
 - its environment; **and**,
 - its economy; **and**,
 - its communities.

- Contributes to *National Park Purposes*:
 - Natural beauty, wildlife, cultural heritage; **or**
 - Understanding and enjoyment by the public

And

- Provides some local *economic* benefit **or** some benefit to a local *community*

How much can you apply for?

- No minimum or maximum grant
- Aim to support 15-20 projects a year
- Up to 75% of costs for charities or community groups
- Up to 50% of costs for all other applicants

West Burton railings



Downholme village signs



Royal Oak Furniture briquette maker



B4RN hyperfast community broadband



What next?

- If you have a project that you think might be suitable for the SDF then please get in touch
- You can download an application form, guidance notes and our annual summaries from the SDF webpage

W: <http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/living-and-working/sdf>

T: Sustainable Development Officer - 01969 652337

E: SDF@yorkshiredales.org.uk

National Park Vacancy for Richmondshire Parishes Member

David Butterworth
Chief Executive

High Nature Value Farming in Wensleydale

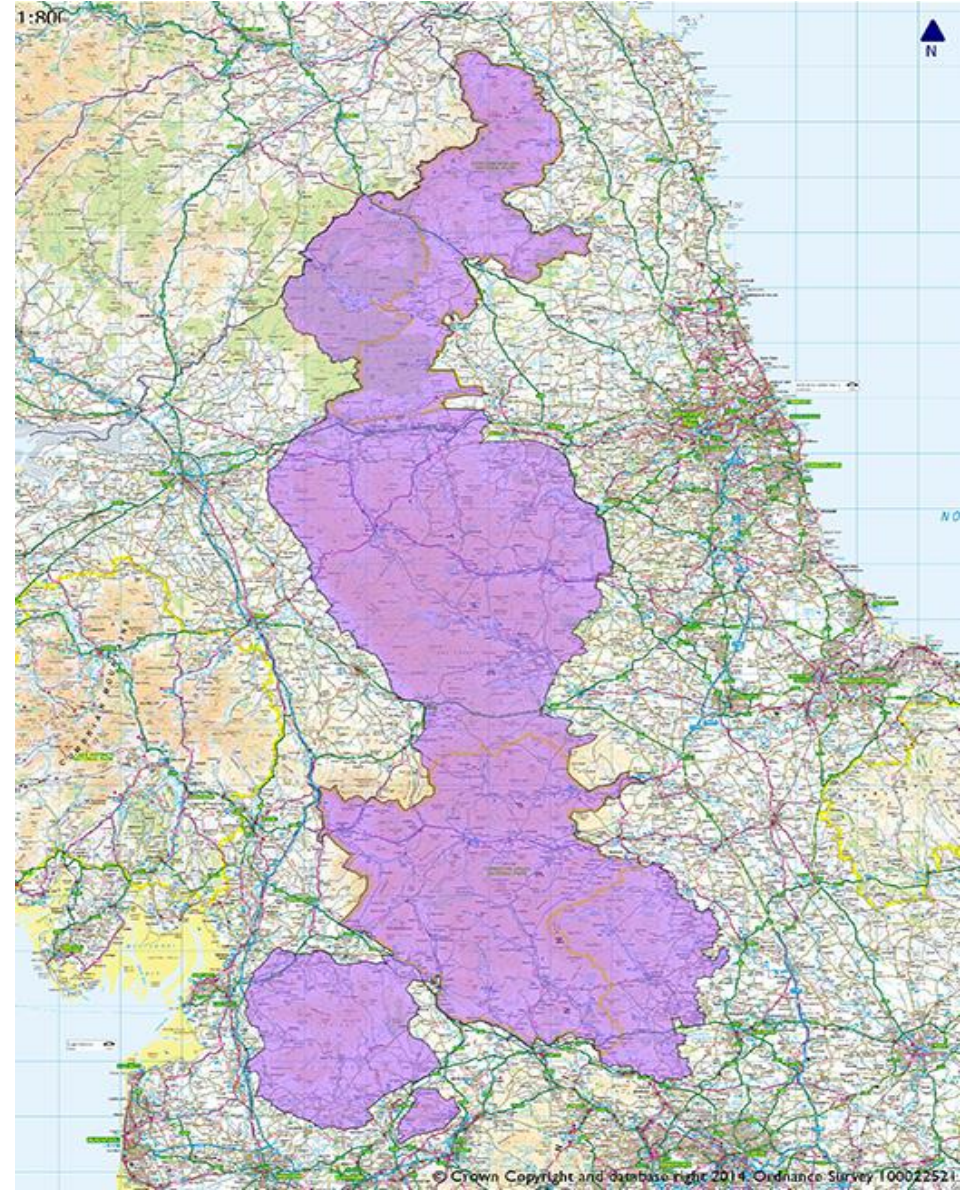
Gary Smith
Director of Conservation & Community

