Group 4

**Outcome:** 1. ~~Financial viability~~ Cost of land management

Management of the landscapes that result from restoration of open habitats is financially viable in the long-term, including associated woodland and remaining woodland elsewhere.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A negative impact. The open habitats are more costly to manage than the woods or forests from which they arise.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|

? Difference between costs and financial viability.

There was consensus that costs are about right, but there is a high variation.

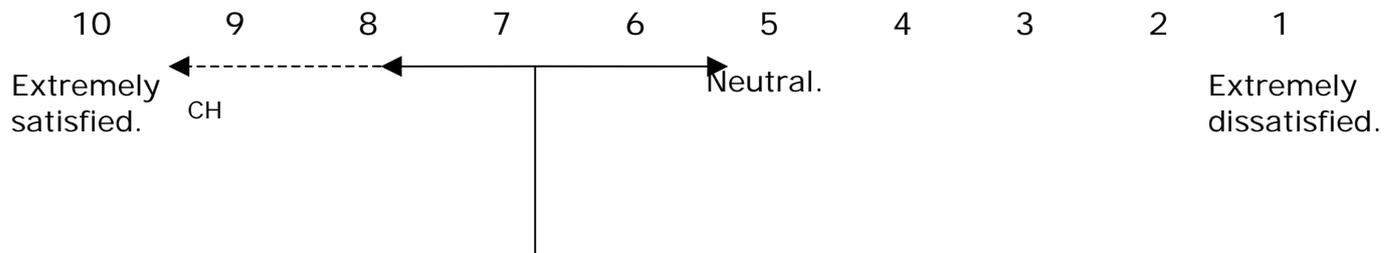Generally goes from 'asset' to 'liability' on balance sheet (depending on the scale).

Under performing in biodiversity is a 'cost' in terms of management costs.

? Depending on public pot.

Where forest is not viable the relative costs may not be so negative and the benefits greater.

Don't like the 'financial viability' term.

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|

Extremely satisfied.   CH

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact: See above

Group 5

| **Outcome:** 1. Financial viability |
|---|
| Management of the landscapes that result from restoration of open habitats is financially viable in the long-term, including associated woodland and remaining woodland elsewhere. |
| **Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A negative impact.  The open habitats are more costly to manage than the woods or forests from which they arise. |

| **Evidence for:** | **Evidence against:** |
|---|---|
| There is good evidence in the paper.<br><br>There is evidence for long-term higher regional impact, i.e. Giddings, Truro, Walkers/Thompson etc.<br><br>Consequential impact e.g. on skills and wider impact.<br><br>Need to add evidence of longer-term availability of Higher Level Stewardship i.e. post 2012.<br><br>EIA ++<br>Costs of better processes etc.<br><br>Bottom line impact - on FE, and therefore FC bottom line and therefore less money for private sector.<br><br>Also look for additional evidence to see if the habitat already created is/can be situated = critical. | Evidence for increases in other income, e.g.: recreation, tourism, etc.  If more biodiversity or interest in landscape. |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | ⑨ | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.  Neutral.  Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

| Likely impact: |
|---|
|  |

**Group 3**

**Outcome:** 2. Keeping to Government commitments on woodland cover.

The UK Government is able to demonstrate fulfilment of our international commitments to sustainable forest management, especially maintaining net woodland cover.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A potential negative impact if rates of permanent woodland loss due to restoration go above a threshold, currently thought to be 1,100ha per year.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Carbon finance. | Land availability – food security, etc. |
| Energy forestry (but nature of woodland and what it delivers – biodiversity/social – may change) | Eco-tourism and development. |
| | European drivers – Natura 2000. |
| Urban greenspace? | Better woodland design (diverse structure and multiple use – including social) |
| HAP targets for woodland. | A UK commitment that could unravel at country/regional/local scale. |

Conflicting policy issues need highlighting – less concerned about the evidence which we are content with.

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

Better expression of the uncertainties could move this to 8.

This might be better: A dynamic threshold figure is needed.

Likely impact:

Group 6

**Outcome:** 2. Keeping to Government commitments on woodland cover.

The UK Government is able to demonstrate fulfilment of our international commitments to sustainable forest management, especially maintaining net woodland cover.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A potential negative impact if rates of permanent woodland loss due to restoration go above a threshold, currently thought to be 1,100ha per year. ???

