



Scottish Borders Land Use Strategy Pilot
Interim Consultation Document Key Points Summary
August 2014

Prepared for Scottish Borders Council by
Derek Robeson, Tweed Forum - August 2014

Contents

Summary of key points from the Interim Consultation

Background to the LUS Pilot

Ways to engage with the LUS Pilot

Introduction

Results

End

Summary of key points from the Interim Consultation

As part of the ongoing Stakeholder Engagement programme with the Land Use Strategy (LUS) pilot, a questionnaire was sent to 200 stakeholders to consult on a number of key points raised during the consultation. This is a summary of the key points which have been identified. The summary points are broken down into the 13 questions/topic headings. These are listed in the Results section.

Background to the LUS Pilot

The LUS seeks a more integrated approach to land management in recognition of the increasing number of pressures and demands placed upon the countryside (our natural asset). This asset provides us with a wealth of benefits such as food; timber; drinking water; energy, employment and recreational areas. We increasingly demand more and more from the land by way of; food production, increased forest cover, more carbon storage, renewable energy projects, improved recreational opportunities and increases in biodiversity. We must optimize the ways in which we use land and face up to the difficult choices that this involves if we and future generations are to continue to benefit from it. The aim of the pilots is to try and create a regional framework, at a landscape scale, to consider how existing and future land uses can be managed in a collective and integrated way. In order to make difficult choices about the use of the land, we need to develop a tool that can be used to inform better decision making. Much of this framework will be map based, using an ecosystem approach, which identifies what nature provides society with e.g. clean water for drinking, woodland for carbon storage and flood management, soil for food production and wildflower grasslands for pollinating insects. Crucial to this process is involving people in decision making. The Land Use Strategy is non- regulatory and non-statutory and seeks to inform and influence, rather than control land use decision making.

Ways to engage with the LUS Pilot:

In person at Tweed Forum office:

Tweed Forum, South Court, Drygrange Steading, Melrose, TD6 9DJ

E-mail:

info@tweedforum.org

Telephone:

01896 849723

Post:

Tweed Forum, South Court, Drygrange Steading, Melrose, TD6 9DJ

Web:

<http://www.tweedforum.org/lus>

Introduction

200 Stakeholders who were consulted during the LUS pilot Stakeholder engagement programme were asked to provide comment on interim findings from that consultation process. 51 written responses were received.

Results

1 Do you agree that the Scottish Borders region is an appropriate scale for the Pilot?

Responses-

92% agreed or strongly agreed, 2% disagreed and 6% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (92%) of people were in agreement that the Borders was an appropriate scale for the pilot to operate at.

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

This will provide a good contextual tool for land managers within the catchment. Land use should be looked at nationally and internationally. The Scottish Borders Council area mirrors very closely the Tweed Catchment so it should work politically too. There is reasonable sense of local identity and sense of place in the Borders.

In disagreement-

No real issues

General comments-

It was thought that it would be a good idea to scale the pilot up and roll it out across Scotland. The Scottish Borders is in a way Rural Scotland in miniature.

2 Do you agree that river catchments are a sensible way to sub-divide the Scottish Borders?

Responses-

92% agreed or strongly agreed, 2% disagreed and 6% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (92%) of people were in agreement that the river catchments was a sensible way to sub-divide the Scottish Borders. There is no more logical way.

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

This is a logical approach in ecological and geographic terms. It is a long way from the source of the Tweed to the mouth of the river. There are many different land uses along the way.

In disagreement-

It is a useful geographic way to divide the area but limited use as regards policy-making as the land use areas vary more with altitude than catchment.

General comments-

It was sensible to split the Borders up into case study catchments as this helped tease out local issues which can be peculiar to catchments. People take more ownership of things this way. They feel they have been involved. The LUS approach is great as it highlights the connection between people and their activities and the land. This should lead to better environmental awareness.

3 Do you agree with these priority land uses?

Responses-

Farming-

86% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 10% didn't know or didn't answer.

Forestry-

86% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 10% didn't know or didn't answer.

Biodiversity-

74% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 22% didn't know or didn't answer.

Tourism-

78% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 18% didn't know or didn't answer.

Recreation-

74% agreed or strongly agreed, 6% disagreed and 20% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (between 74% and 86%) of people were in agreement about what the land use priorities were- Farming, Forestry, Biodiversity, Tourism and Recreation.

Summary of key points-

In agreement- As with all priorities, it is essential that balance is achieved. The short term economic benefits of commercial agriculture and forestry must be properly balanced against the long term public (and economic) benefit that investing in our natural capital can bring. Forestry needs to be planned with great care so it takes into account other uses/benefits which come from the land. Native tree planting should be as important (maybe even more so) than conifer planting which is detrimental to local biodiversity and the landscape. It is important to make space to local biodiversity species that have specific land management requirements.

In disagreement-

Perhaps urban land use, housing and commercial property should have been recognised within the LUS pilot. The supply of clean water as a resource should have been recognised. Renewable energy

should also be considered a land use alongside the others mentioned. There should perhaps be no distinction between tourism and recreation.

General comments-

Historical and cultural heritage is undervalued in the Borders. It is a key component of land use. It should have a higher value placed upon it as it has both tourism and recreation opportunities associated with it. Tourism and recreation tend to be a secondary bi-product of a primary land use such as farming or forestry. A big issue in the Borders is land use planning, whether for wind farms, new settlements, forestry and moorland management for farming and sporting estates. This really does affect how land is used. A key land use resource not really recognised is environmental education. Young people could be engaged with more. The Borders represents some of the best opportunities to introduce young people to the natural environment and ecosystem services work anywhere in Europe.

4 Do you agree with these opportunities?

Responses-

Farming-

86% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 10% didn't know or didn't answer.

Livestock farming-

80% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Woodland expansion-

80% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Flood protection etc-

82% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 14% didn't know or didn't answer.

Water resource-

84% agreed or strongly agreed, 0% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Enhanced biodiversity-

82% agreed or strongly agreed, 2% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Diffuse pollution control-

88% agreed or strongly agreed, 2% disagreed and 10% didn't know or didn't answer.

Carbon storage-

78% agreed or strongly agreed, 6% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Tourism-

82% agreed or strongly agreed, 6% disagreed and 12% didn't know or didn't answer.

Field sports-

66% agreed or strongly agreed, 14% disagreed and 20% didn't know or didn't answer.

Wind Farms-

54% agreed or strongly agreed, 28% disagreed and 18% didn't know or didn't answer.

Transport & Infrastructure-

74% agreed or strongly agreed, 10% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Countryside education-

84% agreed or strongly agreed, 0% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (between 74% and 86%) of people were in agreement about what the land use opportunities were- farming, woodland expansion, flood protection, water resources, enhanced biodiversity, diffuse pollution control, carbon storage, Transport and infrastructure, countryside education and tourism. Field sports and wind farms had less consensus of opinion as land use opportunities.

Summary of key points-**In agreement-**

The premise upon which society needs to adopt an ecosystems approach to land use is that elements of current practice are unsustainable. Land use opportunities will require sensitive implementation and some compromises, especially from primary use stakeholders. It should not be assumed that agricultural and woodland uses will always have higher weight than other uses. The protection, management and enjoyment of the historic environment is a key opportunity which is underutilised. Because all land is managed by man, all land use should be seen as historic.

In disagreement-

Woodland expansion as stated may not be an appropriate land use. It could be if it were planned on a sustainable basis- right species, right places and well designed. Restructuring of existing conifers to provide a more diverse woodland resource with multiple benefits should be considered as an opportunity. Transport and infrastructure probably only fits in as an opportunity if urban land use is considered. Badly managed grouse moors are not compatible with sustainable land use.

General comments-

All renewable energy opportunities should be looked at as well as wind energy. The arable and beef sectors are already well represented within the LUS pilot area. There is however perhaps not enough consideration given to other land use opportunities. Transport networks should seek to focus on the low carbon economy and seek to improve green networks. The benefits of wind farms in the Borders is increasingly being questioned. The use of fibre optic lines and radio towers for wireless transmission should be explored. There could be opportunities to expand both arable and livestock farming, not just sustain it.

5 Do you agree that the consultation process has been effective in this respect to date?

Land owners-

50% agreed or strongly agreed, 2% disagreed and 48% didn't know or didn't answer.

Farmers-

51% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 45% didn't know or didn't answer.

Foresters-

22% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 66% didn't know or didn't answer.

Statutory agencies-

34% agreed or strongly agreed, 0% disagreed and 66% didn't know or didn't answer.

Rural business advisors-

22% agreed or strongly agreed, 0% disagreed and 78% didn't know or didn't answer.

Councillors-

23% agreed or strongly agreed, 0% disagreed and 77% didn't know or didn't answer.

Local communities-

31% agreed or strongly agreed, 14% disagreed and 55% didn't know or didn't answer.

Recreation-

14% agreed or strongly agreed, 8% disagreed and 83% didn't know or didn't answer.

Tourism-

14% agreed or strongly agreed, 12% disagreed and 74% didn't know or didn't answer.

Business-

13% agreed or strongly agreed, 10% disagreed and 77% didn't know or didn't answer.

Renewables-

12% agreed or strongly agreed, 8% disagreed and 80% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (between 74% and 86%) of people were in agreement about what the land use opportunities were- farming, woodland expansion, flood protection, water resources, enhanced biodiversity, diffuse pollution control, carbon storage, Transport and infrastructure, countryside education and tourism. Field sports and wind farms had less consensus of opinion as land use opportunities.

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

Half of the farmers and land owners consulted felt there had been adequate information circulated of the LUS pilot process. This number fell to quarter for Foresters. One third of government agencies felt adequately engaged, with two thirds unaware whether other sectors had been engaged enough. The various meetings were very well run and informative.

In disagreement-

Some farmers claimed they hadn't heard much about the LUS process. The land use strategy needs some hard academic analysis. There should have been more urban people at the meetings. There appeared to be a gap between who the project team needed to engage with (farmers/land managers) and some members of the public (communities). There was room for improvement with community engagement. Need to engage more with hoteliers and publicans. Numbers attending some meetings was disappointing. Community engagement could have been more widespread.

General comments-

It is difficult to answer this as who defines what adequate is? There perhaps should have been more dialogue with conservation bodies. The meetings were generally thought provoking. People with a real interest in land management attended these meetings and contributed to discussions. There should be more meetings of this nature as great strides forward can be taken when people sit and discuss common problems. It was recognised that it is hard to engage communities on a large scale with a project such as this. It would have been good to have got more discussion between town dwellers and country dwellers. It would have been good to have had a great age range and social class range at the events.

6 Do you agree that the framework could be useful in assisting the targeting of locally important measures within SRDP?

Responses-

79% agreed or strongly agreed, 9% disagreed and 12% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (79%) of people were in agreement that the framework could be useful in assisting the targeting of locally important measures within SRDP?

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

This is an ideal tool to target SRDP, it makes SRDP spend more publicly accountable as well. It is important that the consultation is continued into the more specific policy-making area. So far it has been very broad based. Anything that we can do to highlight the opportunities in rural Scotland, and help realize the massive potential that rural Scotland has, can only be a good thing. In my opinion rural Scotland is often overlooked in terms of investment, and political focus. Once developed further, the Scottish Borders Land Use Strategy could play a vital role in targeting where SRDP money should be spent in the future. It will be particularly important in identifying strategic projects where collaborative actions are required from different land owners and managers will achieve most effect from their actions.

In disagreement-

To date the experience of providers (regulators) and users (deliverers) been that SRDP has been over-complicated and un-wieldy; some say unfit for purpose. The added complexity and finesse required will challenge all participants very heavily. Many people whom the measures will affect will have had very little to do with this. (As they have not heard about it/ haven't time to look into it/ don't feel that their views will be deemed as important enough.) But the outcomes of it will then affect them and the future of their businesses greatly.

General comments-

There is the potential that the LUS could/ should inform SRDP measures. This depends upon the rigour and robustness of the analysis that underwrites the strategy. There needs to be more joined up thinking in targeting changes in land use and this would appear to be the mechanism to do so, if proposed measures can also be enforced if necessary. One of the crucial things is to engage the land managers who are most enthusiastic about enhancing biodiversity etc as they will deliver best value for money and do the best work.

7 Do you agree that the framework could be used to assist these organisations to target their efforts to work in partnership with land managers to promote multiple benefits from land use?

Responses-

82% agreed or strongly agreed, 2% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (82%) of people were in agreement that the framework could be used to assist these organisations to target their efforts to work in partnership with land managers to promote multiple benefits from land use?

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

NGOs have a valuable role to play in the implementation of an eco-system services approach and the delivery of the Land use strategy but it is critical that because of the wide public benefits that will result, measures are put in place to ensure that land managers, either by carrot or stick, are encouraged to implement sustainable land use in line with the Scottish LUS & management on an eco-system services basis. Environmental NGOs have a hugely significant role to play in facilitation of government driven policies. Certainly worth attempting to do so.

In disagreement-

Too much complication. Whenever asked "What will this mean for me (a small farmer)?" I am told "It's early days yet; we'll have to wait and see". I think the early days are over and, indeed, the easy part of the work. Now is time to help the farmers and land managers see how and why they should engage in the process. As a starting point for a discussion, yes, on a voluntary basis but not if it is imposed as a must do.

General comments-

It is critical that communication on this, with land managers is pitched correctly. It would always be sensible for the various agencies to coordinate and work in harmony. Land managers and owners need to be approached by knowledgeable and skilful, experienced people if they are to be persuaded to give up some of their resources or control. It would be good to know that it was reasonably representative of the Borders community. Benefits should be promoted but not enforced.

8 Do you agree that the framework could be used to guide these programmes?

Responses-

70% agreed or strongly agreed, 4% disagreed and 28% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (70%) of people were in agreement that the framework could be used to guide these programmes?

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

Better quality and quantity of information should lead to better decisions. The mapping of land uses and ecosystem services should provide clearer and better reasoning. Yes, multiple benefits is a key objective. It is vital that all the different programmes 'interact' with each other and are not in 'conflict'. Leaving aside maritime matters, linking LEADER funding to the LUS will help to give weight to the latter and help the LEADER programme deliver the objectives on which it is targeted. Any tool that can underpin applications with facts have to be a good thing.