RESULTS BASED PAYMENT SCHEME



The 'Northern Upland Chain' LNP

- Set up 2012
- Partnership of public, private and voluntary sectors
- Focused on securing practical benefits for nature and for the natural economy of the uplands
- Key priority is to support 'High Nature Value farming'.



High Nature Value Farming

- Low intensity livestock farming
- High levels of biodiversity
- Range of other public benefits

Low Economic Value farming?

- Marginal and difficult
- Low farm incomes
- Value to society is not well understood



What the LNP has done

- Undertaken 4 case studies with groups of farmers across the LNP area
- Published the final report and case studies
- Set up a 'Northern Upland Farmer Panel' to represent views of local farmers
- Produced publicity material to promote HNV farming and lobby for change



High Nature Value Farming in the NORTHERN UPLAND CHAIN

• Northumberland National Park • North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty • Yorkshire Dales National Park • Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty •



What is High Nature Value Farming?

Sit in a flower-rich meadow in the Yorkshire Dales or walk across a North Pennines moor with the curlews calling and you get a very different picture from the one often associated with modern, intensive farming.

High Nature Value farming describes low intensity farming systems that are particularly valuable for wildlife, the environment and people. But low intensity does not mean low-maintenance – managing livestock, meadows, and thousands of miles of dry-stone walls is time-consuming, expensive, and requires high levels of skill and knowledge.

Why it matters

The Northern Upland Chain runs from the southern tip of Nidderdale to the Scottish border in the Northumberland National Park. Much of this stunningly beautiful area of hills and dales may look wild but it has been managed by generations of farmers.

More than any other part of England, the area is dominated by semi-natural wildlife habitats. Over 180,000 hectares have been designated as of national and international importance, including:

- huge areas of blanket bog and heather moorland;
- most of the UK's upland hay meadows, and most of England's limestone pavement.
- iconic species like red squirrel, curlew, yellow wagtail, otter, rare orchids, and most of England's remaining black grouse population.



The Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership was established in 2012, and includes over 50 organisations. It covers four nationally-designated landscapes: Northumberland National Park, North Pennines AONB, Yorkshire Dales National Park, and Nidderdale AONB.

Local farming systems use traditional livestock breeds like Cheviot and Swaledale sheep, which have adapted to cope with the harsh conditions. These form the backbone of the national sheep industry, accounting for 20% of British ewes.

HNV farming and land management in the Northern Upland Chain also:

- helps to regulate the flow of many major rivers, minimising flood peaks;
- conserves vast areas of peat and other soils that store huge amounts of carbon;
- maintains over 300,000 hectares of land that is accessible by the public for recreation;
- manages the beautiful landscapes that support a multi-million pound tourism industry.