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| | Questionable baseline re cover and replanting. |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 1

**Outcome:** 3. Resilient ecological communities.

Communities of key open habitat species that can adapt to climate change.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:  A positive impact provided guidelines on managing biodiversity to adapt to climate change are followed.  The key factor is the creation of heterogeneous habitat well connected to other habitat and with some patches of sufficient size to support populations that are viable in the long-term even if relatively isolated.  Retaining some woods and forests to create mosaics of woodland and open habitat is likely to have a positive impact.  Too great a focus on creating and retaining at stasis open habitats that conform to definitions of favourable condition may have a negative impact.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Biological evidence associated with vascular plant species present in existing large areas of open habitat (and also invertebrates and birds). | |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely
satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely
dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 2

**Outcome:** 3. Resilient ecological communities.

Communities of key open habitat species that can adapt to climate change.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:  A positive impact provided guidelines on managing biodiversity to adapt to climate change are followed.  The key factor is the creation of heterogeneous habitat well connected to other habitat and with some patches of sufficient size to support populations that are viable in the long-term even if relatively isolated.  Retaining some woods and forests to create mosaics of woodland and open habitat is likely to have a positive impact.  Too great a focus on creating and retaining at stasis open habitats that conform to definitions of favourable condition may have a negative impact.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
| --- | --- |
| | |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

Extremely
satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely
dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact: Fundamental driver.

Group 3

**Outcome:** 4. Carbon balance.

Woods and forests make an appropriate contribution to the ability of the UK Government to meet its commitments for reducing carbon emissions.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A negative impact on the contribution of woods and forests to UK carbon reduction commitments. Such an impact should be set in the context of current efforts to unlock additional green house gas (GHG) emissions abatement measures by the Committee on Climate Change as part of the process for setting future emissions reduction targets.
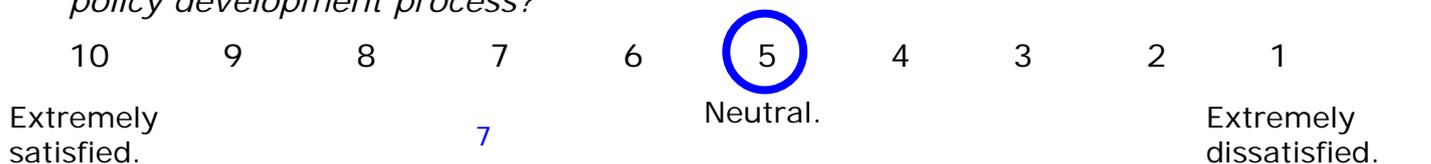
| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Uncertainty over timber substitution figures. | Actual impact is small but still significant. |
| | Public perception will be far more negative. |

Conflicting policy issues rather than concerns over the evidence.

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.

7

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better: Link to energy/ carbon woodland expansion.

Likely impact:

Group 2

**Outcome:** 4. Carbon balance.

Woods and forests make an appropriate contribution to the ability of the UK Government to meet its commitments for reducing carbon emissions.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A negative impact on the contribution of woods and forests to UK carbon reduction commitments. Such an impact should be set in the context of current efforts to unlock additional green house gas (GHG) emissions abatement measures by the Committee on Climate Change as part of the process for setting future emissions reduction targets.

**Evidence for:** | **Evidence against:**

Evidence in its infancy but more has been commissioned.

Could be mitigated by compensatory planting.

(strategic carbon balance)

Restored open habitats have an abatement role.

Unsure of significance of carbon change from open habitat restoration.

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

10    9    8    7    6    (5)    4    3    2    1

Extremely satisfied.        Neutral.        Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact: Evidence needs to be clearer

Group 5

**Outcome:** 5. Positive trends in populations of open habitat species.

The declining trend in populations of key open habitat species is halted and if possible reversed.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A positive impact. The magnitude of benefits depends on the starting woodland or forest, the open habitat being restored, subsequent management and other changes such as patterns of recreation. The evidence appears to show that for most key species woodland and forest has a positive role to play and that a mosaic of permanent woodland, temporary open space, and permanent open space will deliver the desired outcome. Much depends on the management regime creating ecological processes that will deliver the niche requirements of priority species.