In disagreement-

It could, but again wisdom is needed to watch out for hidden agendas and pitfalls. Again, the framework could be used to guide these programmes but should not be used to exclude applicants with genuine and sustainable projects.

General comments-

The land owner and manager community are rightly worried about land reform. At every LUS meeting we have been told this is nothing to do with land reform. To the extent that this is correct (and I am a sceptic) there is a major leadership challenge to correct this perception. Where are the leaders?

Having a detailed strategic look at multiple benefits from land use can clearly benefit LEADER priorities. However as the Borders LAG Local Development Strategy for 2014-2020 has (?) now been largely drafted, it seems more likely that the Scottish Borders Pilot LUS is more likely to be used in setting priorities in 2020, as suggested for the SRDP in Question 6 (and LEADER is part of SRDP in any case). Not sure about a land-based strategy affecting a Maritime Fisheries Fund (unless, for example, it removes salmon netting on the coastal approaches to the Tweed to allow more sporting fishery upstream) but also presume the LUS could potentially influence EU Structural fund investment from 2020.

LUS covering the whole country would be required to provide equality of application. Greater consideration of the possible implications of this use in terms of the operation of CAP would be essential to avoid unintended consequences.

SBC affords us a high degree of accountability and some degree of transparency in administering these very valuable programmes. Tweed Forum represents a narrow and privileged group of interests and doesn't have the same accountability or transparency as SBC. This is bound to influence the framework. It would also be at odds with LEADER's professed 'bottom-up' approach.

Furthermore, 'guide' is very vague. People might understand 'help to influence', but you may mean 'steer'. So this question is misleading.

9 Do you agree that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority?

Responses-

78% agreed or strongly agreed, 6% disagreed and 16% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (78%) of people were in agreement that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority?

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

The framework needs to be tested against the formally adopted planning policy before it can have a role and I presume this has been built into the later stages of the project. It is critical that the framework is developed such that it becomes as integral part of planning policy. On this basis there will not be the opportunity for the two to contradict each other. Better quality and quantity of information should lead to better decisions. Having land use strategy maps available should provide a level of protection for some of our most valuable sites that may not have been available before. This allows us to both value and protect our natural capital. It should not only help to inform the local planning authority but also those taking planning decisions in the Scottish Government. For the SG to ignore the LUS when considering an appeal against a local planning decision which has been to some extent guided by the LUS will undermine the LUS. That's why it is essential that Regional Land Use Strategies are signed up to by the SG on behalf of all SG Departments.

In disagreement-

It could and will be used as a tool. But a hammer is a tool. And the farmer / land manager communities are not universally admiring of the planning process.

General comments-

As the framework will be 'non-statutory and non-regulatory in nature' it should not be used in the development management process to determine the outcome of planning applications.

As long as the LUS is truly integrative then it should be a valuable resource for influencing the planning process including Local Development and Community Plans. As so much of current land use is covered by general permitted development status (currently has just been revised <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2014/142/contents/made>) it is important that LUS addresses aspects of GPD that can't be addressed through the planning system - e.g. hill tracks, destruction of environmental assets not statutorily designated and access provision. Much depends on the detail. So far the LUS has been kept at arms' length, no closer than sub-catchment. This may need to change. Much depends on the detail. So far the LUS has been kept at arms' length, no closer than sub-catchment. This may need to change.

10 Do you agree that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority?

Responses-

70% agreed or strongly agreed, 6% disagreed and 24% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The vast majority (70%) of people were in agreement that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority?

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

We very much appreciate the inclusion of the Historic Land Use Value pilot in the wider LUS framework as an incredibly positive step forward. There should be a greater amount of dialogue between those that wish to increase access to land and those that wish to restrict it for certain reasons. Increased dialogue between both parties means there is a chance for an increase in respect by both parties for each other and compromises may be found. It is much easier to spot potential for recreational access when it is mapped alongside other land uses.

It would seem sensible to use the framework where it adds to our knowledge base and is likely to guide better decisions. Habitat connectivity should be looked at side by side with planning of core paths etc. To enable the general public to be able to interact with the landscape whilst disturbing it as little as possible.

In disagreement-

More effort required to raise awareness of the land use framework amongst all the groups and communities that are involved in the other recreational and cultural activities.

General comments-

There is a noticeable lack of mention of biodiversity. The Council has a Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) and this engages with a broad partnership taking in many interests. It is hoped that the LUS would have a useful input to the implementation of the LBAP and, conversely, that the LUS take account of the LBAP as it is developed further.

There has to be much more engagement with these interests in developing the LUS before it is used as a significant source of guidance and information on strategies and plans that affect these interests. The datasets for the draft LUS are seriously lacking good quality information about recreational activity and opportunities.

11 How could the Framework potentially be used to inform the work of these bodies?

Responses- There was no percentile data gathered.

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

The future heritage body for Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland, will have a key role in advising both the public and private sector on the importance of the historic environment as a key component of the overall environment. The LUS framework will be a great aid to them in better targeting advice and highlighting opportunities.

The framework and mapping tool could be effective in dealing with issues such as flood prevention, and flood risk. If the agencies etc named above can use the information gained, in coordination with interested parties, to achieve a more cohesive approach to the issues identified as opportunities or potential problems, this can only be to the betterment of rural Scotland. At present approaches, policies and strategies from the agencies etc named above can be too fragmented, and at times contradictory. If the framework can identify a more unified approach to opportunities and problems that would be very beneficial to the Borders. Assuming that it is well justified, the framework should help inform all decisions relating to land use and land use change. (One of the big issues for the strategy to address is that there are important drivers relating to climate change and the needs of the wider society that suggest major adjustments to the pattern of land use will be required. This will, or rather should, challenge the notion of 'business as usual' which is implicit in many of the current support mechanisms.). The more accurate information, the better, for all bodies.

Each of these statutory agencies should be signed up to the regional land use strategy and be required to take it into account in all aspects of their work that significantly affect the use of the land. There is no point in developing a LUS if any of these agencies are free to ignore it. If they consider it mistaken or incorrect on a local issue then they should provide the evidence and seek to have the LUS amended. In this way the LUS will be improved and its credibility will grow. At a time when funding for National Bodies is under great pressure, tools such as opportunity maps can ensure scarce resources are used in ways it provides the greatest benefit. But again it has to be used with great sensitivity and a good dose of common sense. It should not be used in a rigid and dogmatic way which ends up being used to say ""The framework says NO!""

In disagreement-

The development of the LUS will have been strongly influenced by those with an existing interest in land management be those landowners, farmers or foresters. The role of the Scottish Government & its agencies is to implement policy from the Scottish & UK parliaments and the EU. This should not be compromised by a reliance on a strategy developed by the former group unless this strategy is subject to a rigorous review & formally adopted as a statutory document.

If there is a considered plan of how land use might change and develop, that will inform all such discussions and avoid ad hoc decisions being made by whoever happens to become involved in the conversation.

General comments-

Mapping exercise should show up areas where multiple benefits can be derived from specific policies. A really successful "strategy" will require more collaboration and less regulation.

12 Do you think the Framework could assist with the Scottish Borders Economic Strategy 2020?

Responses-

64% agreed or strongly agreed, 0% disagreed and 22% didn't know or didn't answer.

Interpretation-

The smaller majority (64%) of people were in agreement that the framework could assist with the Scottish Borders Economic Strategy 2020?

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

The framework has a role to play in informing decisions that will promote sustainable economic development and conversely prevent unsustainable development but it needs to be identified which programme has primacy. Land use is central to the borders economic strategy, better planning will assist with its delivery. Would help to inform and encourage a "joined up" approach to policy making which is often lacking. Resultant policy may be more sensible, considered, targeted and robust. In the Borders it is vital that the framework is taken into consideration in thinking about economic development because land use is still a major component of our economy.

In disagreement-

No obvious comments.

General comments-

The Borders with its limited opportunities for revenue streams need wide-spread co-operation to maximise its income and control its revenue spend. Paths lead to tourist accommodation lead to jobs, Paths lead to cafes and pubs for walkers lead to jobs, Food for walkers leads to farms jobs, Farms and farm shops bring in tourists lead to jobs, More tourists need more transport leads to jobs. This should provide valuable information to the economic development of the Borders - identifying opportunities for tourism, recreation and viable sustainable communities.

There needs to be a more holistic and integrated view of economic planning so that the different silos work together. The SBES could be a mechanism for bringing landed interests into discussion with other parts of the business picture, especially tourism, sport and culture.

13 Do you have any further comments?

Responses- There was no percentile data gathered.

Summary of key points-

In agreement-

The LUS Pilot is a really useful concept. Let's hope it gets the ongoing support it needs to take it to the next level: 2015- 2020. It must continue to develop over the coming years. I think it is important that the framework when implemented fully should be available to as wide an audience as possible. As a farmer it would be great for planning environmental work if I could see how we fit in the bigger picture. It should not just be available to large or National Bodies."

In disagreement-

The document does not talk about the whole suite of renewable technologies but instead focuses solely on wind farms. There is a suggestion that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority – as we discussed before I think this could potentially be detrimental.

How this document will be used by Scottish Government, planning authorities etc should be clarified to ensure that the document is fit for purpose and does not result in unnecessary duplication of effort.

This sounds like a very expensive way to come up with a list of statements, which will then be used to beat rural residents and businesses around the head with, every time they wish to change or do something. It will probably end up affecting the rural community in ways they cannot yet imagine. If common sense, honesty, openness and good communication between stakeholders were promoted instead, this framework would be completely unnecessary. Try talking, we all live in this beautiful country, we all want to preserve it. I do not know that the Pilot has taken any account of human population growth in the region or nationally. This single factor drives many of the pressures on land use. I do not know of any part of the consultation that has sought objective population growth estimates. I do not see any attempt to acknowledge that land use constraints and opportunities vary with population size. I do not see any indication that knowledgeable individuals have been consulted about the notion of an optimum range of values for population numbers in relation to land use at any time point or in a dynamic sense during the course of foreseeable sustainable economic growth. (Perhaps 'sustainable economic growth' is an oxymoron.)

Population size can raise extremely difficult social, political and practical questions. The motives for asking these questions are often misunderstood. It is a practical issue that has to be addressed in land use analyses. For example, the answers to some of the questions above will vary with population size. If the population issues are indeed omitted then this analysis is seriously flawed and its usefulness is very limited. I hope not.

This document has NOT filtered down to grass roots levels, and you are missing out on useful insight as a consequence.

Are we simply adding complication to a complex situation?

General comments-

Biodiversity should have a higher profile throughout the process of developing the LUS. Interaction with LUS so far has been very positive and we look forward to the final results. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We were impressed by the attendance at meetings and the level of engagement. We learned a lot from the two meetings we attended.

The attendees were all positive in their contributions. I got the feeling that they are not used to having their opinions sought, and enjoyed the opportunity to put forward their views.

I am concerned that the LUS becomes a formal planning tool and is used in a negative way rather than in a positive informative way. If this formal status is intended considerable more consultation is required.

I hope the level of detail is sufficient to allow reasonable and sensible interpretation and that local differences are facilitated with practical built-in flexibility.

Scale is the issue. If we are serious about getting the best from the land we will need to look in detail at each area of land and consider how it could be managed to deliver multiple benefits. Map-based information will be part of this - but there is also a need for quality advice and education. Hopefully the process that has been started will continue to develop to the point that this multiple benefit approach becomes routine.

Conclusion

The interim Consultation Document Key Points summary shows that stakeholders are overwhelmingly supportive of the aims of the Scottish Borders Land Use Strategy Pilot.

Acknowledgements

With thanks to Scottish Borders Council and Dundee University

End of Report

Derek Robeson
Tweed Forum
August 2014

Appendix 1: Interim Consultation Document Statistics

Appendix 2: Interim Consultation Document Comments



Scottish Borders Land Use Strategy Pilot

Appendix 1: Interim Consultation Document Statistics

200 Stakeholders who had been consulted during the LUS pilot Stakeholder engagement were asked to provide comment on interim findings from that consultation process. 51 written responses were received. A summary of the statistics are provided below.

1. Do you agree that the Scottish Borders region is an appropriate scale for the pilot?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
21	26	1	0	1	2
41%	51%	2%	0%	2%	4%

25 individual comments received.

2. Do you agree that river catchments are a sensible way to sub-divide the Scottish Borders?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
20	24	1	0	1	5
39%	47%	2%	0%	2%	10%

24 individual comments received.

3. Do you agree with these priority land uses?

Farming

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
29	15	2	0	0	5
57%	29%	4%	0%	0%	10%

Forestry

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
17	27	2	0	0	5
33%	53%	4%	0%	0%	10%

Biodiversity

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
21	16	1	1	6	5
41%	33%	2%	2%	12%	10%

Tourism

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
14	26	2	0	4	5
28%	50%	4%	0%	8%	10%

Recreation

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
14	24	3	0	5	5
27%	47%	6%	0%	10%	10%

50 individual comments received.

4. Do you agree with these opportunities?

Arable farming

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
24	20	1	0	3	3
47%	39%	2%	0%	6%	6%

Livestock farming

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
22	21	0	0	5	3
41%	38%	4%	0%	10%	6%

Woodland expansion

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
19	22	4	0	3	3
38%	42%	4%	0%	10%	6%

Flood protection

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
22	21	0	1	4	3
43%	41%	0%	2%	8%	6%

Water resources

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
28	15	0	0	5	3
55%	29%	0%	0%	6%	10%

Enhanced biodiversity

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
21	21	1	0	4	4
41%	41%	2%	0%	8%	8%

Diffuse pollution control

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
22	23	0	1	1	4
43%	45%	0%	2%	2%	8%

Carbon storage

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
22	18	3	0	3	5
43%	35%	6%	0%	6%	10%

Tourism

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
18	24	3	0	2	4
35%	47%	6%	0%	4%	8%

Field sports

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
11	23	6	1	6	4
22%	44%	12%	2%	12%	8%

Wind farms

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
7	21	8	6	4	5
14%	40%	16%	12%	8%	10%

Transport and infrastructure

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
19	19	4	1	4	4
37%	37%	8%	2%	8%	8%

Countryside education

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
24	19	0	0	4	4
47%	37%	0%	0%	8%	8%

48 individual comments received.