Two key things farmers wanted

1. Introduce **a more collaborative approach** to the delivery of agri-environment schemes, using the skills and knowledge of HNV farmers to deliver environmental outcomes in a way that allows the whole farm to work and make sense as a system.
2. **New payment mechanisms** to enable the market to reward HNV farmers for the many public benefits they provide;

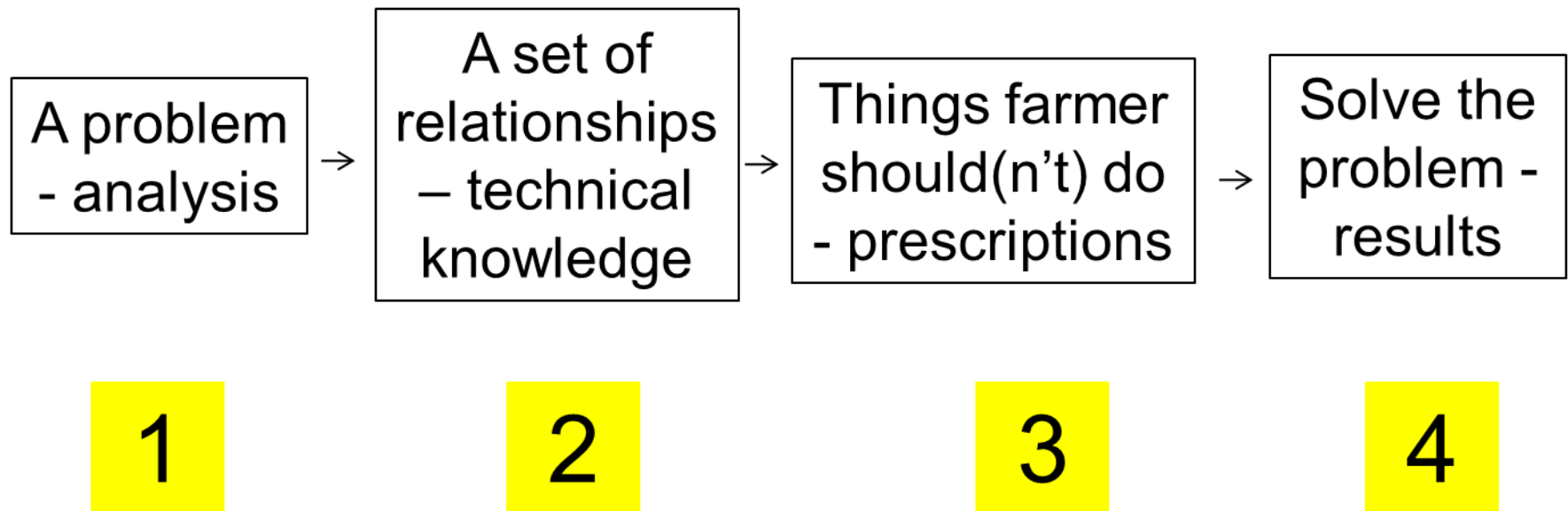
A results-based payment scheme for the uplands