| **Evidence for:** | **Evidence against:** |
|---|---|
| Evidence is good for most species – restorative correct and ongoing management (e.g. grazing). | Evidence that clear felling is very positive for some open habitat bird species, e.g. nightjars and woodlarks. |
| The scale and mix of habitats needs to be taken into account. | Need evidence to see to what extent the open habitat we have created are being maintained appropriately. |
| Over focus on birds? | |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.  Neutral.  Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 1

**Outcome:** 5. Positive trends in populations of open habitat species.

The declining trend in populations of key open habitat species is halted and if possible reversed.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A positive impact.  The magnitude of benefits depends on the starting woodland or forest, the open habitat being restored, subsequent management and other changes such as patterns of recreation.  The evidence appears to show that for most key species woodland and forest has a positive role to play and that a mosaic of permanent woodland, temporary open space, and permanent open space will deliver the desired outcome.  Much depends on the management regime creating ecological processes that will deliver the niche requirements of priority species.

| **Evidence for:** | **Evidence against:** |
|---|---|
| | Need more evidence associated with other taxa i.e. more than birds. |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|

Extremely satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 6

**Outcome:** 6. Quality of life and landscape.

Changes in landscape due to restoration of open habitats from woods or forests improve the quality of life of people who experience that landscape.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little impact on quality of life ~~as mediated by landscape~~ provided ~~landscape scale deforestation is avoided and the landscape~~ changes are carefully designed and implemented at an appropriate landscape scale.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Process has already been done (EIA)<br><br>Lee, T.P. (2001), Technical paper 18. | Short-term concern.<br><br>When does a woodland still feel like a woodland (size, design)? |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

10    9    8    ⑦    6    5    4    3    2    1

Extremely satisfied.                          Neutral.                          Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact: Little impact on quality of life provided it is carefully designed and implemented at an appropriate landscape scale.

Group 6

**Outcome:** 7. Learning about landscape history.

People now and in the future can learn through direct enjoyment of the outdoors how history has shaped the landscape.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little effect on the ability of people to learn how history has shaped the landscape.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Current users don't care provided access is available. | Can form part of wider educational programmes. |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

10      9      8      7      6      5      4      3      2      1

Extremely satisfied.                          Neutral.                          Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 6

**Outcome:** 8.Preservation of historic ~~features~~ environments.

The condition of historic features in open habitats restored from woods and forests improves and key cultural and designed landscapes are retained.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Potential for negative impact if guidelines for dealing with historic features are not followed . Conversely, the potential impact could be positive if guidelines are followed.

| **Evidence for:** | **Evidence against:** |
|---|---|
| Good guidance exists. | Interpretation of guidelines incorrect. |
| | Not a wide understanding of historic environment by people who implement and the general public. |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.                      Neutral.                      Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 2

**Outcome:** 9. Commitments on native and/or ancient woodland.

The Government is able to keep to commitments in Keepers of Time on area of native and/or ancient woodland.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little impact if policy is followed. | |
| **Evidence for:** | **Evidence against:** |
| Strong. | |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact: Opportunity to deliver Keepers of Time objectives on a greater scale.

Group 3

**Outcome:** 10. Desired trends in woodland biodiversity are not compromised.

Any improvement in trends in populations of key species associated with native and non-native woodland habitats is not compromised.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little impact.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| | Loss of particular woodlands e.g. wet woodlands. |
| | Biodiversity value of non-native (plantation) woodland is insufficiently recognised. |
| | Uncertainty of survival of woodland species. |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely
satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely
dissatisfied.

If notes above are addressed, then 8.

9

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 2

**Outcome:** 11. Water quality and yield.

There is no significant negative effect on nitrate run-off, scavenging of airborne pollution, water yields, flooding, or other water quality factors.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little impact on a national scale. Some potential posituve or negative impact at local scale, e.g.: positive due to increased water quality in some upland catchments following deforestation, negative due to acid flushing and erosion in some other upland catchments, negative due to loss of screening for airborne nitrogen pollution in some lowland catchments.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Relatively insignificant compared to agricultural impacts. | Focus on N too limited (P, sediment, etc.) |
| Mechanisms (e.g. FEIA) do exist to address risks. | Reliance on good practice questionable. |
| | Agglomeration of 'local' impacts could have strategic implications. |
| | Uncertain good restoration practice. |
| | Water supply and quality – lots of unanswered questions (Pitt review). |

Impacts vary with timescales

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1

Extremely satisfied.　　　　　Neutral.　　　　　Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact: The more these issues of evidence are addressed at national level, the less they will hamper/slow down local delivery.

