

Practical experiences with payments for ecosystem services

Manchester Town Hall • Albert Square • Manchester • M2 5DB

Friday 29th November, 2013 • 10 am to 4 pm (refreshments and registration from 9:30 am)

Briefing note for participants

Background

Ecosystem services are things the natural environment does that benefit people. They range from the provision of places that improve people's health to the reduction of flood risk. Payments for ecosystem services (PES) is a term used to describe schemes through which the beneficiaries, or 'users', of ecosystem services provide payment to the stewards, or 'providers', of those services in order to protect or enhance them. PES needs to be delivered in the frame of an ecosystems approach; the methods and mindset to apply ecosystem service thinking in line with the principles of sustainable development.

The Best Practice Guide on Payments for Ecosystem Services provides a helpful introduction to PES, along with step-by-step advice for those designing or implementing PES schemes:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/payments-for-ecosystem-services-pes-best-practice-guide>

A series of innovative research pilots funded by Defra are helping to identify challenges and opportunities in the design, implementation and management of PES schemes (see table at end of this note).

Further information on PES is available at <http://ekn.defra.gov.uk/resources/tools-guidelines/pes/>

Purpose of the event

This event will allow people with practical experience of PES to share lessons learned with each other and with those who are new to PES. It is for those with hands-on experience and for those who want to know what PES can achieve for their sector.

Before the event

Please indicate by email to ekn@naturalcapitalinitiative.org.uk by 5 pm on Thursday 28th November:

- Which of the parallel sessions you would like to take part in (see overleaf).
- If you would not like your email address to be circulated to participants afterwards.

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Programme

(Refreshments and registration from 9:30 am)

10:00 Introduction	
10:00	Aims for the day (Bruce Howard, Ecosystems Knowledge Network)
10:05	Background to Defra pilots (Colin Smith, Defra)
10:10 Learning from recent and ongoing research and pilot studies	
10:10	Parallel sessions (facilitators: Steve Smith, URS; Tim Pagella, Welsh Environment Research Hub; and one other TBC). Participants need to select one of the following three sessions to participate in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Pilots with a lowland and rural focus B. Pilots with an upland focus C. Pilots with an urban and peri-urban focus <p>The sessions will include small group discussion to identify and share learning points.</p>
11:45	Feedback from parallel sessions (presented by session facilitators)
12:00 Standards and tools for the job	
12.00	Peatland Code (Mark Reed, Birmingham City University)
12.05	Woodland Carbon Code (Pat Snowdon, Forestry Commission)
12.15	Discussion in plenary: tools and standards required for PES scheme implementation
12:30 Sector perspective	
12:30	A landowner's perspective on PES (Derrick Wilkinson, Independent Economic Consultant)
12:45 Lunch	
13.40 PES Scheme scoping and design exercise	
13:40	Introduction – Paul Mahony and Jonathan Porter (Ecosystems Knowledge Network)
13:45	Group work. Using the Mersey Valley National Character Area as a case study to apply lessons learned on how to initiate and sustain a PES scheme.
14:40	Plenary sharing of ideas and issues identified in the groups.
14:55 Refreshments	
15.15 Addressing remaining challenges	
15:15	Plenary question and answer, with PES pilots on represented on a Panel. Where possible, participants to submit questions in advance. Chair: Steve Smith (URS) To include discussion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turning beneficiaries into buyers. • Roles for different sectors and professional groups in initiating PES.
15:55	Closing remarks, Bruce Howard (Ecosystems Knowledge Network)
16:00	Close

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Seminars

All participants are invited to participate in one of the following sessions:

Banqueting Room		Committee Room 3
Session A Pilots with a lowland focus	Session B Pilots with an upland focus	Session C Pilots with an urban and peri-urban focus
Bristol Avon Rivers Trust <i>BART</i> Fowey River <i>UEA</i> Cotswolds Catchment <i>FWAG South West/CCRI</i>	Pumlumon Project <i>Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust</i> Visitor Payback <i>Nurture Lakeland</i> South Pennines <i>Crichton Carbon Centre</i>	North Hull <i>Hull City Council</i> River Lea in Luton <i>Cranfield University</i> Leeds-Liverpool Canal <i>JBA Consulting</i> Poole Harbour <i>RSPB</i>

Please provide your preferences by 5 pm on Thursday 28th November. Please do this by reply to Anita Sedgewick at ekn@naturalcapitalinitiative.org.uk. Simply state your first and second choice seminars in the subject line or body text of the email, e.g. 1st = Urban/peri-urban, 2nd = Upland'. The organisers will do their best to accommodate your preferences.