- National pilot
- Funded by EU
- Managed by Natural England



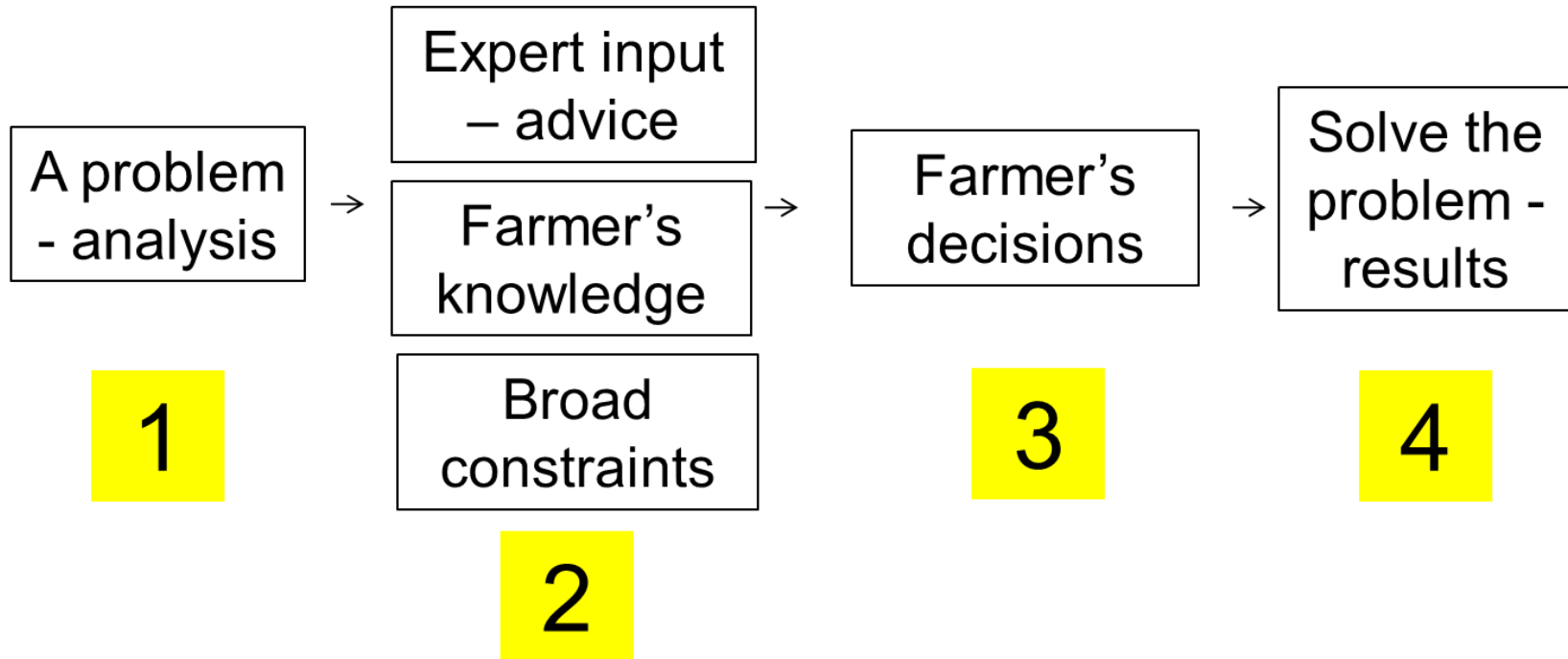
- Delivered by YDNPA (on behalf of the Northern Upland Chain LNP)

How current agri-environment schemes work



- Farmer has to 'do what he's told'
- Payments are fixed
- Gets paid even if 'prescription' doesn't work

Results-based approach



- Farmer and adviser work together
- Farmer decides how best to manage land
- Variable payment: better result = higher reward
- Rewards previous good management

Positives:

- Overwhelming support for this approach
- Welcome the additional responsibility;
- Welcome the financial incentive to do more/better
- Welcome the chance to collaborate.