Group 3

**Outcome:** 11. Water quality and yield.

There is no significant negative effect on nitrate run-off, scavenging of airborne pollution, water yields, flooding, or other water quality factors.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little impact on a national scale.  Some potential posituve or negative impact at local scale, e.g.: positive due to increased water quality in some upland catchments following deforestation, negative due to acid flushing and erosion in some other upland catchments, negative due to loss of screening for airborne nitrogen pollution in some lowland catchments.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
|  |  |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely
satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely
dissatisfied.

3

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 1

**Outcome:** 12. Air and noise pollution abated. Include light pollution.

There is no significant negative effect on the role woods and forests play in ameliorating air and noise pollution..

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little impact provided flexibility is given to allow belts and other small areas of trees to be retained as screens and provided these are well managed.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Include light pollution which relates especially to issues of perception (like reference 84 on page 34). | |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

10    (9)    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1

Extremely satisfied.          Neutral.          Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact: Woods and forests have a positive effect in ameliorating air, noise and light pollution.

Group 1

**Outcome:** 13. Positive engagement by local and other users.

People's positive engagement in the landscape they use, particularly their local landscape is maintained or enhanced (including engagement of woodland owners and those working in forestry).

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A risk of significant negative impact.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Anecdotes from instances of successful restoration. | |
| Owners of land will only restore where they are positively engaged. | |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Extremely satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 5

| |
|---|
| **Outcome:** 13. Positive engagement by local and other users. |
| People's positive engagement in the landscape they use, particularly their local landscape is maintained or enhanced (including engagement of woodland owners and those working in forestry). |
| **Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** A risk of significant negative impact. |

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Restrictions on dogwalkers in relation to ground-nesting birds and need for dogs on leads.  Increased restrictions in access rights. | Clarification of evidence into<br>1) disturbance should be less valued because it is a management issue<br>2) 2) longer-term issues e.g. appearance, use by people.  Value this. |

NB: Piece of evidence on people's comparative preferences in the local landscape e woodland or open habitat

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

10      9      8      ⑦      6      5      4      3      2      1

Extremely
satisfied.                              Neutral.                              Extremely
dissatisfied.

This might be better:

| |
|---|
| Likely impact: |
| |
| |

Group 5

**Outcome:** 14. Access and recreation.

The rates of use and benefits received by recreation users are maintained or enhance.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Little impact except for some open habitats where there may be a conflict between recreational users and ground nesting birds.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Recreation users value the environments that they spend time in and its management.<br><br>(NB: will add to ongoing cost)<br><br>(But provide financial income to local business.) | ? Dog users anecdotally because dog users are key.<br><br>But …. need to be a balance with other species.<br><br>Avoid single issue. |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

10    9*    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1

Extremely
satisfied.                                         Neutral.                              Extremely
                                                                                        dissatisfied.

*NB: assumes that our points are incorporated.

This might be better:

Likely impact:

Group 4

**Outcome:** 15. Timber sector confidence.

Any effect on timber supply has little impact on the confidence in the harvested woods products producing and processing sectors meaning that economic activity in the sector is not curtailed.

**Likely impact of restoration of open habitats from woods and forests:** Potentially negative impacts at a regional scale, so policy needs to address this.

| Evidence for: | Evidence against: |
|---|---|
| Qualitatively may be OK but … | … Evidence outdated/ incomplete and more research is needed.  (Some surveys are underway.) |
| But does not take account of the implications for training courses. | Might be more positive opportunities for contractors in open ground management and other elements of the industry, including compensatory planting. |
| Regional and local projects might give positive gains but depends on confidence in long-term funding. | Wood production forecasts. |
| Loss of contractors could have knock on effects on ancient woodland management. | |

*How satisfied would you be if this analysis of the evidence were used to inform the policy development process?*

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

Extremely satisfied.

Neutral.

Extremely dissatisfied.

◀ – – – –

Score depends on the net scale of change/targets.

This might be better:

Likely impact: