

# **Dartmoor Land Use Management Group (DLUMG) meeting #003**

## **Executive Summary from Workshop 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

### **Why DLUMG Matters, and Why Now**

- Dartmoor faces long-term challenges: environmental decline, financial pressure on upland farms, and often fragmented or contested delivery.
- No single organisation can solve this. DLUMG brings together people with different perspectives, but a shared stake in Dartmoor's future.
- There is a window of opportunity to make real progress, shaped by national policy interest, local schemes, and a willingness from this group to work differently.

### **What We Learned from the Workshop**

DLUMG members are ready to lead, not be led. The group is committed to:

- Focusing on strategic value, not direct delivery.
- Commissioning, aligning and amplifying rather than duplicating effort.
- Surfacing tensions early and investing in trust and relationships.
- Proposing practical, grounded solutions rather than escalating problems.
- Working through others, but with shared ownership and influence.

The emphasis now is on turning insight into action, but without rushing or defaulting to business as usual.

### **The Risks We Need to Manage**

To succeed, DLUMG will need to stay alert to some shared challenges:

- Trust and group dynamics.
- Strategic clarity and role definition.
- Engaging meaningfully with real-world complexity
- Limited time and delivery capacity.
- Working without formal authority.
- Focussing finite resource on areas of greatest strategic value

- Complexity and fragmentation across themes.
- Policy and funding uncertainty.

Each of these has been discussed – and practical mitigations agreed.

## **What Happens Next – Our Immediate Priorities**

1. Establish a forward schedule of DLUMG meetings/workshops and outline roadmap/plan.
2. Continue co-developing workstream briefs using the structure agreed at the workshop.
3. Agree a shared 'ways of working' approach and group charter.
4. Secure expert facilitation to support group progress and workstream coordination.
5. Position Landscape Recovery Schemes as strategic delivery platforms and align DLUMG's forward plan with their milestones & activities.
6. Clarify how DLUMG can shape and influence, rather than replicate, other local and national initiatives.

## **Working Differently, Together**

This is not a delivery body or a formal authority but it is a credible group, strategic selected and credible with the right people in the room and a shared will to act. If we don't do this together, no one else will.

A draft charter has been developed to help set the tone for how we work together. It is not set in stone but it's a useful place to start.

A key challenge is that the DLUMG must learn to act as an organisation charged with delivering a complicated and complex mission, but without the usual structures that tend to exist in organisations.

## **Next Steps**

DLUMG Members: Please take time to review both this summary and the detailed notes. Ahead of our next meeting, we'll be seeking views on the draft charter, shaping workstream briefs, and confirming facilitation and coordination arrangements.

DLUMG Secretariat will set up a forward schedule of DLUMG members and take forward the actions and recommendations set out in the workshop outputs document.