After the event

The Ecosystems Knowledge Network team will produce a short report on the event and put links to resources referred to during the day on the Network website. Members of the Network are welcome to propose activities that will help share knowledge and experience about PES.

Principal contact on the day

Anita Sedgewick (Ecosystems Knowledge Network Project Officer) 07813 945563

The Ecosystems Knowledge Network

The Ecosystems Knowledge Network is a UK-wide resource for anyone wanting to share knowledge or learn about the practical benefits of taking an ecosystems approach in the management of land and water environments. It comprises more than 1,100 Members from the public, private, charity and academic sectors. The Network was initiated by Defra as one of the commitments of the HM Government Natural Environment White Paper (2011). It has recently entered a second phase, with sponsorship from Defra and Scottish Government.

Overview of Defra-sponsored payments for ecosystem services pilot projects, November 2013

Typology provided by Defra's Ecosystems Evidence Team with input from projects (November 2013)

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Pilot <i>Led by:</i>	Problem being addressed	Ecosystems/habitats	Ecosystem Services targeted	Providers	Buyers <i>Motivation</i>	Intermediaries	Delivery mechanisms	Payment mechanisms	Outcome/legacy	Key challenges	Presentation by	Parallel session
Fowey River UEA	Water quality	River catchment	• Water quality	Farmers	South West Water <i>To reduce treatment costs</i>	Westcountry Rivers Trust	Land management changes & farmers' capital investments	Reverse auction	Successful bidders performing actions	Difficulty engaging multiple bidders	Brett Day, University of East Anglia	Session A Lowland and rural
Hull Flood risk Land Trust	Flooding	Urban	• Flood risk; • Biodiversity; • Provisioning; • Landscape	Hull City Council, individual households	Water and Sewerage Undertaker, Hull City Council on households' behalf <i>To avoid upgrading sewer capacity; reduce flood risk</i>	Land Trust, technical specialists, Hull City Council, local non-governmental organisations	Large scale Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes (SUDS) & greenspace, and street-level SUDS	Council paying using multiple funding sources initially, then layered many-to-many	Council taking the two schemes to implementation	Layering complexity; inability-to-pay; different siloed local authority budgets	Steve Wragg, Hull City Council	Session C Urban and peri-urban
Poole Harbour RSPB	Nutrient discharge prohibiting new development	Harbour, catchment	• Water quality	Land managers	Developers or planning authorities <i>To allow development</i>	Not resolved; could be different organisations fulfilling different	Land management changes	Not resolved. Recent agreements involved mitigation on the same estate, and payment through	Ongoing discussions with West Dorset Council	Length of contracts, different regulation for farmers & developers;	Jack Rhodes, RSPB	Session C Urban and peri-urban
Bristol Avon Rivers Trust BART	Phosphorus discharge	River tributary; country estate	• Water quality; • Flood risk; • Biodiversity; • Provisioning	Tortworth Estate	Wessex Water <i>To reduce treatment costs</i>	Bristol Avon Rivers Trust	Integrated Constructed Wetlands	Potential business case for PES scheme from Wessex Water as part of Price Review 2014 (Ofwat)	Provide concept to apply to other wastewater contexts for water companies	Environment Agency issues on consenting Integrated Constructed Wetlands and flood risk	Mark Everard, on behalf of Bristol Avon Rivers Trust	Session A Lowland and rural
Canal and River Trust JBA Consulting	Multiple ecosystem service risk	Canals, banks, towpaths, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	• Flood risk; • Water quality; • Biodiversity; • Water supply	Canal and Rivers Trust, local authority	Developers, government <i>To facilitate multiple ecosystem service provision across network</i>	Local authority	Land & woodland management, increased dredging	Section 106, Community Infrastructure Levy, ELS, WGS, Conservation and Enhancement Scheme	Under consideration by the Canal and River Trust	Identifying baseline for services; payment mechanisms	Rachel Brisley, JBA Consulting	Session C Urban and peri-urban
Pumlumon Project Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust	Evaluation of place-based PES	SSSI, river catchment, woodland, scrub, ffrith, wetlands, peat bog, grassland	• Flood risk; • Biodiversity; • Carbon; • Recreation	Landowners	Visitors, Statutory Agencies, Corporate Sector <i>To protect and enhance biodiversity, store carbon, water quality/quantity</i>	Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust	Land management, improved access, visitor centre for bird watching	PES Scheme facilitated through Management agreements with Landowners for delivery of ecosystem services	Demonstration of success of place based approach and redefining role of landowners in providing ecosystem services	Future funding challenges beyond pilot stage	Clive Faulkner, Liz Lewis Reddy, Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust	Session B Upland
Peatland code Birmingham City University	Peatland restoration/reducing carbon emissions	Peatland (blanket bog)	• Water quality; • Biodiversity; • Carbon; • Recreation	Landowners/land managers	Business Corporate Responsibility funding <i>To fulfill CSR commitments</i>	Range of partnerships could be involved in pilot projects	Restoring peatland/range of possible land mgmt actions	Peatland code provides enabling mechanism	IUCN launch of pilot code in September in partnership with Defra and its delivery agencies	Robust peat and carbon metrics; extent to which businesses will fund pilot projects	Mark Reed (re. Steve Smith)	(presented in session on standards and tools)
Visitor Payback Birmingham City University	Restoration of blanket bogs and hay meadows, and woodland creation	Peat bog, uplands, moorland, woodland, hay meadow	• Water quality; • Carbon; • Recreation; • Landscape; • Pollination	Moors for the Future, Orton Community Woodland, Culgaith Tarn Wildflower Meadow	Visitors <i>To provide particular ecosystem services of interest</i>	Pennine Prospects, Nurture Lakeland	Land management	Donations through smartphone app	Suite of smart phone apps, helpsheets, learning network	Technical issues with app payment functionality, targeting environmental projects that provide measurable ecosystem services	Sophie Cade, Nurture Lakeland	Session B Upland
River Lea in Luton Cranfield University	Degraded river	Urban, river	• Water quality; • Biodiversity; • Carbon; • Recreation	Individual households; Luton Borough Council	Water companies; Luton Borough Council <i>To attract visitors, investment, raise property values, enhance biodiversity,</i>	Luton Borough Council, Environment Agency	Incorporation into planning, dealing with misconceptions, landscape	Local authority and/or charitable grants, utilities funding, agri-environment, corporate responsibility funding	Achieving 'buy in' from local authorities at decision makers level		Tim Brewer & Hayley Shaw, Cranfield University	Session C Urban and peri-urban
Cotswolds Catchment FWAG South West/Countryside and Community Research Institute (CCRI)	The need for a locally relevant PES that delivers for and with partners through the integrated local delivery framework	River catchment, ground and surface waters, biodiversity/ecology, AONB, and food producing farmland	• Water quality; • Biodiversity; • Carbon; • Landscape	Farmers and landowners	Multiple locally relevant buyers PES looking at landuse change in three areas Product, Practice and People	Farming and Integrated Environmental Local Delivery (FIELD) Advisers	Integrated local delivery framework www.ccri.ac.uk/ild	Multiple locally relevant sources linked to parish planning	Researched integrated local delivery framework	Securing funding for facilitation to release locally available funding.	Jenny Phelps	Session A Lowland and rural
South Pennines Ecosystem Services Area Case study Crichton Carbon Centre	1. Development of peat and carbon metrics 2. Approaches for aggregating buyers and accounting for multiple ES	Uplands, peatland	• Flood risk; • Water quality; • Biodiversity; • Carbon; • Recreation	Land owners/managers	Range of public and private sector <i>To deliver a range of ESs</i>	Range of options	Various options from layered to bundled proposed	Various options proposed	Development of peat and carbon metrics that form basis for peatland code	Options for layered and bundled provide a useful guide to some of the options but could be seen as rather theoretical - how to achieve in practice?	Emily Taylor, Crichton Carbon Centre	Session B Upland