5. Do you agree that the consultation process has been effective in this respect to date?

Land owners

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
9	16	1	0	16	8
18%	32%	2%	0%	32%	16%

Farmers

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
6	20	2	0	14	9
12%	39%	4%	0%	27%	18%

Foresters

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
6	10	1	0	25	8
12%	20%	2%	0%	50%	16%

Statutory agencies

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
8	9	0	0	25	9
16%	18%	0%	0%	49%	17%

Rural business advisors

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
3	8	0	0	31	9
6%	16%	0%	0%	61%	17%

Councillors

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
5	7	0	0	31	7
10%	14%	0%	0%	62%	14%

Local communities

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
4	12	3	4	21	9
8%	23%	6%	8%	40%	17%

Recreation

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
3	4	1	3	31	9
6%	8%	2%	6%	61%	17%

Tourism

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
4	3	2	4	30	9
8%	6%	4%	8%	57%	17%

Business

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
1	5	3	2	30	10
2%	10%	6%	4%	57%	21%

Renewables

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
2	4	1	3	33	9
4%	8%	2%	6%	63%	17%

30 individual comments received.

6. **Do you agree that the framework could be useful in assisting the targeting of locally important measures within SRDP?**

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
16	24	5	0	2	4
31%	47%	10%	0%	4%	8%

28 individual comments received.

7. **Do you agree that the framework could be used to assist these organisations to target their efforts to work in partnership with land managers to promote multiple benefits from land use?**

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
12	30	1	0	3	5
23%	59%	2%	0%	6%	10%

28 individual comments received.

8. **Do you agree that the framework could be used to guide these programmes?**

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
14	22	1	1	9	5
27%	42%	2%	2%	17%	10%

19 individual comments received.

9. Do you agree that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
16	24	2	1	4	4
31%	47%	4%	2%	8%	8%

25 individual comments received.

10. Do you agree that the framework could be used to inform these strategies?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
14	22	3	0	8	3
27%	44%	6%	0%	16%	6%

20 individual comments received.

11. How could the framework potentially be used to inform the work of these bodies?

See comments.

32 individual comments received.

12. Do you think the framework could assist with the Scottish Borders Economic Strategy 2020?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
10	21	0	0	16	6
19%	40%	0%	0%	30%	11%

18 individual comments received.

13. Do you have any further comments?

See comments.

26 individual comments received.

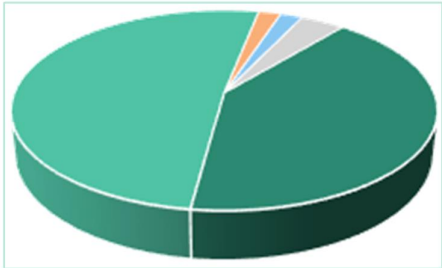


Scottish Borders Land Use Strategy Pilot

Appendix 2: Interim Consultation Document Comments

1 Do you agree that the Scottish Borders region is an appropriate scale for the pilot?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
21	26	1	0	1	2
41%	51%	2%	0%	2%	4%



COMMENTS

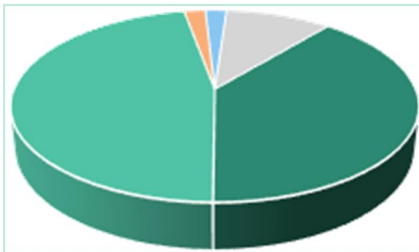
1	There is a logical connection with local government and the town & country planning system.
4	Yes, however, I would like to see the pilots "scaled-up" in future and be rolled out across Scotland
5	The Scottish Borders has a wide range of landscapes, from the rocky coastline of Berwickshire, through the arable lands of the Merse to the uplands of the Lammermuirs, Teviotdale, Liddesdale and Peeblesshire. These areas all have different and often demands on their use and so the area should be a good test bed for developing the LUS.
6	This will provide for a more contextualised approach than a farm size scale can, though being able to drill into the information at a smaller scale would be useful as an eventual tool.
9	Scottish Borders, ie basically Tweed catchment, has every type of land and land-use from high hills to seashore. It also has Tweed Forum, a unique organisation with 23 years' history of engaging with the widest community of land-use interests for the widest possible benefit.
10	I agree. The geography of the region I think is also helpful as a pilot, as it has uplands and coastal lands.

11	Land use should be looked at nationally, if not globally. Often within a country there are intensively urban areas and intensively farmed areas and extensive areas which no one wants to live in and aren't viable for farming. Looking at one small area of the country may mean changing the use of parts of it to something which would have been better placed in another area of the country.
15	There is a strong case for any adopted Land Use Strategy to be on a 'National' basis. However, for the purposes of a pilot, Scottish Borders should be a large enough area to explore the issues.
16	Using a political boundary has the risk of not covering a discrete geographic area or too complex a region. However Scottish Borders covers much of the Tweed catchment making a discrete area to work in and in particular builds on the work already done by the Tweed Forum.
17	The SBC region seems to be a good balance between a manageable area and one that covers enough different types of land use.
18	There is a strong case for any adopted Land Use Strategy to be on a 'National' basis. However, for the purposes of a pilot, Scottish Borders should be a large enough area to explore the issues.
21	Any smaller and it would have been difficult to get the same variety of land-uses. Any larger and the work would have been too much to achieve in the time-scale provided.
22	The SBC region seems to be a good balance between a manageable area and one that covers enough different types of land use.
27	Yes, it makes sense to use a scale such as the Scottish Borders where the river catchment and local authority boundary are very similar
28	Providing there is a good model for dealing with input and output to and from the Region and that beyond the pilot there is the real prospect of modelling relevant aspects of land use across multiple scales (Region, Nation, Global). Not trivial.
29	Yes, through obviously it does not take into account the west of Scotland
32	This is an area of stunning, varied landscape with a small scattered population. The land is owned mostly by a few large landholders and local people have relatively little opportunity to have a say in its management. Yet local people know their local areas government agencies, planners do not. They represent an un-tapped resource.
37	The Borders was well chosen as it has a well-established boundary shared by most agencies and therefore relatively easy to get datasets covering the region.
38	Yes. You certainly don't want to mix the Scottish borders with anywhere like Penicuik, which has a completely different mindset and list of priorities... that mistake was made with political catchment areas!! The Borders is diverse enough, but like-minded enough, to work well together.
41	The Scottish Borders is in a way Rural Scotland in miniature, all land uses and types (with the possible exception of montane) are represented, from arable cropping areas to areas of forestry, hill ground and coast.

46	Yes, there is a reasonably coherent sense of regional identity, and the Tweed catchment makes sense for an ecosystems approach. However, it's a big area for the pilot team to cover in such a short time, particularly since east-west road links aren't great, and this needs to be recognised.
47	The area has enough variety to test the mapping tool in detail.
49	The Scottish Borders region covers a large area with many diverse features and landscapes, making it the perfect area to run the pilot.
50	The Scottish Borders has a wide range of landscapes, from the rocky coastline of Berwickshire, through the arable lands of the Merse to the uplands of the Lammermuirs, Teviotdale, Liddesdale and Peeblesshire. These areas all have different and often demands on their use and so the area should be a good test bed for developing the LUS.
51	There is huge potential for the development of tourism, given the region's "natural assets"(scenery, wildlife, flora) and its history.

2 Do you agree that river catchments are a sensible way to sub-divide the Scottish Borders?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
20	24	1	0	1	5
39%	47%	2%	0%	2%	10%



COMMENTS

1	This is a logical approach in ecological & geographic terms.
6	The river catchments are equally useful for determining human interactions with the landscape (cultural services) as past and present human settlements and routeways have typically been sited on or near waterways.
8	Useful geographic way to divide the area but limited use as regards policy-making as the land use areas vary more with altitude than catchment.
9	Quite simply, there is no more logical or better way.
10	Yes, it is a natural way to sub-divide the area.
15	Generally yes, catchments are logical sub divisions but an open mind needs to be kept on this as other units such as 'Landscape character types', habitat or soil types or indeed elevations AOD could also be useful for some criteria.
16	Given the way the border hills, in many areas, act as barriers to communications and often form estate and other ownership boundaries, it makes sense to use river catchments as the sub-regions for study focus. These areas such as Ettrick Valley have a discrete historic and current community identity making it more sensible for being inclusive in dealing with communities beyond the aggregations of the Border towns to include the full gamut of settlements.

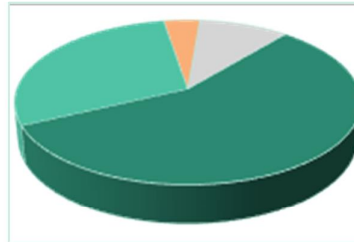
17	These are natural boundaries that are well defined and not subject to the irrelevant pressures of most other boundaries. There is perhaps a need to further divide some rivers along their lengths given the changes that occur with the maturity of the river.
18	Generally yes, catchments are logical sub divisions but an open mind needs to be kept on this as other units such as 'Landscape character types', habitat or soil types or indeed elevations AOD could also be useful for some criteria.
21	Had to split the Borders up in order to have sensible sized units for sense checking. Makes sense to use geographic boundaries - so that you can control inputs / outputs to a greater extent than anthropogenic boundaries
22	These are natural boundaries that are well defined and not subject to the irrelevant pressures of most other boundaries. There is perhaps a need to further divide some rivers along their lengths given the changes that occur with the maturity of the river.
27	Yes, as river catchments have different 'communities' around them. People like being associated with "their valley"
29	Although Vice counties, with their botanical information and based on local parishes could have been used
32	Catchments are natural land divisions with no anthropogenic influences. They are the obvious units.
36	Some danger that will leave out/minimise some important areas especially of upland e.g. Lammermuirs, Upper Lauderdale. Flexibility needed
37	River catchments are easily understood and tend to fit with land ownership boundaries and are often associated with a communities "sense of place". Clearly the land and the way it is used impacts on the water courses draining the area so the quality of the sub-catchment is a useful measure of the quality of land use.
38	I strongly agree for upland, "one-road" areas such as Ettrick It's probably OK in the many-roaded areas of the Eastern Borders but might working in north/south areas linked by one trunk road by an alternative?
39	Scottish Borders and East Berwickshire are two different propositions
41	I agree strongly that sub-dividing the river catchment is as good a way as possible as in many respects each individual river catchment defines the area.
44	It's a long way from top to bottom of the Tweed.
46	I think it's great. It's a new way of thinking about the area for most people, but makes a lot of sense because it cuts through the urban/rural divide and also the divisions between towns, which are a large part of the reason we don't link up enough as a region. It might help people to shake up their ideas and see things in a fresh and more meaningful way. This approach also highlights the interconnection between people, their activities and the land, and hopefully encourages a greater sense of ownership and pride, as well as raising awareness of environmental issues.

47	In the Scottish Borders are this makes a lot of sense due to our network of rivers, might not suit every area.
49	Farm / field level may have been more accurate but are likely to have over-complicated things. With the timescales involved, NFUS cannot see a more sensible approach.
51	This is a logical as well as a natural way of dividing it up, as the river valleys each present their own characteristics, as well as their own particular set of problems.

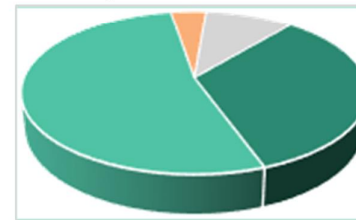
3 Do you agree with these priority land uses?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
Farming	29 57%	15 29%	2 4%	0 0%	0 0%	5 10%
Forestry	17 33%	27 53%	2 4%	0 0%	0 0%	5 10%
Biodiversity	21 41%	17 33%	1 2%	1 2%	6 12%	5 10%
Tourism	14 28%	26 50%	2 4%	0 0%	4 8%	5 10%
Recreation	14 27%	24 47%	3 6%	0 0%	5 10%	5 10%

Farming



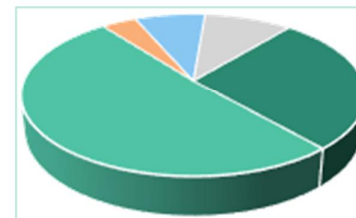
Forestry



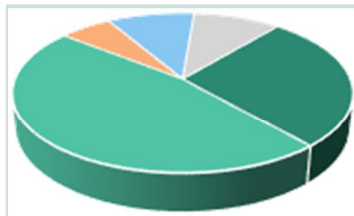
Biodiversity



Tourism



Recreation



3 Do you agree with these priority land uses?

COMMENTS

1	<p>1. Why is there a distinction between tourism & recreation? Is not tourism, recreation exercised by persons who do not live in the local area? Unless there are definitions separating the two, should these be combined?</p> <p>2. Should urban land uses, housing & commercial property, be recognised within the LUS, particularly in relation to being the beneficiaries of water supply & flood management measures?</p> <p>3. Whilst perhaps not significant in the Borders region, should there be a recognition of where extractive industries, quarries & mines, would fit within the LUS?</p> <p>4. Why are water supply or flood management not recognised as priority land uses?</p>
3	<p>NPF3 is clear that planning must facilitate the transition to a low carbon and help to deliver the aims of the Scottish Governments Report on Proposals and Policies. Furthermore, SPP states that 'development plans should seek to ensure an area's full potential for electricity and from renewable sources is achieved in line with national climate change targets, giving due regards to relevant environmental, community and cumulative impact considerations'.</p> <p>Renewable energy should be considered a priority land use in addition to those listed above.</p>
4	<p>I feel that these are all priorities, however, it is essential that balance is achieved. The short-term economic benefits of commercial agriculture and forestry must be properly balanced against the long-term public, and economic, benefit that investing in our natural capital can bring.</p>
5	<p>Regarding the priorities listed above, Forestry needs to be planned with great care so that it takes account of other uses/benefits which come from the land area concerned and there should be a default choice of native trees for planting rather than alien conifers which are detrimental to local biodiversity and the landscape.</p> <p>Although the Scottish Borders quite rightly promotes its land for Tourism and Recreation, all parts of the country will do the same whatever landscapes or other features they contain. Our Biodiversity has some unique or particularly important aspects, hence its higher priority.</p> <p>I'm surprised that two major land uses have not been listed as priorities, despite always being hotly debated when they are planned - energy generation by wind turbines and urbanisation, which includes both the expansion of dwelling & commercial/industrial areas and communication by road and rail.</p>

