

Farming and Agriculture



Positive Benefits:

- Government Policy Direction whether as a result of Brexit or not, is seeking to reward Farmers whose actions will positively contribute to the stewardship of the land and delivers broader economic benefits. Being Inside the National Park is an example of where high quality stewardship and economic well being go "hand in hand". **So funding will follow landscape and designations.**
- Outside the Common Agriculture Policy, post Brexit, Farming will need to compete with limited budgets that support many public sector priorities, such as Health and Social Care, Defense and Education. UK Govt will spend on schemes which **deliver benefits, such as water management, land access, biodiversity.**
- **Farming is integral to the National Park** - this was a **key factor in achieving World Heritage Site.** Farming underpins thriving communities, and the National park wants to work with the Farming community so that we retain the cultural heritage that is unique to the Lake District.
- Planning legislation and processes are the same both inside and outside the National Park. There are differences on policy development, with **major development being more restricted in the National Park**, with the National Park Authority having a clear preference for smaller development, particularly where farmland is being put at risk.
- Anecdotal evidence from the recent extension in the Lakes and Dales (East Cumbria), suggests there will be an increase in visitor activity, **but not at levels which have a detrimental impact.**
- Resources in the National Park mean there is enhanced support from the Rangers, who **bring expertise on access issues and help communities access new funding routes.** This has been the case in the recent extension of the National Park.

Concerns:

- Farms that live on the boundary of a National Park, may have stronger competition to funding routes.