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Travel information

Please note there are two entrances to the Town Hall, and both may be used for this event. The main entrance is on Albert Square. The second entrance, on Lloyd Street, has disabled access.

By rail: Manchester Town Hall is around a 15 minute walk from Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Victoria train stations.

By metro: A tram stops at St Peter's Square which is at the rear of the Town Hall. Information is available at <http://www.metrolink.co.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

By bus: Information is available at <http://www.tfgm.com/buses/Pages/default.aspx>

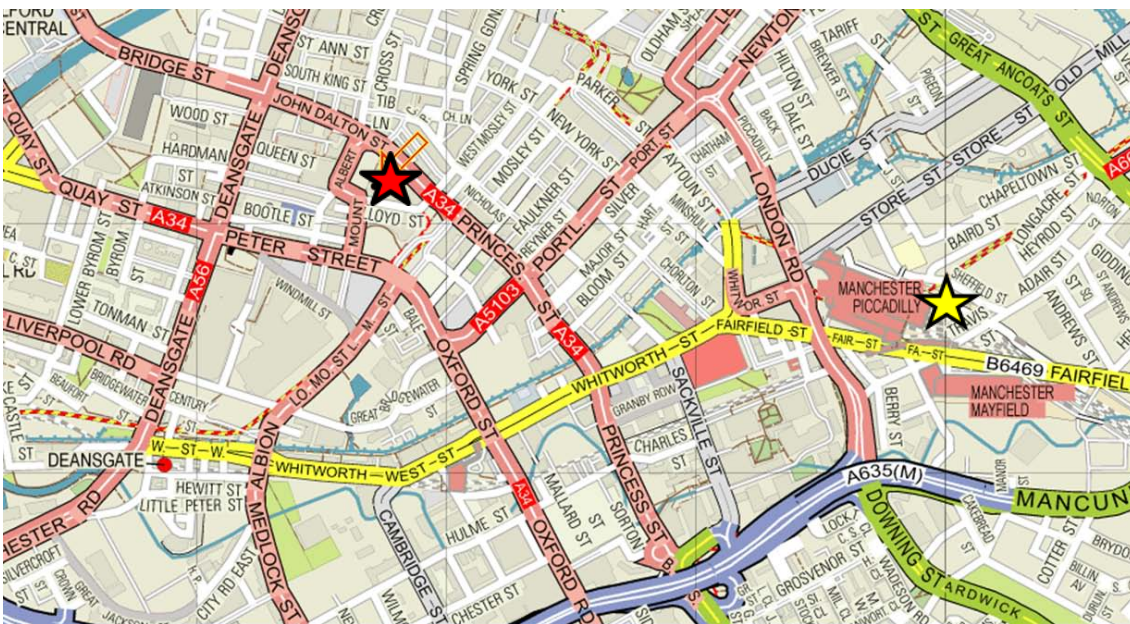
By car: Information on Park and Ride schemes is available at http://www.tfgm.com/journey_planning/ParkandRide/Pages/default.aspx

Venue address: Manchester Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester, M2 5DB

Map

Manchester Town Hall = 

Railway station = 



Participants (provisional)

Jayne Ashley	Lancashire Nature Partnership
Phillip Aspden	ARUP
Sian Atkinson	Woodland Trust
Rebecca Badger	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Emily Barker	Worcestershire County Council
Gideon Ben-Tovim	Merseyside Primary Care Trust
James Brass	City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Tim Brewer	Cranfield University
Rachel Brisley	JBA Consulting
Sophie Cade	Nurture Lakeland
Katherine Causer	Environment Agency
Mark Chadwick	Environment Agency
Mary Christie	Scottish Natural Heritage
Fernando Correia	Hull University Business School
Phil Cryle	eftec
Alun Davies	Natural Resources Wales
Luke Davies	Natural Resources Wales
Brett Day	University of East Anglia
Dave Dunlop	Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and Merseyside
Helen Dunn	Defra
Mark Everard	Environment Agency
Clive Faulkner	Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust
Gareth Foulkes	Natural Resources Wales
Richard Gardner	Cheshire Wildlife Trust
Robin Gray	Pennine Prospects
Norma Greene	Natural Resources Wales
Ben Gregory	Cheshire Wildlife Trust
Samantha Hagon	Lake District National Park Authority
Julie Harrald	The Geology Trusts
Bruce Howard	Ecosystems Knowledge Network
Dafydd Jarrett	NFU (National Farmers' Union) Cymru
Alan Jemmett	Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service / Liverpool City Region Local Nature Partnership
David Leach	Somerset Wildlife Trust
Alessandro Leonardi	University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies
Liz Lewis-Reddy	Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust
Jane Lusardi	Natural England
Paul Mahony	Countryside / Ecosystems Knowledge Network
Tim Mitcham	Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and Merseyside
Tim Pagella	Bangor University

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Jenny Phelps	Gloucestershire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
Jonathan Porter	Countryside / Ecosystems Knowledge Network
Robin Powell	Landmark Associates Ltd.
Jess Price	Sussex Wildlife Trust
Jack Rhodes	RSPB
Mark Reed	Birmingham City University
Dafydd Roberts	Natural Resources Wales
Sacha Rogers	Penny Anderson Associates
Ingo Schüder	Natural England
Anita Sedgewick	Ecosystems Knowledge Network
Anne Selby	Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and Merseyside
Hayley Shaw	Cranfield University
Paul Silcock	Cumulus Consultants Ltd
Colin Smith	Defra
Steve Smith	URS Consulting
Pat Snowdon	Forestry Commission
Mary-Ann Smyth	Crichton Carbon Centre
Adam Taylor	Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust
Emily Taylor	Crichton Carbon Centre
Chris Thompson	Defra
Martin Varley	Cheshire Wildlife Trust
Phillip Vincent	Worcestershire County Council
Derrick Wilkinson	Independent Consultant Economist
Steve Wragg	Hull City Council
Amanda Wright	Natural England
Robin Yorke	Chartered Surveyor
Guy Ziv	University of Leeds