6	I also feel that heritage, as a key component of the landscape showing past land use, should have wider, perhaps separate, recognition. It falls into tourism and recreation, but it is also a constraint or opportunity within other land uses. Statutory Planning is also a key land use that might be worth adding.
9	Renewables deserve their own category
10	I do agree that tourism and recreation are important, but think that farming, forestry and biodiversity should take priority over them, wherever possible.
11	Land which is prioritized for farming, forestry and biodiversity can also be easily used for tourism and recreation as well.
14	We made the point that water and fish are a form of land use. Given the value of Tweed as a salmon fishery, this should be given greater priority.
15	<p>Farming - is the main land use which occupies over 75% of land area. It is too general a term and could usefully be divided into 2 or 3 sub-divisions e.g. arable, improved grassland and rough grassland.</p> <p>Forestry - is also a land use but there are also potential sub divisions e.g. productive (timber) forest, amenity (incl biodiversity) forest, protection (slope stabilisation and shelter) forest.</p> <p>Biodiversity - There is a little land that is primarily managed for biodiversity.</p> <p>Tourism - Is there any land primarily managed for tourism or is this a 'by product'?</p> <p>Recreation - How do you define the difference between this and tourism?</p> <p>N.B. It would have been useful to have some indication in the consultation about how much land, as a rough percentage, is occupied by each of the defined land uses.</p>

16	<p>I am uneasy with this division into discrete land use types as there is a danger in segregating into single issues and have therefore disagreed with this prioritisation.. With my particular concern for integrating cultural heritage into a current and future place-making agenda, this prioritisation is a rather utilitarian view of land (though perhaps reflecting a land use emphasis!). The visual and cultural aspects of the Borders underpin much of the activity in the sectors highlighted here and it would be good for the LUS to identify these communal social values as well as the specific economic priorities highlighted here. Why for instance prioritise biodiversity and not landscape and cultural heritage? (I know that Graeme Cavers AOC is working on a project with yourselves, Chris Bowles and HS but this is wider). I would prefer a more encompassing term. Biodiversity is only a separate stream because of funding streams derived from EU Directives and the same argument could be made for Climate Change mitigation, European Landscape Convention implementation and Water Quality actions. A big issue in the Borders is Land Use planning, whether for wind farms, new settlements, forestry, moorland management for farming and sporting estates and while this might be seen more as process than a priority land use, it does affect how the land is used.</p>
17	<p>The region has significant renewable energy resources that need to be sensitively exploited for the benefit of the local people as well as the larger task of transitioning away from fossil fuels. Wind farms, solar farms and hydro schemes along with biomass and AD developments need to be considered as important uses for the land.</p>
18	<p>Farming - is the main land use which occupies over 75% of land area. It is too general a term and could usefully be divided into 2 or 3 sub-divisions e.g. arable, improved grassland and rough grassland. Biodiversity - Not sure that there is much land that is primarily managed for biodiversity. Tourism - Is there any land primarily managed for tourism or is this a 'by product'? Recreation - How do you define the difference between this and tourism? N.B. It would be useful to have some indication in the consultation about how much land is occupied by each of the defined land uses.</p>
20	<p>We made the point that water and fish are a form of land use. Given the value of Tweed as a salmon fishery, this should be given greater priority.</p>
21	<p>Housing - a major land-use and one that will expand to the exclusion of other land-uses</p>
22	<p>The region has significant renewable energy resources that need to be sensitively exploited for the benefit of the local people as well as the larger task of transitioning away from fossil fuels. Wind farms, solar farms and hydro schemes along with biomass and AD developments need to be considered as important uses for the land.</p>
27	<p>Could add 'urban' to main land uses. Tourism and recreation are perhaps secondary land uses</p>

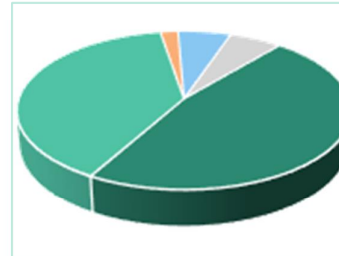
28	Recreation has to be taken in the widest sense to include all aspects of land use that affect the quality of life for those living in the region or visiting it. In this context, just looking at the landscape or moving around it during the normal course of the day are aspects of 'land use'. It is arguably the most important aspect for the wellbeing of the greatest number of people in the region. This crucial component is often missed by economics-based analyses.
29	Not much else - could have included non-agric industry?
30	Culture needs to be added and archaeology. The Borders is littered with ancient sites which we don't make enough of.
31	Mitigation of the effects of climate change, ie riparian planting could well be considered a priority.
32	A key land use resource not identified is education. The need to include young people as the key stakeholders is often missed. The Borders represent some of the best opportunities to introduce young people into the natural work of anywhere in Europe
33	I do not consider biodiversity to be land use. In my view it is a result of land use or a result of mixed land use both good and bad. Notwithstanding this, biodiversity as an aim or objective of land use is important and should not be understated. Water catchment management, renewable energy and rural housing as land uses also have importance.
35	Priority land uses are all strongly interlinked and need to be considered in this way.
36	Housing? Renewable energy? Transport?
38	Drinking water for our towns (NO more for the city please!!!) - do we call it reservoirs? e.g. Alemoor

46	<p>In the Borders I feel the countryside could be a much more significant economic driver than it is currently. The culture and heritage of this region is unique in Britain and could be harnessed more effectively for much greater economic impact. Forestry and farming are a big slice of the economic picture, but in the Borders, they're a smaller sector than the cultural and creative industries - things like festivals, sports and the arts which can attract cultured people with disposable income.</p> <p>Field sports may generate considerable income but it's a niche market of a few individuals. This leaves the region very vulnerable if (for example) salmon can no longer be fished. I feel the rivers are underused as a wider recreation resource, particularly when you see how other countries use, value and celebrate their rivers. There isn't a general feeling of ownership and pride around the rivers and we lack the paths and walkways and bankside access that could attract longer-stay walkers, cyclists and canoeists. So I'd like to see some emphasis on river-centred tourism and recreation for the wider public.</p> <p>Education and well-being are also missing from this mix. When I was a child, townsfolk used to head out in summer and picnic by Border burns. Today, many of those same burns are behind fences. Children are losing a connection to the land and their worlds have shrunk compared with previous generations, and many young parents no longer have countryside skills, confidence and appreciation to pass on. It's also important I think to recognise that this mix of land uses comes from a land owner-manager perspective and reflects underlying business thinking. This means important ecosystems issues such as affordable housing, transport and sustainable communities have little weighting. For a 'collective and integrated' land use strategy, I feel there needs to be a better balance of inputs. This will presumably happen with the public consultation?</p>
47	<p>These cover the main land uses. On the edge of Towns/Urban areas there is pressure for more house building I think the Framework will have its uses in planning future housing issues too.</p>
49	<p>NFUS would like farming to continue to be top priority and for productive agricultural land to remain as such in order to ensure food production is not affected.</p> <p>Another priority which could be considered would be renewable energy.</p>
50	<p>Regarding the priorities listed above, Forestry needs to be planned with great care so that it takes account of other uses/benefits which come from the land area concerned and there should be a default choice of native trees for planting rather than alien conifers which are detrimental to local biodiversity and the landscape.</p> <p>Although the Scottish Borders quite rightly promotes its land for Tourism and Recreation, all parts of the country will do the same whatever landscapes or other features they contain. Our Biodiversity has some unique or particularly important aspects, hence its higher priority.</p> <p>I'm surprised that two major land uses have not been listed as priorities, despite always being hotly debated when they are planned - energy generation by wind turbines and urbanisation, which includes both the expansion of dwelling & commercial/industrial areas and communication by road and rail.</p>

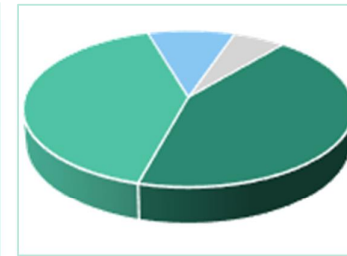
4 Do you agree with these opportunities?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
Arable farming	24 47%	20 39%	1 2%	0 0%	3 6%	3 6%
Livestock farming	22 41%	21 39%	0 4%	0 0%	5 10%	3 6%
Woodland expansion	19 38%	22 42%	4 4%	0 0%	3 10%	3 6%
Flood protection etc	22 43%	21 41%	0 0%	1 2%	4 8%	3 6%
Water resources	28 55%	15 29%	0 0%	0 0%	5 6%	3 10%
Enhanced biodiversity	21 41%	21 41%	1 2%	0 0%	4 8%	4 8%
Diffuse pollution control	22 43%	23 45%	0 0%	1 2%	1 2%	4 8%
Carbon storage	22 43%	18 35%	3 6%	0 0%	3 6%	5 10%

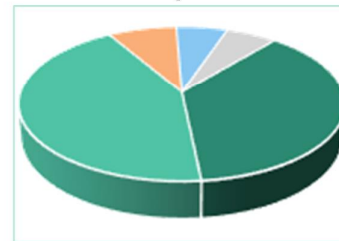
Arable farming



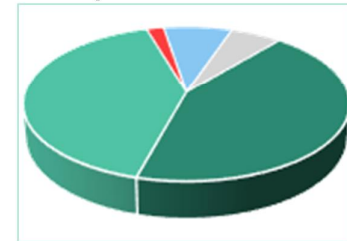
Livestock farming



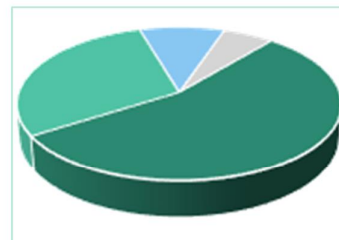
Woodland expansion



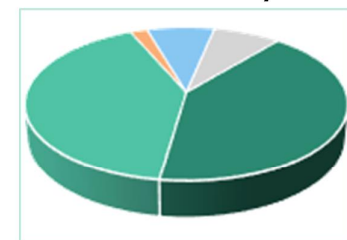
Flood protection etc



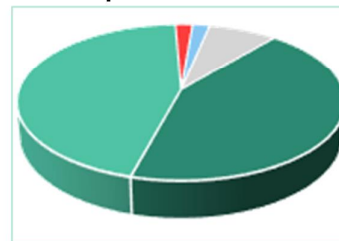
Water resources



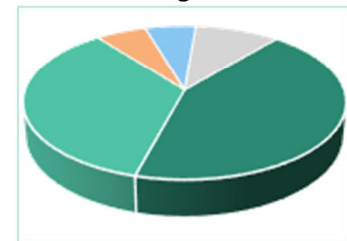
Enhanced biodiversity



Diffuse pollution control



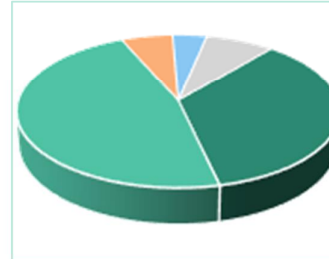
Carbon storage



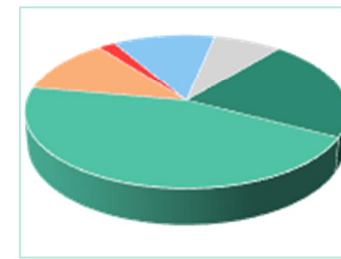
4 Do you agree with these opportunities?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
Tourism	18 35%	24 47%	3 6%	0 0%	2 4%	4 8%
Field sports	11 22%	23 44%	6 12%	1 2%	6 12%	4 8%
Wind farms	7 14%	21 40%	8 16%	6 12%	4 8%	5 10%
Transport and infrastructure	19 37%	19 37%	4 8%	1 2%	4 8%	4 8%
Countryside education	24 47%	19 37%	0 0%	0 0%	4 8%	4 8%

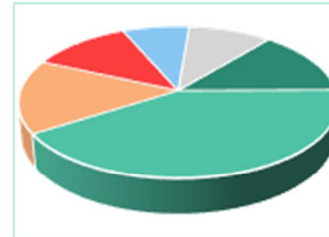
Tourism



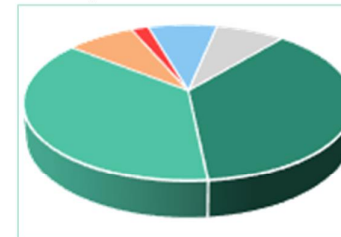
Field sports



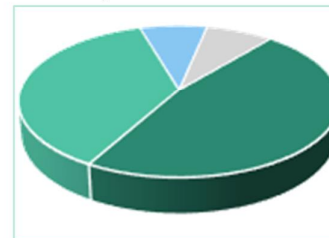
Wind farms



Transport and infrastructure



Countryside education



4 Do you agree with these opportunities?	
COMMENTS	
1	<p>1. The initial premise on which the need to adopt an ecosystem services approach to Land Use is that elements of current practice are unsustainable for various reasons. This would indicate that some current land uses & practices need to change and it would therefore seem presumptive to use such as the word 'maintain' in relation to both arable and livestock food production and 'expansion' in respect of woodland.</p> <p>2. Arable farming, including short term grass leys - if this is being practiced on land susceptible to erosion after cultivation e.g. slopes or results in soil loss/degradation or carbon release then should such areas be considered for turning to permanent pasture? This may result in the loss of arable area/production.</p> <p>3. I do not believe Livestock farming & Diffuse pollution control, as illustrated, should be separated - livestock farming should, in the first instance be carried out sustainably such that diffuse pollution is not created in the first instance. The quality of water leaving a holding should be no worse than when it entered. This also applies to arable farming and fertiliser/chemical leaching.</p> <p>4. Woodland 'expansion' simply as stated may not be an appropriate land-use. It may be considered appropriate provided that it planned on a sustainable basis ... right places, right species well designed. Other activities such as restructuring of existing conifer mono-culture, to provide a resource with multiple benefits should be considered as an opportunity.</p> <p>5. I'm not sure how 'Transport & Infrastructure' fits into the ecosystem services framework - supporting/provisioning/regulating/cultural without also including the urban land use.</p> <p>6. I would agree with Sustainable energy production being identified as a land use opportunity, being inclusive of such as woodfuel, hydro, solar & wind but do not believe that on farm shores wind farms should be specifically identified due to the associated threats which need to be managed for them to be delivered.</p> <p>7. Field sports should be treated as a sub-sector of Recreation (& Tourism) particularly as it needs to be balanced with Biodiversity, which it is recognised is under severe pressure.</p>
3	Land use opportunities should not be restricted to wind farms but should instead encompass the whole range of renewable energy technologies that are available.
4	I do agree that arable and beef sectors do have a very important part to play in the land use strategy pilot area, however, these sectors already play large parts in the land use of the area, with relatively little consideration for other land use needs. For this reason I have highlighted "don't know" in for these uses.