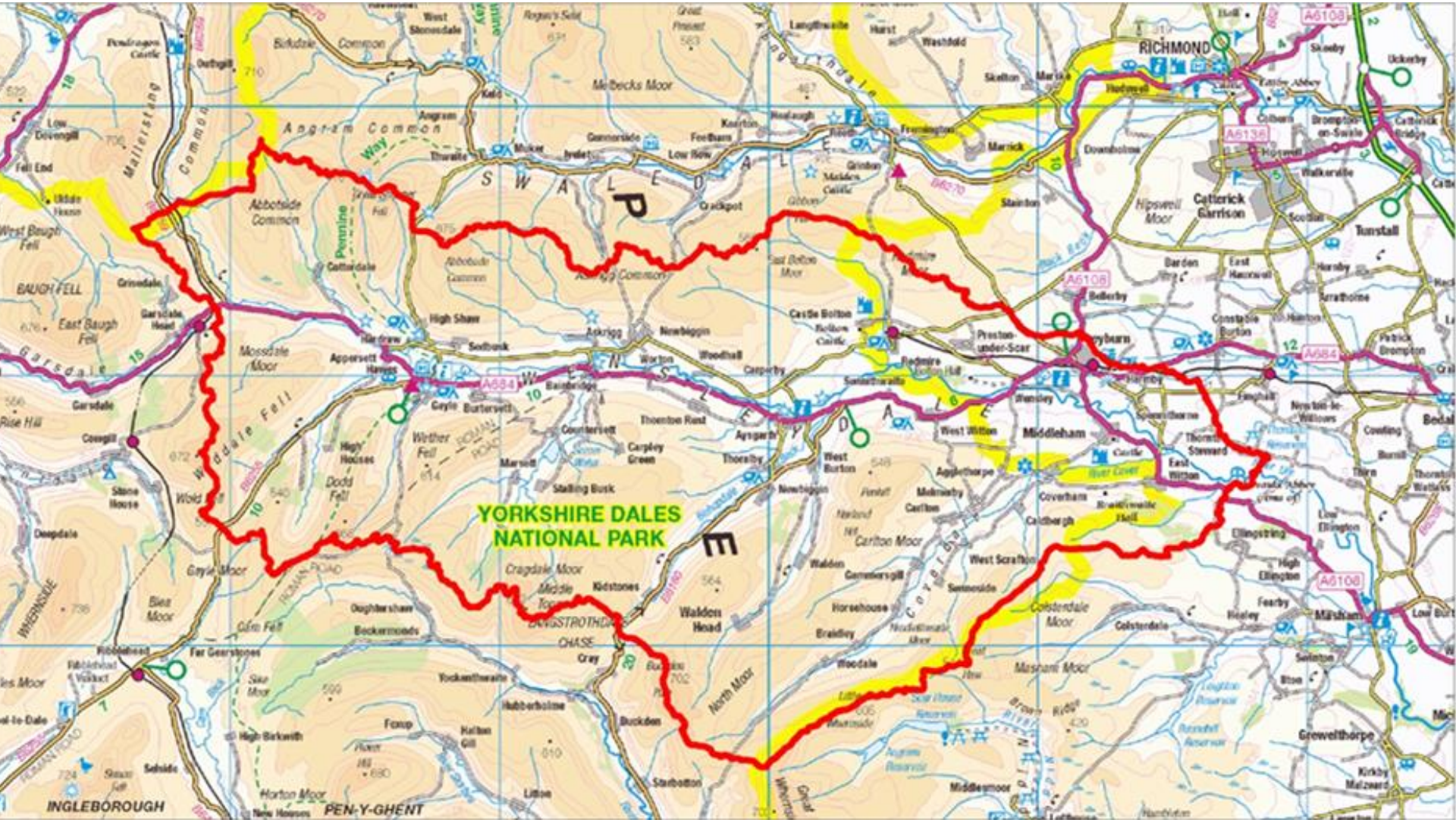
Concerns:

- I have to understand what 'they' want
- Its up to me to decide how to do it (do I really know?)
- How is risk shared between the government and me?
- Will I get good advice?
- Will the civil servants change how they inspect and think?
- What happens if we exit Europe?

Wensleydale pilot area



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Why Wensleydale #1?

