

Measuring and Driving progress towards the goals of the 25 Year Environment Plan

Robert Bradburne / November 2019

What is different about the 25 Year Environment Plan?

It is a long term plan. This is the first time the Government has published a plan for the environment that spans a whole generation. It gives time to see real outcomes from actions taken and to tackle long term issues.

It is a plan about the environment as a system. It uses understand and manage our environmental "stocks" and the materials and other considers these as part of the broader socio economic system.



It begins a new governance framework for the environment. In conjunction with the Environment Bill, the Plan is part of anew way of governing our environment, setting out a cycle of planning monitoring and adapting our approach to deliver long term ambitions.

The new framework - targets, indicators and a goal-driven approach

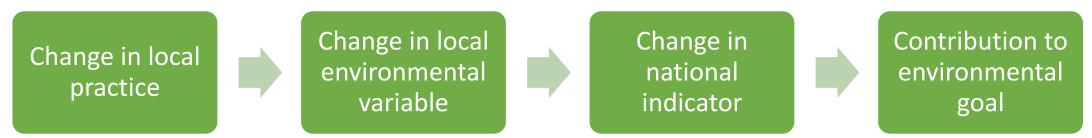
Targets may be used to show a level of ambition, drive progress, and allow scrutiny. They will represent only a subset of everything we want to achieve, and therefore need to be clearly linked to the 25 Year Environment Plan's overarching goals.

The Outcome Indicator Framework aims to provide a complete view of the environment system covered by the 25 Year Environment Plan. Taking this systematic view enables understanding of the interplay between different interventions and our overall progress towards improving the environment as a whole

Single interventions may impact one or a number of indicators, and therefore help to deliver against a range of our goals and targets. Taking a goal-driven approach, recognising multiple impacts enables more efficient policy making and delivery and can help avoid driving perverse outcomes from focusing solely on one target or part of the system.

Using the Outcome Indicator Framework in policy making and delivery

Testing "logic chains"



Exposing interactions

- E.g., around 2/3 indicators could be influenced by how government interacts with land managers in future.
- Framework can help us analyse how to bring together net zero and other environmental ambitions.

Evaluating impacts

Using subsets of the indicators to explore cross cutting issues e.g. around climate adaptation

Understanding the value of interventions

"Conventional" policy economic analysis



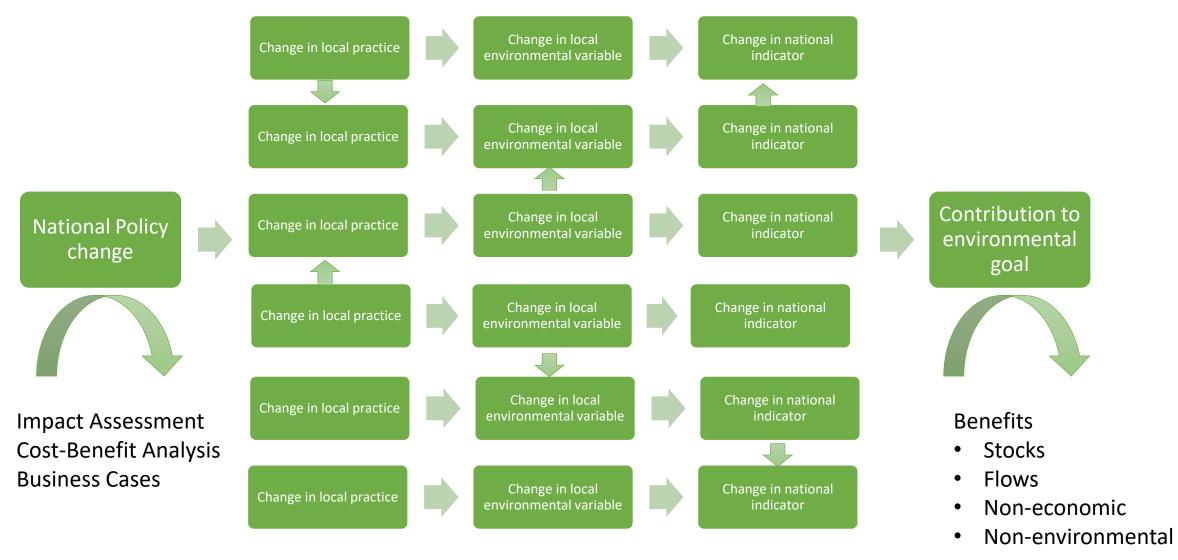
Impact Assessment Cost-Benefit Analysis Business Cases

Costs

Benefits

- Stocks
- Flows
- Non-economic

Understanding something closer to the "real" value of interventions



Spatial variability. Interactions.

Conclusions

Effective valuation of nature remains crucial in the creation and delivery of Government policy

As valuation techniques get better, new challenges evolve relating to applying valuation to the complex interactions within environmental systems.

Spatial and social considerations will require continued cross-disciplinary working to provide the best possible evidence for policy development.