4 cont/	<p>With regards to field sports, driven grouse moors that are badly managed e.g. culling of native predators, over burning and damaging of peatlands etc... is not compatible with sustainable land use, however, well managed moors can provide multiple benefits. Sustainable salmon fishing can provide multiple benefits.</p> <p>Wind farms need to be sited carefully to avoid damaging peatland habitat and wildlife interest.</p> <p>Transport should focus on low carbon methods and seek to improve green networks. However, it should not be assumed that just because a cycle path connects two habitats that this constitutes a green network.</p>
5	<p>Where I have ticked 'agree', the land use opportunities will require sensitive implementation and some compromises, especially from the primary use stakeholders. It should not be assumed that agricultural and woodland uses will always have higher weight than other uses.</p> <p>Where I have ticked 'disagree', I'm not clear what other benefits would arise from these uses.</p>
6	<p>The protection, management, interpretation and enjoyment of the historic environment is a key opportunity as this is currently not achieved apart from Scheduling of monuments and statutory planning. The Forestry Commission also manage the historic environment through the UKFS. It is true to say that there are very few places in Scotland that are 'natural' and have not been shaped in some way by human intervention. As such, the entirety of the environment can be seen as 'historic'. Traditionally however, the historic environment has been more narrowly defined as archaeology, the built environment and designed landscapes. Ideally the two, natural and historic, would not be seen as mutually exclusive in either policy, academic approaches or cultural associations. But in the absence of SRDP funding for the historic environment there are few ways to promote or manage the historic environment and the LUS is therefore an opportunity to link other land uses to the historic environment to the mutual benefit of all. I would ask that you please consider adding the historic environment to the opportunities list.</p>
9	<p>I agree with the opportunities but hesitate re wind-farms. In Lauderdale, for example, many people now believe we have reached or passed the tipping point of acceptable cumulative visual impact. Tourism is probably the only growth industry we have here and I challenge the finding of Visit Scotland (a government body, and this was some time ago) that tourists do not mind wind-farms. People come here for beautiful unspoilt countryside, our greatest asset.</p> <p>I think that quite soon the ability to store water in times and areas of plenty to supply areas of deficiency will become important. I think this is a huge opportunity for Scotland but, that means Scottish Water. I was disappointed by Chris Spray's answer to my question on this at the recent RSA event.</p>
10	<p>I think wind farms are increasingly being seen as a threat in the Borders, rather than as a benefit, as the benefits of energy contribution from wind farms is increasingly being questioned.</p>
11	<p>What about housing?</p>

12	Not sure about woodland expansion - I would much prefer woodland management maximisation.
14	As previously mentioned, water, fishing and fish production is a land use type. Improvements in some opportunities above will be of benefit to 'water' land use.
15	This is not a clear question. Neither are the categories entirely logical. Why, for instance is there a category for woodland expansion but no category for existing forest? All land uses have their place and all have 'opportunities' associated. The trick is to find the pattern of land uses that produces the most benefits overall. This is a matter for detailed analysis of the issues !
16	As described previously a land use strategy must look at landscape and cultural benefits and at management planning. To get multiple benefit too great a focus on sectoral interests will obviate social benefits. This is possibly covered by transport and infrastructure but should be more inclusive of social values of land use. There is no reference to access, cultural heritage (this is broader than just sites for tourists to visit) and community sense of ownership and belonging. Given current Scottish Government emphasis on Community Empowerment (through Community Action Plans, Local Development Plans and LAG Local Development Strategies) and indeed increased community engagement and sense of ownership through Land Reform and other mechanisms is essential for multi-benefit land use.
18	I don't understand question 4 which appears confusing. A better approach might be to consider compatibilities between different land uses. e.g. - arable farming can be considered to have a negative impact on water quality but is potentially compatible with some field sports. - wind farms are potentially compatible with rough grazing but not productive forest. Generally speaking, there is an inverse relationship between farming intensity and 'ecosystem services' but a positive relationship between farming intensity and food production. The trick is to find the pattern of land uses that produces the most benefits overall. This is a matter for detailed analysis of the issues - not canvassing opinion!
20	As previously mentioned, water, fishing and fish production is a land use type. Improvements in some opportunities above will be of benefit to 'water' land use.
21	Economic impacts Economic opportunities Business expansion networks Housing expansion A system for people to make their own suggestions to future land use strategy
23	There should be no support from the land use strategy for grouse management until the criminals who persecute protected species on grouse moors are caught and prosecuted.

29	<p>Every one is a current and justifiable land use which a LUstrategy will help to inform for the future, though what we have at the moment seems mostly to have arisen from natural characteristics, plus a bit of land use policy (esp CAP and windfarm (lack of) planning). With good design/strategy, be should be able to get more and multiple benefits from our land and resources, and perhaps make the benefits more equitable.</p> <p>The LUS Pilot sounds like it is trying to promote a land ethic. It is worth quoting Aldo Leopold; (1949. A Sand County Almanac) “All ethics so far evolved rest upon a single premise: that the individual is a member of a community of interdependent parts. The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants and animals, or collectively the land.” We need to acknowledge and discuss this, and have decisions made by the wider community, not just those who benefit disproportionately at the moment. Community Land Value Taxation would be a useful fiscal instrument to promote fairness in land-use, and could be controlled by such a LUS.</p>
30	<p>Recreation should be inserted instead of Field Sports. They are no less recreational than walking, cycling or golfing. Walking is a major land use and in the remote areas walkers are the most frequent users of the land.</p>
32	<p>It is time that the true costs of windfarms are calculated, including their effect on our appreciation of the structure and history of the landscape. If strategically necessary, they should be grouped to avoid bespoilment of the whole area and its degradation into an industrial landscape. They disfigure the shape of the land and are a distraction to the eye.</p>
33	<p>Rural housing and home working together with rural broadband provision and IT networks should all be encouraged as part of a multiple benefit land use strategy. I would also welcome a more informed and coherent strategy on minerals and mineral workings.</p>
35	<p>It is implied in the benefits listed but maybe consider including health and well-being.</p>
37	<p>Of course there are opportunities for all these land uses. All of them could be done better - and some really need to be improved urgently. The issue is how do we increase some without reducing others to the point that their "viability" is damaged. It is unlikely we are going to find many areas where it is sensible to increase arable farming without risking negative impacts (eg by ploughing steep slopes and increasing run-off and siltation). Livestock farming is also close to capacity although climate change may result in some expansion opportunities, these will be slow and unpredictable changes.</p>

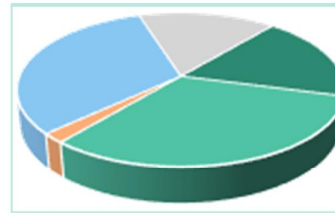
37/ cont	<p>Native woodland expansion is likely to be good for many reasons, carbon sequestration, water management, landscape, biodiversity, timber production, wild food, recreation etc and there is room for well-planned tree-planting without reducing farm efficiency. Expansion of commercial forestry is harder to justify.</p> <p>Opportunity for more field sports is also questionable. We need to consider what the public benefits of this are. For example, it may be economically viable to raise and release thousands of pheasants to shoot - but the other costs (in terms of biodiversity, damage to cars, gardens and the resulting high populations of crows for example) need to be considered.</p> <p>It can be argued that we are reaching capacity with wind farms and that opportunities for more are now limited. There is however an opportunity for communities to do better from the benefit funds that are associated with their development.</p> <p>Countryside Education is perhaps not really a land-use, but it is vital if we are to engage people with land-use decisions so that the land delivers maximum benefits.</p>
38	<p>What a silly term "carbon storage" is. I do hope you're wise to the pitfalls of the 'green agenda'.</p> <p>Windfarms are a good thing. Too many are a bad thing. They MUST be sensitively sited. Do we really have to have tall ones, or could we have less obtrusive short ones?</p>
41	<p>We must support the agricultural sector in the Scottish Borders to keep it vibrant and sustainable - using opportunities identified for diffuse pollution control, biodiversity NFM. In many cases multiple benefits can be obtained. Getting the message across is key - I know this from my own work in priority catchments. The aspects I agree with as opposed to strongly agreeing with should follow on if actions are taken to address the issues identified in each individual catchment.</p>
46	<p>One area not mentioned is health and well-being. Access to nature for ecotherapy is being explored by NHS Borders and local schools in partnership with organisations such as Instinctively Wild.</p> <p>Sports in the countryside are not limited to field sports. Equestrian sports, hill walking, cycling etc don't necessarily come under 'tourism' and should also be included.</p> <p>It might be helpful to distinguish between 'land use' and 'river use' in area such as tourism and education. We are fortunate in Scotland with countryside access, but opening up river and riparian access could be such an important driver for tourism.</p> <p>Common land and common ridings are distinctive features of Scottish Borders land use, and I wonder if the relevant civic bodies are included in the consultation?</p>

48	While noting that wind farms are a land use, no mention has been made of the importance of communications as an overarching necessity for all land use. Provision should be made for the laying of high capacity fibre optic lines to all premises - or radio towers for wireless transmission to really remote areas.
49	There could be an opportunity to sustainably increase food production through both arable and livestock farming, not just maintain it.
50	Where I have ticked 'agree', the land use opportunities will require sensitive implementation and some compromises, especially from the primary use stakeholders. It should not be assumed that agricultural and woodland uses will always have higher weight than other uses. Where I have ticked 'disagree', I'm not clear what other benefits would arise from these uses.

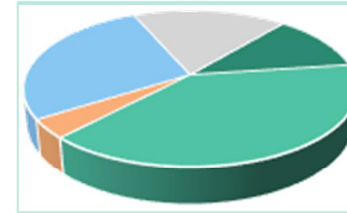
5 Do you agree that the consultation process has been effective in this respect to date?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
Land owners	9 18%	16 32%	1 2%	0 0%	16 32%	8 16%
Farmers	6 12%	20 39%	2 4%	0 0%	14 27%	9 18%
Foresters	6 12%	10 20%	1 2%	0 0%	25 50%	8 16%
Statutory agencies	8 16%	9 18%	0 0%	0 0%	25 49%	9 17%
Rural business advisors	3 6%	8 16%	0 0%	0 0%	31 61%	9 17%
Councillors	5 10%	7 14%	0 0%	0 0%	31 62%	7 14%

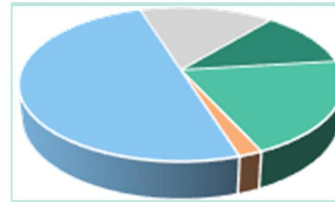
Land owners



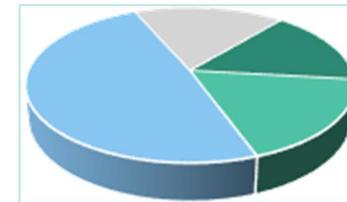
Farmers



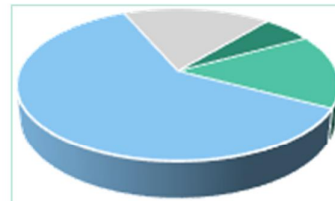
Foresters



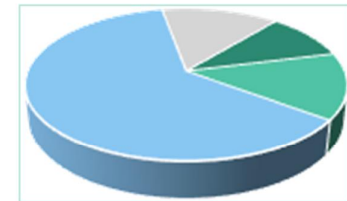
Statutory agencies



Rural business advisors



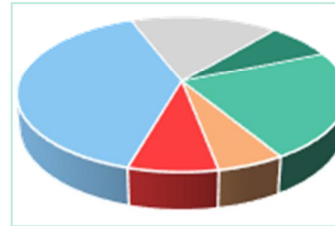
Councillors



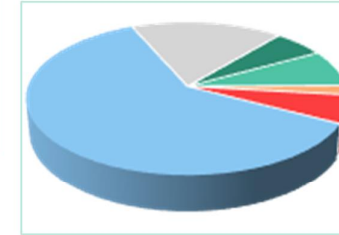
5 Do you agree that the consultation process has been effective in this respect to date?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
Local communities	4 8%	12 23%	3 6%	4 8%	21 40%	9 17%
Recreation	3 6%	4 8%	1 2%	3 6%	31 61%	9 17%
Tourism	4 8%	3 6%	2 4%	4 8%	30 57%	9 17%
Business	1 2%	5 10%	3 6%	2 4%	30 58%	10 20%
Renewables	2 4%	4 8%	1 2%	3 6%	33 63%	9 17%

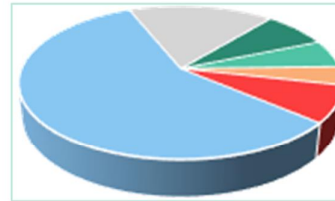
Local communities



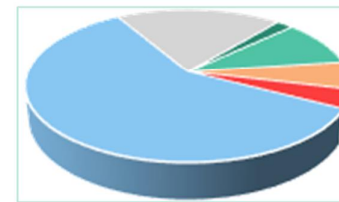
Recreation



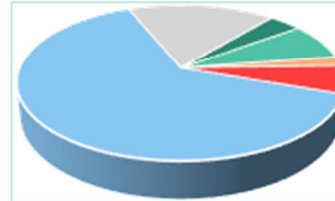
Tourism



Business



Renewables



5 Do you agree that the consultation process has been effective in this respect to date?	
COMMENTS	
1	<p>It is difficult to answer this section without having full knowledge of the responses that have been received</p> <p>It is fairly certain that the directly involved or engaged parties will or should have contributed e.g. the first 6 & last categories listed.</p> <p>Where it becomes unclear as to how successful the communications strategy for the project has been is in respect of those groups not directly engaged in land management who it might be seen will benefit from the multiple outcomes to be generated by adopting an eco-system services approach. e.g. urban populations, non-residents.</p>
3	The renewable energy sector as a whole should be consulted rather than a sole focus on onshore wind.
4	I would have liked to have seen greater representation from SGRPID, however, I understand that local NFUS representation has been good. I was disappointed not to see national NFUS representation at the recent LUS event at Battleby.
5	There is no mention of Biodiversity/Wildlife Groups here, although Plantlife, RSPB and Butterfly Conservation (and perhaps others) have been involved in the consultation process and have had opportunities to have inputs. My impression is that these groups have been seen as a 'small voice' in the process.
9	I can only answer with the experience of two consultation meetings in Stow which were well conducted by TF but very disappointing in attendance. The enthusiasm of the few who attended was good. I understand the other meetings were better attended.
10	The meetings in Eddleston Village Hall were well attended, and seemed to me, to be very thought provoking. People with real interests in the land were heavily involved in the discussions, and were having their say. In my opinion, great strides forward can be made when people come together, and are engaged like this, to discuss common problems.
11	As a farmer and land owner. This is the first I have really heard of it.
13	<p>Scottish Water have had initial meetings regarding the LUS Pilot and provided data to assist the exercise; however, have not had any feedback since this about the process of what the next steps are.</p> <p>There is a separate project underway between SW and the Tweed Forum looking at some chosen catchments and water quality impacts of land use and is not part of the main Pilot.</p>
15	I don't have any worthwhile opinion about whether the consultation process has been equally available to the defined categories.