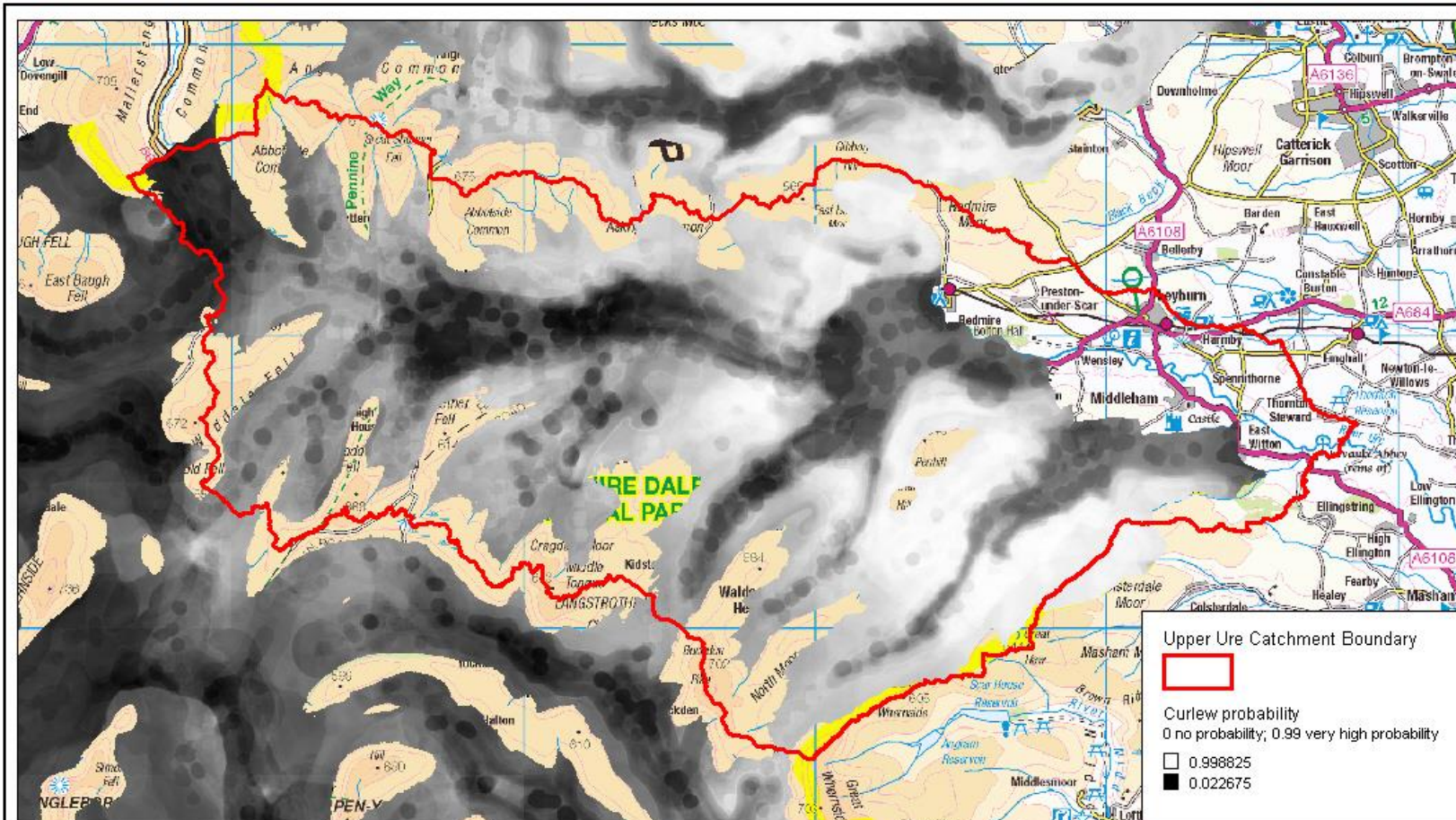


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Curlew Habitat Suitability Modelling

Scale 1:179054

Compiled by Briony Davey on 21 March 2016



Objective: To provide suitable feeding, nesting and chick rearing habitat for lapwing, curlew, snipe and redshank.

Payment based on the following results:

- Damp grassland containing wet features like flushes, open drains, scrapes.
- Rush cover (particularly soft rush) approx. 30% of field – scattered
- Varied sward height and changes to vegetation structure
- A range of plants and invertebrates
- No negative soil or water impacts
- Open site within a mosaic of grassland and moorland habitats

Elements that make up good quality wader habitat



Why Wensleydale #2?



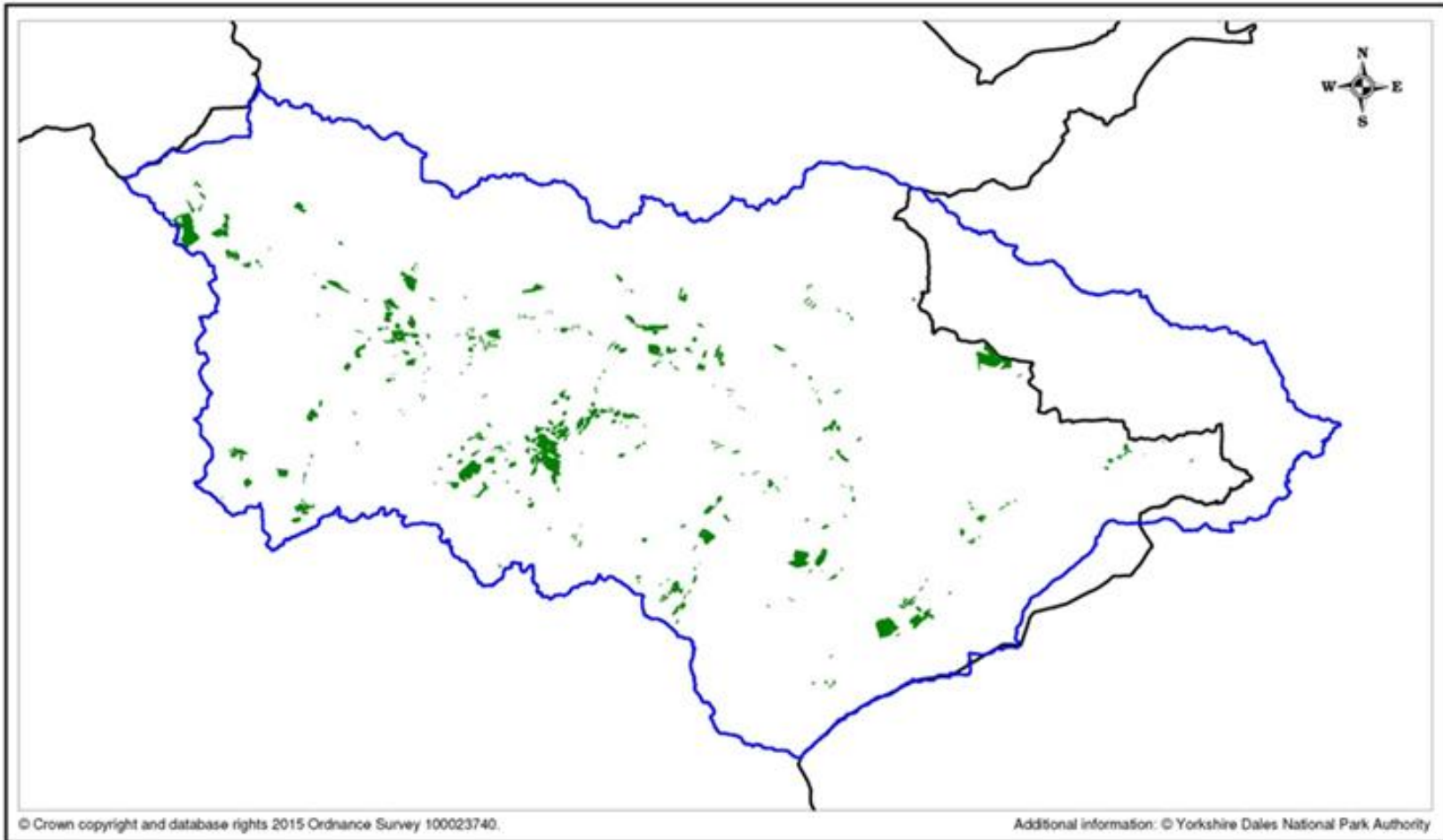
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Distribution of Hay Meadows

Green = Hay Meadows (G06 & G09) including mosaics (Source: YDNPA Habitat Map and NE PHI Vers.1)

Scale 1:176563

Compiled by Fran Graham on 24 March 2015



Objective: To produce good quality, herb-rich forage while benefiting healthy soils and pollinators

Payment based on the following results:

- High diversity and quantity of wildflowers and grasses
- Ratio of flowering plants to grasses in excess of 50:50
- Plants are able to flower and set seed annually
- Sward structure is varied
- Weeds and dominant grasses absent or very low cover
- Occurrence of bare soil is minimal
- Soils contain low levels of nutrients

High scoring meadows and pastures



What's been done so far

- Developed the scoring/payment system
- 19 farmers have signed up
- 41 sites in total
 - 36 ha of hay meadow
 - 153 ha of wading bird area
- Agreements last for 2 years
- Project being closely monitored by Government and EU

Affordable Housing

Peter Stockton
Head of Sustainable Development

National Park Management Plan

Gary Smith

Director of Conservation & Community

Questions
Any Other Business