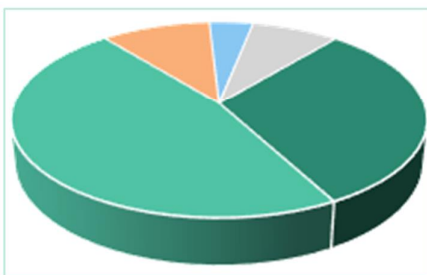
16	I have not been involved to date with the stakeholder engagement (except at wider presentations) and so am unable to gauge how effective it has been.
17	My involvement in two public meetings does not give me sufficient data to meaningfully comment on the efficacy of the engagement process.
18	I don't have any worthwhile opinion about whether the consultation process has been equally available to the defined categories. Whilst I accept that the findings need to relate to and engage with existing land managers, I have concerns that the Land Use Study is in danger of turning into a 'beauty contest' if it is not also underwritten by some hard academic analysis.
19	I agree that all the stakeholder groups identified are important. but - without having spoken to each group - I do not know how effective the consultation process has been.
21	Very difficult to engage communities on a large-scale. An apathetic view by many of what can be achieved. Lack of urban communities present at meetings It would have been useful to have a dialogue between those from an urban perspective and those from a rural, predominately farming background. Room for improvement on community engagement. Difficult to engage some groups (e.g. hoteliers, publicans etc.) that have a great deal of contact with tourists because they tend to be at work when community meetings are on. As a result it is difficult to gauge visitor opinion of land use - which could be valuable.
22	My involvement in two public meetings does not give me sufficient data to meaningfully comment on the efficacy of the engagement process.
23	From having attended the 2 RSA events there appeared to be a gap between who the project team thought they needed to engage with (land managers, statutory agencies and landowner representative groups) and some members of the audience, who felt that the wide community were at risk of being excluded from what was clearly an important debate. Stakeholder engagement on such a broad and important set of topics should include the entire community and not just the few who control the land and water resources. That approach requires a different consultation strategy and inevitably more resources. Neither Tweed Forum nor SBC seen to have cast their net very far.
24	Whilst not a criticism it is unfortunate that so few members of the public attended the community events - I think it is therefore hard to gauge how effective this aspect has been due to the low number of participants. I am not aware of how much consultation has been done with a number of the sectors listed, hence the 'don't know' answer.

29	Local communities are generally disenfranchised from the land. This makes it very difficult to engage with urban / semi- urban communities in the Borders. Even on farms and estates, farm workers are not used to being able to comment on land use, as they are at the bottom of the decision making process. If there was some power transfer on decision making, then this would make it more important for rural people to respond
30	I don't know as I have only been to one or two events but my impression is that the recreational groups whether shooters, fishermen, walkers, cyclists or other outdoor activists have engaged very little with the land use consultation. Whilst the Forum has held meetings across most of the Borders it has only engaged with a very few people from each of the Border communities. Rather than expect them to come to your arranged meetings you need to go to where they gather at their clubs and outings.
31	It is difficult to know how the consultation has gone since I see only the meetings I go to. Also there may well have been many more people aware of the meetings but who actively decided not to go. As always you can lead a horse....
32	Today (June 11th 2014) is the first time I have seen this document so it is not possible for me to comment on the effectiveness of the consultation hitherto
33	Home owners, the general public (as opposed to community groups) and schools should be included.
36	It will be difficult to get farmers to engage constructively if they believe may become part of a land reform agenda. The large scale maps need time and concentration to understand. Public meetings not necessarily easiest forum.
37	Inevitably it is hard to get people to engage with a planning exercise such as this. People are consulted to death - and it is likely that many now reserve their efforts for situations where there is something specific to engage with. All you can do is make it easy for people to engage - and this has been done.
38	As you know, I've been to the 2 meetings / workshops in Ettrickbridge, but that's all I've done. At the second one, I was asked by a newcomer "What is this meeting actually about?" I normally can give immediate replies, but this time I couldn't. I am an intelligent person, and so is the person who asked the question. After the meeting, the asker of the question came up to me and said [paraphrased] - I see what you mean - I'm not really sure that I can see what this is really about. After the second meeting, I think I was beginning to understand... but really from my knowledge of politics, not because the speakers at the meeting made it clear! So... I now think this is a great idea of the Scottish Government's and it really could go far... but I think somehow the speakers at the meetings haven't put it across very well to the ordinary public (Figuratively speaking, perhaps the plane could have been put together a bit better before the pilot got in!!). A bit less blurb, some real dynamism and zumph would have got the public engaged a bit better, I think.

39	Too complex an issue to come to any conclusion.
46	Judging by the LUS meetings, most of the major stakeholders are male and typically of a certain age, social class and cultural background. While it's impossible for this process to be completely inclusive, it would be good to make sure that enough input is solicited from women, young people and ordinary Borderers, who are also part of the ecosystem.
47	I have been to several meetings which I found very informative. Even if it is the usual suspects you see at these things!
49	NFUS cannot comment on other sectors but feel that farmers and land owners have been well informed and have had good opportunity to engage at local stakeholder meetings.
50	There is no mention of Biodiversity/Wildlife Groups here, although Plantlife, RSPB and Butterfly Conservation (and perhaps others) have been involved in the consultation process and have had opportunities to have inputs. My impression is that these groups have been seen as a 'small voice' in the process.

6 Do you agree that the framework could be useful in assisting the targeting of locally important measures within SRDP?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
16	24	5	0	2	4
31%	47%	10%	0%	4%	8%



COMMENTS

1	<p>On the basis that it is the Scottish Rural Development Programme, priorities should be set at a national level and then applied locally where applicable. Locally important measures can then be targeted if they are nationally important.</p> <p>Related to this sustainability & the introduction of an eco-system services approach should be adopted into the compliance requirements of the Single Payment scheme e.g. within the 'greening' measures/payment and cross-compliance. If positive benefits result then these contribute to the justification for continuing public support for agriculture.</p>
4	I see this being an ideal tool to target SRDP, it makes SRDP spend more publicly accountable as well.
6	In particular, the inclusion of the historic environment in the framework will help ensure that this is taken into greater policy consideration ahead of 2020.
8	It is important that the consultation is continued into the more specific policy-making area, so far it has been very broad based.

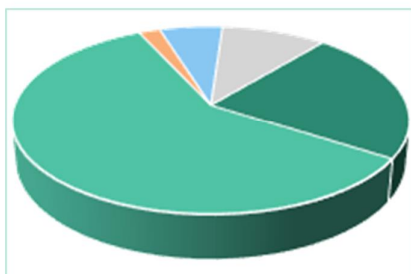
9	I am sure it could be useful. The key question is how? To date the experience of providers (regulators) and users (deliverers) been that SRDP has been over-complicated and un-wieldy; some say unfit for purpose. The added complexity and finesse required will challenge all participants very heavily.
10	Anything that we can do to highlight the opportunities in rural Scotland, and help realize the massive potential that rural Scotland has, can only be a good thing. In my opinion rural Scotland is often overlooked in terms of investment, and political focus.
11	I expect that many people whom the measures will affect will have very little to do with this. (As they have not heard about it/ haven't time to look into it/ don't feel that their views will be deemed as important enough.) But the outcomes of it will then affect them and the future of their businesses greatly.
14	There needs to be more joined up thinking in targeting changes in land use and this would appear to be the mechanism to do so, if proposed measures can also be enforced if necessary
15	There is the potential that the LUS could/ should inform SRDP measures. This depends upon the rigour and robustness of the analysis that underwrites the strategy.
16	Once developed further I am sure that the Scottish Borders Land Use Strategy could play a vital role in targeting where SRDP money should be spent in the future. It will be particularly important in identifying strategic projects where collaborative actions are required from different land owners and managers will achieve most effect from their actions.
18	There is the potential that the LUS could/ should inform SRDP measures. This depends upon the rigour and robustness of the analysis that underwrites the strategy.
20	There needs to be more joined up thinking in targeting changes in land use and this would appear to be the mechanism to do so, if proposed measures can also be enforced if necessary.
21	There is a limited pot of money for SRDP. There must be more efficient use of the funding opportunities. The land use strategy could achieve these aims.
27	Absolutely, this would be a positive outcome from the LUS pilot - to link it to SRDP.
29	Should help a little, though the SRDP decision making process is Byzantine. (Definition; the "Byzantine system" also suggests a penchant for intrigue, plots and assassinations and an overall unstable political state of affairs)
30	SRDP funding should be conditional on being signed up to your local land use strategy.
31	Assuming Scotland is in Europe by then or the Scottish Government has any funds to produce an SRDP.

32	Local communities need all the help they can get to gain access to a variety of funding. Usually volunteers are the main achievers of beneficial projects.
33	The land use framework could be a useful tool if used correctly and openly. There is a danger that "one size fits all" will be a restriction and to be effective the LUS needs to be accompanied by the requisite local knowledge to properly implement its use. Designations within the LUS must not be too rigid.
35	I think it could with care but would need significant group proofing. Until you have data from the likes of RSPB and agri environment schemes using this as a tool will be limited
36	Not absolutely convinced that will tell those involved in these decisions more than they already know about priorities etc from their practical experience and knowledge of the Borders. This point applies to next two questions (boxes will not let me make comments). Could be a danger of making decisions on paper which may not work on the ground. One of crucial things is to engage the land managers who are most enthusiastic about enhancing biodiversity etc as they will deliver best value for money and do the best work.
37	The weakness of SRDP has always been that land managers want to be able to secure funds from it - and therefore resist efforts to target funds at particular priorities. The resulting scatter-gun effect tends to reduce overall benefit. If the pilot LUS can be used to agree areas and actions that will really be of significant local benefit, then it should be used to justify such investment.
41	I strongly agree that this could be a very useful tool to target SRDP spending. Again, using this to achieve multiple benefits, not only for the land manager but for the area as a whole.
44	SRDP is hard for farmers to gain access before you xxxx xxx xxxx
46	It seems weighted towards landed interests at the moment, so I would be concerned about how representative it is, particularly in terms of SDRP social goals and 'a wealthier and fairer Scotland'.
47	I believe the framework could be very useful in the targeting of measures. As long as the system remains flexible enough to cope with local circumstances. It would be a shame if it is used to save money. For example if the framework suggests there are is good connectivity in 70% of an area, that should not mean there should be no funding available for more hedges in that area. If a land owner or business can make a case for planting more hedges that should be supported if possible. So by all means use it for targeting resources not for stopping good work.

49	The framework could be useful in assisting with targeting key local measures, however NFUS would not like to see the framework used to exclude businesses with good proposals from receiving funding. NFUS has always fought for SRDP schemes to be simple and practical and would support the framework assisting with applications so long as this did not complicate the application process.
51	If it receives adequate funding to do so.

7 Do you agree that the framework could be used to assist these organisations to target their efforts to work in partnership with land managers to promote multiple benefits from land use?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
12	30	1	0	3	5
23%	59%	2%	0%	6%	10%



COMMENTS

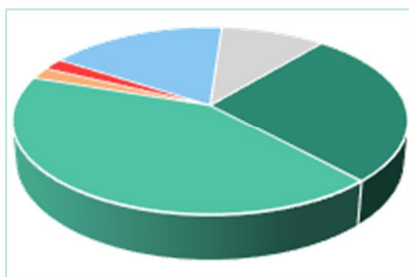
1	I agree that NGOs have a valuable role to play in the implementation of an eco-system services approach and the delivery of the Land use strategy but it is critical that because of the wide public benefits that will result, measures are put in place to ensure that land managers, either by carrot or stick, are encouraged to implement sustainable land use in line with the Scottish LUS & management on an eco-system services basis.
4	Eventually a national ecological network could be rolled out using this method, helping to achieve more bang for our - environmental, social and economic - buck.
5	There should be mention of the important non-government conservation organisations which would expect to work in partnership with those listed and with land managers generally.
6	I do agree, however, it would be beneficial if cultural heritage is considered at all levels when considering partnerships and benefits.
9	I agree but with the reservations above. Whenever I have asked "What will this mean for me (a small farmer)?" I am told "It's early days yet; we'll have to wait and see". I think the early days are over and, indeed, the easy part of the work. Now is time to help the farmers and land managers see how and why they should engage in the process.

10	I do agree, but it is critical that communication on this, with land managers is pitched correctly.
11	I expect it will be a lot of loose statements that push measures onto land owners that they are not sure about. The majority of land owners care greatly about the land and environment they live in. If they were spoken to face to face with no hidden agendas, then most would be happy to help promote multiple benefits from the land they manage.
14	In some cases, changes will need to be enforced. e.g. creation of riparian habitat where there are issues of diffuse pollution in watercourses
15	It would always be sensible for the various agencies to coordinate and work in harmony.
16	YES!
18	It would always be sensible for the various agencies to coordinate and work in harmony.
20	In some cases, changes will need to be enforced. e.g. creation of riparian habitat where there are issues of diffuse pollution in watercourses
21	Better quality and quantity of information should lead to better decisions. Conservation is often plagued by the quantity of single-issue groups that are prone to promoting their view to the exclusion of all others. There is a limited supply of land that has to provide many services. Hopefully, with the land use strategy, synergies can be spotted and obvious conflicts between important land uses can be avoided.
23	There should be more oversight of Tweed Forum and Borders Forest Trust and involvement from independent ecologists in assessing the effects of their activities in removing riverbank grazing and indiscriminate tree-planting on rare habitats respectively. Fencing off riverbanks from grazing livestock has led to losses of grassland habitats (BSBI recorders can attest to the detailed impacts across the region). BFT's gung-ho approach to tree-planting has seen trees planted on rare grassland habitats and on protected ant colonies in the region.
27	Yes, environmental NGOs have a hugely significant role to play in facilitation of government driven policies
29	Targeting effort is essential, as we need to do more with less..
30	Each of these organisations have the skills and experience to act as enablers and facilitators in their areas of work.
32	Land managers and owners need to be approached by knowledgeable and skilful, experienced people if they are to be persuaded to give up some of their resources or control.
33	Provided the level of detail within the LUS is sufficient to operate at local level and, if not, sufficient flexibility is built into its operation to avoid unreasonable restrictions or poor targeting of resources.
35	As a starting point for a discussion, yes, on a voluntary basis but not if it is imposed as a must do

37	We would be delighted to work with partners and land managers to help appropriate actions where these fit with our wider aims and objectives.
38	It could, but beware of secret agendas. The question could be asked, should the framework serve the Borders Forest Trust, or should the Borders Forest Trust serve the framework?
39	Too much complication.
46	Again, I would first want to know that it was reasonably representative of the Borders community.
47	As long as it used with a good dose of common sense too! It should not result in tree planting on species rich grassland as the framework suggests that area is short of woodland.
49	Benefits should be promoted but not enforced.
50	There should be mention of the important non-government conservation organisations which would expect to work in partnership with those listed and with land managers generally.
51	Certainly worth attempting to do so.

8 Do you agree that the framework could be used to guide these programmes?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
14	22	1	1	9	5
27%	42%	2%	2%	17%	10%



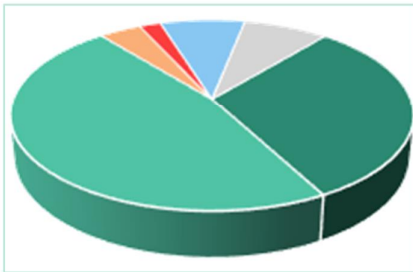
COMMENTS

4	See above comment (no.7)
8	Valuable resource if you can get it.
9	Yes; but, again, there is the spectre of Big Brother. The land owner and manager community are rightly worried about land reform. At every LUS meeting I have attended we have been told this is nothing to do with land reform. To the extent that this is correct (and I am a sceptic) there is a major leadership challenge to correct this perception. Where are the leaders?
15	As with Q6, it depends upon the robustness of the analysis.
16	Having a detailed strategic look at multiple benefits from land use can clearly benefit LEADER priorities. However as the Borders LAG Local Development Strategy for 2014-2020 has (?) now been largely drafted, it seem more likely that the Scottish Borders Pilot LUS is more likely to be used in setting priorities in 2020, as suggested for the SRDP in Question 6 (and LEADER is part of SRDP in any case). Not sure about a land-based strategy affecting a Maritime Fisheries Fund (unless, for example, it removes salmon netting on the coastal approaches to the Tweed to allow more sporting fishery upstream) but also presume the LUS could potentially influence EU Structural fund investment from 2020.
18	As with Q6, it depends upon the robustness of the analysis.

21	Better quality and quantity of information should lead to better decisions. The mapping of land uses and ecosystem services should provide clearer and better reasoning.
23	More openness is required with regard to LEADER, what it does, which organisations form the action group and how decisions on funding are reached. To date LEADER outreach and public awareness in the Borders has been poor. Given the sums of public money involved there must be a real effort to open up the process from the 2014- 2020 programme. There is a sense that past LEADER funding has particularly benefited the organisations on the action group, not implying any form of corruption but due to the lack of awareness of LEADER funding in the wider community.
27	Yes, multiple benefits is a key objective. It is vital that all the different programmes 'interact' with each other and are not in 'conflict'
29	Not sure how much weight the SBC opinion will carry, but a good example of an LUS could be significant
30	Leaving aside maritime matters which I cannot comment on, linking LEADER funding to the LUS will help to give weight to the latter and help the LEADER programme deliver the objectives on which it is targeted.
32	See comment at 6 - this particularly applies.
33	Comments at 6 and 7 apply. LUS covering the whole country would be required to provide equality of application. Greater consideration of the possible implications of this use in terms of the operation of CAP would be essential to avoid unintended consequences.
37	These funds have broader aims and objectives and so should not be over-influenced by the results of the pilot, but the LUS could be a useful tool in some situations and should be an additional part of the screening and evaluation process.
38	It could, but again wisdom is needed to watch out for hidden agendas and pitfalls.
39	Possibly!
46	SBC affords us a high degree of accountability and some degree of transparency in administering these very valuable programmes. Tweed Forum represents a narrow and privileged group of interests and doesn't have the same accountability or transparency as SBC. This is bound to influence the framework. It would also be at odds with LEADER's professed 'bottom-up' approach. Furthermore, 'guide' is very vague. People might understand 'help to influence', but you may mean 'steer'. So this question is misleading.
47	Any tool that can underpin applications with facts have to be a good thing.
49	Again, the framework could be used to guide these programmes but should not be used to exclude applicants with genuine and sustainable projects.

9 Do you agree that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
16	24	2	1	4	4
31%	47%	4%	2%	8%	8%



COMMENTS

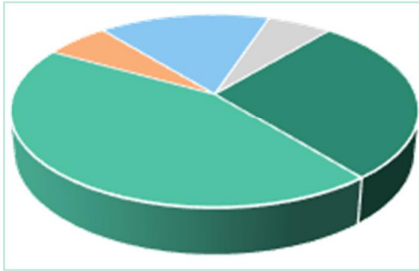
1	<p>The framework needs to be tested against the formally adopted planning policy before it can have a role and I presume this has been built into the later stages of the project.</p> <p>It is critical that the framework is developed such that it becomes as integral part of planning policy. On this basis there will not be the opportunity for the two to contradiction each other.</p>
3	<p>As the framework will be 'non-statutory and non-regulatory in nature' it should not be used in the development management process to determine the outcome of planning applications.</p>
8	<p>Siting wind farms: East Berwickshire has been zoned for development and it may not help to encourage this zoning any further. Planning considerations such as cumulative impact should be given more emphasis and perhaps even a National recognition that we now enough renewables in scoping/planning to meet our targets. These are not subjects the Framework can easily contribute to.</p> <p>Woodlands: Creating areas of expansive woodland helps flora and fauna in a landscape where isolated areas of woodland can cause them problems. Encouraging this kind of zoning is something that the Strategy can contribute to.</p>
9	<p>Again, of course it could and will be used as a tool. But a hammer is a tool. And the farmer / land manager communities are not universally admiring of the planning process.</p>

11	Much of planning deals with individual circumstances, broad guidelines are not appropriate to guide decisions which are often unique to a small locality.
13	Especially in terms of large activities in catchments such as wind farms which may conflict with other environmental goals.
15	See answer to Q6 and Q8.
16	As long as the LUS is truly integrative then it should be a valuable resource for influencing the planning process including Local Development and Community Plans. As so much of current land use is covered by general permitted development status (currently has just been revised http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2014/142/contents/made) it is important that LUS addresses aspects of GPD that can't be addressed through the planning system - e.g. hill tracks, destruction of environmental assets not statutorily designated and access provision.
17	If this can help the planning authority to take seriously its responsibility to increase woodlands and wind farms to help achieve national targets then that in itself would be a huge benefit.
18	See answer to Q6 and Q8.
21	Better quality and quantity of information should lead to better decisions. Having land use strategy maps available should provide a level of protection for some of our most valuable sites that may not have been available before. This allows us to both value and protect our natural capital.
22	If this can help the planning authority to take seriously its responsibility to increase woodlands and wind farms to help achieve national targets then that in itself would be a huge benefit.
27	Yes, the Planning Authority could be a main beneficiary of the LUS aims and objectives. It could be really useful for them.
29	Much depends on the detail. So far the LUS has been kept at arm's length, no closer than sub-catchment. This may need to change.
30	It should not only help to inform the local planning authority but also those taking planning decisions in the Scottish Government. For the SG to ignore the LUS when considering an appeal against a local planning decision which has been to some extent guided by the LUS will undermine the LUS. That's why it is essential that Regional Land Use Strategies are signed up to by the SG on behalf of all SG Departments.
31	As long as it is seen as guidance and not as a 'directive'
32	Planning authorities tend to be insular and inward-looking. A land use framework (but may be independent of national policy) should be encouraged.

33	<p>In principle the LUS could be a useful planning tool if established with sufficient detail. Comments made under 6, 7, and 8 apply. If this is the intended use its status would need to be honestly and openly clarified and the consultation processes increased to follow those currently employed in terms of planning policy - re SESplan and LDPs which give scope for appeals, reviews and legal challenge. A considerable amount of technical scoping work is required to formulate urban land use plans and there is no reason why a rural plan should be regarded in a different way.</p> <p>If the LUS is adopted for this purpose informally then I would not support this.</p> <p>Great care is required to prevent the LUS becoming a means to stifle development and land usage.</p>
37	<p>It would seem foolish not to make appropriate use of the LUS if it is available and relevant to planning decisions.</p>
38	<p>Locally, and in building Scotland's future, if it is properly done, this framework could be key to the health and happiness of the Scottish people.</p>
41	<p>This should be a very useful tool for the Planning Authority - so that the right development takes place in the right place.</p>
46	<p>See comment on "guide" above.</p>
47	<p>I think the mapping of biodiversity and natural resources is bound to be a good thing to support decision making within the planning process of the local authority.</p>
49	<p>The key word is "advisory" tool. Each case should be taken on its merits.</p>
51	<p>It could be a useful advisory tool, but Planning Authorities do not necessarily have to pay heed to the advice offered.</p>

10 Do you agree that the framework could be used to inform these strategies?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
14	22	3	0	8	3
28%	44%	6%	0%	16%	6%



COMMENTS

1	Whilst the various strands of work are complementary they need to be fully integrated, in-particular as a possible outcome is that the Land-use strategy will be the means by which the objectives of the Strategies are delivered. It is therefore likely that contrary to the idea of the framework guiding the strategies, the Strategy will determine what the desired outputs of the LU Strategy are.
5	Again, there is a noticeable lack of mention of biodiversity. The Council has a Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) and this engages with a broad partnership taking in many interests. It is hoped that the LUS would have a useful input to the implementation of the LBAP and, conversely, that the LUS take account of the LBAP as it is developed further.
6	I very much appreciate the inclusion of the Historic Land Use Value pilot in the wider LUS framework as an incredibly positive step forward.
9	No further comment.
15	See previous qualification.
16	The LUS must be inclusive as discussed above and can be important in integrating historic environment, cultural and other strategies into achievable programmes with land managers.
18	See previous qualification.

21	<p>There should be a greater amount of dialogue between those that wish to increase access to land and those that wish to restrict it for certain reasons.</p> <p>Increased dialogue between both parties means there is a chance for an increase in respect by both parties for each other and compromises may be found.</p> <p>It is much easier to spot potential for recreational access when it is mapped alongside other land uses.</p>
23	<p>More effort required to raise awareness of the land use framework amongst all the groups and communities that are involved in the other recreational and cultural activities.</p>
27	<p>Yes, tourism is very important to the Borders.</p> <p>We need to build a stronger base to increase our visitor numbers and enhance their experience.</p>
29	<p>Again, depends on the detail.</p>
30	<p>Yes, but there has to be much more engagement with these interests in developing the LUS before it is used as a significant source of guidance and information on strategies and plans that affect these interests.</p> <p>As you know the datasets for the draft LUS are seriously lacking good quality information about recreational activity and opportunities.</p>
32	<p>This is ESSENTIAL. As described in (3) above, the true stakeholders are either too young to vote or not yet born. Our timescale should be 50 years hence.</p>
33	<p>Agree, subject to comments above.</p>
36	<p>Mapping of these features very difficult and not sure how useful.</p>
37	<p>Again, it would seem sensible to use the framework where it adds to our knowledge base and is likely to guide better decisions.</p>
46	<p>"Inform" is fair.</p>
47	<p>I think the habitat connectivity should be looked at side by side with planning of core paths etc. To enable the general public to be able to interact with the landscape whilst disturbing it as little as possible.</p>
49	<p>The framework could be used to inform core path and outdoor access plans, so long as the maps of paths etc are consulted on with the local land owner or land manager.</p>
50	<p>Again, there is a noticeable lack of mention of biodiversity. The Council has a Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) and this engages with a broad partnership taking in many interests. It is hoped that the LUS would have a useful input to the implementation of the LBAP and, conversely, that the LUS take account of the LBAP as it is developed further.</p>

11	How could the framework potentially be used to inform the work of these bodies?
-----------	--

COMMENTS

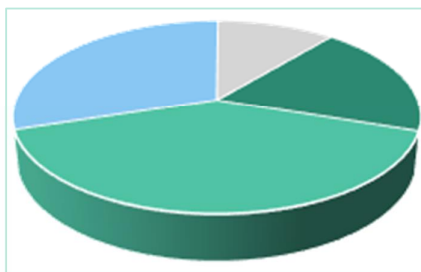
1	The development of the LUS will have been strongly influenced by those with an existing interest in land management be those landowners, farmers or foresters. The role of the Scottish Government & its agencies is to implement policy from the Scottish & UK parliaments and the EU. This should not be compromised by a reliance on a strategy developed by the former group unless this strategy is subject to a rigorous review & formally adopted as a statutory document.
4	Help with targeting, identify priority spend areas, identify areas where ecosystem health needs improved to increase and strengthen the provision of ecosystem services.
6	The future heritage body for Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland, will have a key role in advising both the public and private sector on the importance of the historic environment as a key component of the overall environment. The LUS framework will be a great aid to them in better targeting advice and highlighting opportunities.
8	Mapping exercise should show up areas where multiple benefits can be derived from specific policies.
9	I don't know. I look forward to hearing them tell us. Some of them have a reputation of telling us what we cannot do rather than helping and encouraging us to do more and better. I stress: this is not universal, but I think a really successful "strategy" will require more collaboration and less regulation.
10	I think that the framework and mapping tool could be effective in dealing with issues such as flood prevention, and flood risk. If the agencies etc named above can use the information gained, in coordination with interested parties, to achieve a more cohesive approach to the issues identified as opportunities or potential problems, this can only be to the betterment of rural Scotland. At present approaches, policies and strategies from the agencies etc named above can be too fragmented, and at times contradictory. If the framework can identify a more unified approach to opportunities and problems that would be very beneficial to the Borders.
13	Will provide background information existing land use and proposed changes to current. It will help flag up where changes may occur that might impact, for example, water quality in a Drinking Water Protected Area, and hopefully allow views to be sought in advance of changes being adopted. From a point of view of water management, it would also be helpful for visibility of any planned activities that might affect this, for example large-scale forestry planting/ flooding schemes/ wind farms/ hydro schemes and other abstractions.
15	Assuming that it is well justified, the framework should help inform all decisions relating to land use and land use change. (One of the big issues for the strategy to address is that there are important drivers relating to climate change and the needs of the wider society that suggest major adjustments to the pattern of land use will be required. This will, or rather should, challenge the notion of 'business as usual' which is implicit in many of the current support mechanisms.)

16	If all these agencies and institutions fully engage in the development of the LUS, then it is more likely that their own schemes of work, legislation and priorities will be fitted into a wider strategic plans that do have multiple benefits because they are not limited to a sectoral focus.
17	If there is a considered plan of how land use might change and develop, that will inform all such discussions and avoid ad hoc decisions being made by whoever happens to become involved in the conversation.
18	See previous answers.
19	By providing a statistical basic for development and formulating policy.
21	Better quality and quantity of information should lead to better decisions. May reduce the time taken to get responses from governmental bodies if the majority of the information is at their fingertips. It also means that decisions are made more transparent if members of the public can see what has determined the decision.
22	If there is a considered plan of how land use might change and develop, that will inform all such discussions and avoid ad hoc decisions being made by whoever happens to become involved in the conversation.
24	Identify areas for natural flood measures, areas impacted by abstractions, diffuse pollution etc., to focus on in terms of restoration/remedial works. Identify parts of catchments where afforestation may be appropriate and thus this could feed into SRDP or other funding submissions. Support works relating to priority catchments by identifying hot spots.
27	Yes, it is vitally important that the various government agencies get behind the LUS and support it. There needs to be greater interaction between them. The LUS could be a good 'tool' for them to engage around.
28	The data on the distribution of stakeholder opinions, the analyses and -importantly- the accessibility and presentation of this information could certainly be of use to those National bodies that operate in the Borders - providing they have man-hours to make use of this information and are aware of its limitations.
29	The more accurate information, the better, for all bodies.
30	Each of these statutory agencies should be signed up to the regional land use strategy and be required to take it into account in all aspects of their work that significantly affect the use of the land. There is no point in developing an LUS if any of these agencies are free to ignore it. If they consider it mistaken or incorrect on a local issue then they should provide the evidence and seek to have the LUS amended. In this way the LUS will be improved and its credibility will grow.
31	In a future vision where funding is increased or decreased as a carrot to encourage a particular behaviour, the LUS might be able to give direction
32	The key to landscape development is to realise that landscapes spread beyond local administrative boundaries and must be evaluated nationally as part of our natural resources.

33	Most of these agencies should already have developed strategies. The LUS could help to make sure strategies are aligned with accepted policies and bring organisations who show little regard for local issues or local land use matters into "line", eg Scottish Water. Wider use of the LUS needs to be balanced and reasonable. My comment above applies.
35	Starting point would be to get existing data from these organisations included in the framework maps before it could be used fully as a tool.
37	As above. The framework represents a valuable source of information which partners should be made aware of and encouraged to consider as they develop plans and strategies that impact on land use in the Region.
38	Maybe prevent the Forestry felling trees over footpaths in the tourist season, and encouraging them to put signs/posts up to mark the path after a clear-fell situation, and maybe they should be fined if they don't!!
41	Again, this would be very useful - a large part of the Tweed catchment is due to become a diffuse pollution priority catchment in the near future, so being able to identify opportunities, particularly in terms of SRDP spend will be very useful.
43	Should not be involved.
46	I don't know enough about the work of these bodies to comment.
47	At a time when funding for National Bodies is under great pressure, tools such as opportunity maps can ensure scarce resources are used in ways it provide the greatest benefit. But again it has to be used with great sensitivity and a good dose of common sense. It should not be used in a rigid and dogmatic way which ends up being used to say "The framework says NO!"
48	Ensure these bodies read and understand the content.
49	It is worth noting that Brian Packe is due to be releasing a report shortly and, from recent talks, it appears that he will be recommending a single Government Agency with its own chairperson and would oversee all policy decisions. This would ensure that all arms of the Scottish Government which are named above would be delivering to the same standard.
51	By showing details of the needs and wishes of particular areas.

12 Do you think the framework could assist with the Scottish Borders Economic Strategy 2020?

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No response
10	21	0	0	16	6
19%	40%	0%	0%	30%	11%



COMMENTS

1	The framework has a role to play in informing decisions that will promote sustainable economic development and conversely prevent unsustainable development but it needs to identified which programme has primacy.
4	Land use is central to the borders economic strategy, better planning will assist with its delivery.
9	I have no idea but I would very much hope so.
10	Yes, I think the framework could help identify opportunities, and provide a sharper focus.
15	See answer to Q11.
16	By engaging with land managers and users the LUS will allow the Scottish Borders Economic Strategy 2023 to be better focused and to be more integrated with social and environmental outcomes.
17	Not all economic development is significantly affected by or affects land use; certain activities are and do. The framework should have some role to play in the deliberations.
18	See previous answers.
21	The LUS has potential for use in any discussion about land use - especially one that focuses on future land uses and economic opportunities. However, I do not know that the Scottish Borders Economic Strategy 2023 is, or what it intends to do...

22	Not all economic development is significantly affected by or affects land use; certain activities are and do. The framework should have some role to play in the deliberations.
27	Yes, Economic Development and Environmental enhancement go hand-in-hand. Each depends on the other. There is a strong link to the LUS here!
32	The Borders with its limited opportunities for revenue streams need wide-spread co-operation to maximise its income and control its revenue spend.
33	Would help to inform and encourage a "joined up" approach to policy making which is often lacking. Resultant policy may be more sensible, considered, targeted and robust.
37	I would suggest that for the Borders it is vital that the framework is taken into consideration in thinking about economic development because land use is still a major component of our economy.
38	Paths lead to tourist accommodation lead to jobs Paths lead to cafes and pubs for walkers lead to jobs Food for walkers leads to farms jobs Farms and farm shops bring in tourists lead to jobs More tourists need more transport leads to jobs
39	?
41	This should provide valuable information to the economic development of the Borders - identifying opportunities for tourism, recreation and viable sustainable communities.
46	There needs to be a more holistic and integrated view of economic planning so that the different silos work together. The SBES could be a mechanism for bringing landed interests into discussion with other parts of the business picture, especially tourism, sport and culture.
51	Certainly on the tourism front, with improved signage and better facilities for visitors generally.

13 Do you have any further comments?	
COMMENTS	
1	<p>1. When considering flood attenuation have historic: a) flood defences/banks & b) canalisations/dredgings been mapped? Should these be reviewed to ensure that the local 'good' they achieve is not causing public 'harm'/disadvantage locally or further downstream.</p> <p>2. Who has ownership of the LUS, if SBC will it be formally adopted and it's role defined.</p> <p>3. No consideration of minerals extraction</p>
3	<p>Two key concerns:</p> <p>1. The document does not talk about the whole suite of renewable technologies but instead focuses solely on wind farms.</p> <p>2. There is a suggestion that the framework could be a useful advisory tool to help guide the work of the Planning Authority – as we discussed before I think this could potentially be detrimental.</p> <p>How this document will used by Scottish Government, planning authorities etc should be clarified to ensure that the document is fit for purpose and does not result in unnecessary duplication of effort.</p>
5	I would just reiterate that Biodiversity should have a higher profile throughout the process of developing the LUS
6	My interaction with LUS so far has been very positive and I look forward to the final results. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
9	I think a strategy is a grand plan for achieving a big project (ie D-Day); quite different from tactics which is about local engagements to support strategic success. I fear that we have here "It would be grand to have a strategy; we can decide how to use it later". I think the troops on the beaches and in the dugouts are cynical of strategies like that and if this is to succeed it will need extraordinary leadership, not just tinkering with tactics, ie local decisions about grants.
10	I personally learned from the 2 meetings I attended. I was impressed by the attendance at Eddleston, and the level of engagement. The attendees were all positive in their contributions. I got the feeling that they are not used to having their opinions sought, and enjoyed the opportunity to put forward their views.
11	This sounds like a very expensive way to come up with a list of statements, which will then be used to beat rural residents and businesses around the head with, every time they wish to change or do something. It will probably end up affecting the rural community in ways they cannot yet imagine. If common sense, honesty, openness and good communication between stakeholders were promoted instead, this framework would be completely unnecessary. Try talking, we all live in this beautiful country, we all want to preserve it.
13	We'd be interested in receiving further updates on progress and how the data we provided is being used. Also to establish if there is anything further we can input at this stage.

14	All comments have been made previously.
15	Q6 - 12incl all ask variations of the same question i. e. do you think the LUS might be useful - to which the answer is yes so long as it is a robust and objective analysis on the issues. I'm not sure what this consultation is going to achieve other than to establish that people agree that a LUS would be good to have! Land use is primarily determined by land capability and the value of the various potential outputs. The study needs to agree what uses are compatible with one another and what ones aren't and the relative values, both economic and environmental, of each use. It should be a matter of detailed logical analysis based on these various capabilities and compatibilities. Hopefully a consensus can then develop - once the analysis has been done and 'cross examined'.
16	Don't forget the value of cultural heritage to the Scottish Borders!
18	Q6 - 12incl all ask the same question i. e. do you think the LUS might be useful - to which the answer depends on its value. I'm not sure what this consultation is trying to achieve other than to establish that people agree that a LUS would be good to have! There seems to be a need for more background information and analysis. Land use is primarily determined by land capability which, in turn, is largely a function of geology, soils and climate. We need more detail of the value of the different potential outputs (but that is not a simple matter). We need to agree what uses are compatible with one another and what ones aren't and the relative values, both economic and environmental, of each use. To be useful, the Land Use Strategy should be a matter of detailed logical analysis based on these various capabilities and compatibilities. Hopefully a consensus can then develop - once the analysis has been done and 'cross examined'. This consultation seems to be canvassing opinion before the results are available?
20	All comments have been made previously.
21	Urban insight is needed. Transparency of how the maps were made is desirable. The land use strategy must be useful!!
23	A great step forward in approach to base land management decisions on eco-system services. However there needs to be much more effort made to raise awareness and involve the wider community in the land use strategy otherwise it risks a small number of individuals and organisations determining outcomes which affect everyone over the long-term. Tweed Forum does great work but from the outside does look like an organisation mainly representing a privileged band of landowners with elite fishing interests. Can it effectively engage with the wider community whose interests many not coincide with its traditional support?
27	The LUS pilot is a really useful concept. Let's hope it gets the ongoing support it needs to take it to the next level: 2015- 2020. It must continue to develop over the coming years.

28	<p>I do not know that the pilot has taken any account of human population growth in the region or nationally. This single factor drives many of the pressures on land use. I do not know of any part of the consultation that has sought objective population growth estimates. I do not see any attempt to acknowledge that land use constraints and opportunities vary with population size. I do not see any indication that knowledgeable individuals have been consulted about the notion of an optimum range of values for population numbers in relation to land use at any time point or in a dynamic sense during the course of foreseeable sustainable economic growth. (Perhaps 'sustainable economic growth' is an oxymoron.)</p> <p>Population size can raise extremely difficult social, political and practical questions. The motives for asking these questions are often misunderstood. It is a practical issue that has to be addressed in land use analyses. For example, the answers to some of the questions above will vary with population size. If the population issues are indeed omitted then this analysis is seriously flawed and its usefulness is very limited. I hope not.</p>
32	This document has NOT filtered down to grass roots levels, and you are missing out on useful insight as a consequence.
33	<p>I am concerned that the LUS becomes a formal planning tool and is used in a negative way rather than in a positive informative way. If this formal status is intended considerable more consultation is required.</p> <p>I hope the level of detail is sufficient to allow reasonable and sensible interpretation and that local differences are facilitated with practical built-in flexibility.</p>
37	Scale is the issue. If we are serious about getting the best from the land we will need to look in detail at each area of land and consider how it could be managed to deliver multiple benefits. Map-based information will be part of this - but there is also a need for quality advice and education. Hopefully the process that has been started will continue to develop to the point that this multiple benefit approach becomes routine.
38	... remember the ZUMPH if there are any more public meetings!
39	Are we simply adding complication to a complex situation?
46	Land use' as portrayed in this document seems to refer to the countryside. But can we have integrated land use that doesn't include the towns? Flood management, water resources, tourism, sport, education, business... many areas are interdependent and I would expect a true ecosystems approach to reflect a wider definition of land use.
47	I think it is important that the framework when implemented fully should be available to as wide an audience as possible. As a farmer it would be great for planning environmental work if I could see how we fit in the bigger picture. It should not just be available to large or National Bodies.
48	One must not forget that the largest number of Borders residents are not directly involved with land use but have to live, work and put up with policies determined by others. Perhaps too, they provide funding.
50	I would just reiterate that Biodiversity should have a higher profile throughout the process of developing the LUS.