

Delivering diversity in farm scales : challenges and opportunities

Joint session hosted by:
The Campaign to Protect Rural
England
and
The Landworkers' Alliance

New model farming: resilience through diversity



FOOD & FARMING FORESIGHT – Paper 1



Uncertain harvest: does the loss of farms matter?



FOOD & FARMING FORESIGHT – Paper 2



Why this is an issue for CPRE?



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What is a happening to farms?

- ‘Historic’ losses (academic research)
for England and Wales 1950 to 1980
128,000 fall OR 1.5% pa
- Recent data (Defra) - nos of holdings
for England 2005 to 2015
28,200 fall OR 2.1% pa
- EU data (Eurostat) - Farm indicators
all EU countries 2005 to 2013
 - England -48% ; Wales -32%, NI -9%, Scotland +21%
 - Italy - 42%, Austria -18%, Ireland +5%

Why are we losing farms?

It's the market, Sergei...



- economic pressures
- lack of policy support

HM Treasury Defra Green paper 2005 (p17)

A vision for the Common Agricultural Policy

- “efficient, well-functioning land markets are essential in order to assist the process of structural change, achieve economies of size, help diversification, maintain international competitiveness and secure credit.”
- “the provision of training to farmers and farm labourers can help more successful adaptation to changed circumstances, and make it easier for those leaving the sector to find work in the wider employment market”

Why it matters – threats to the countryside

- Damage to the rural economy
- Poorer access to new farmers and progression
- Loss of 'conservation capital' and simplified landscapes

The battle of Brexit ... uncertainties and opportunities?



Closing thoughts ...
and thank you for listening

Graeme Willis
Food and Farming campaigner

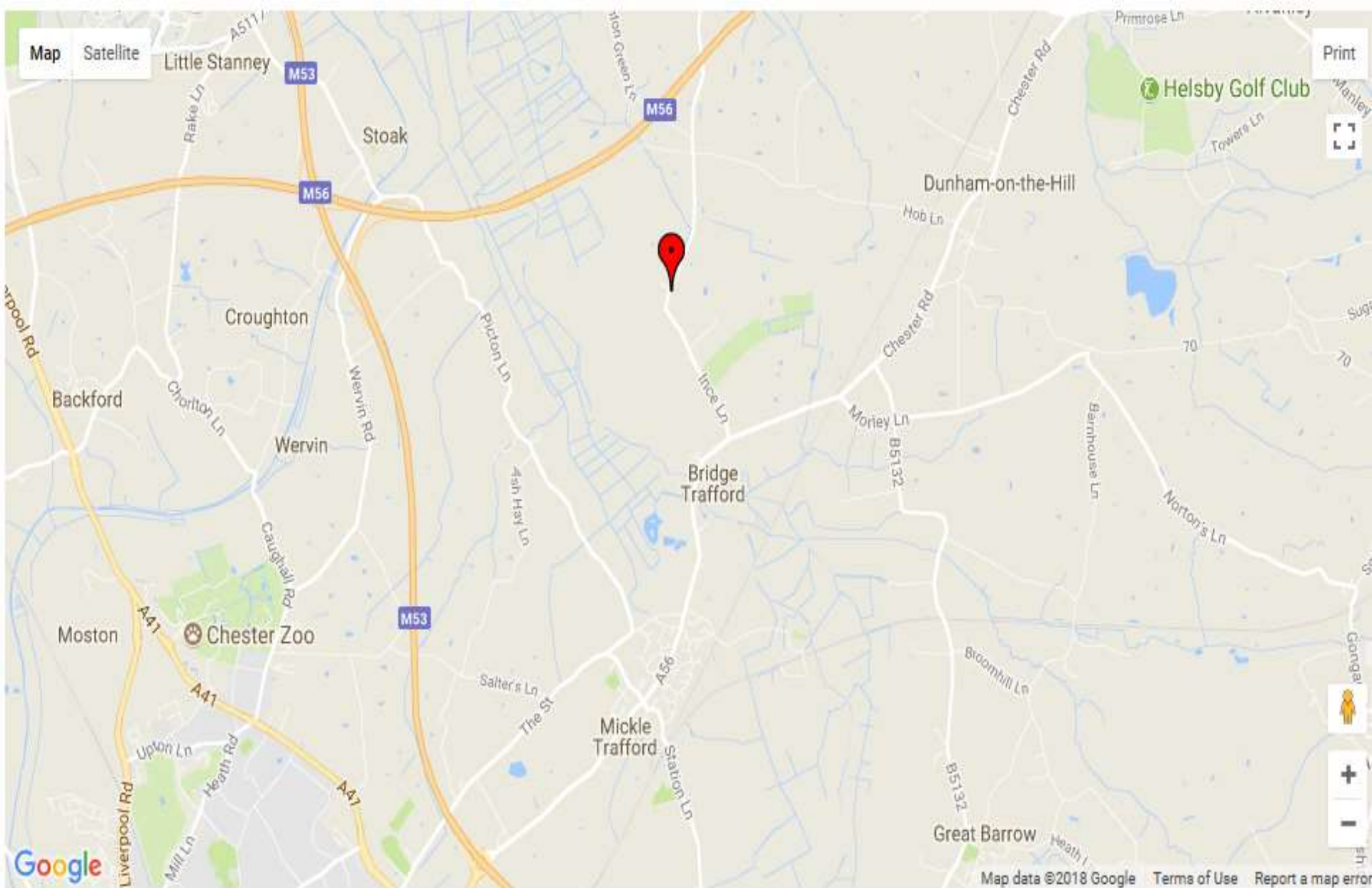
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Figure 2.2 Hypothetical Illustration of how the June Survey/Census Under-Estimates Change and Dynamics in Farming

	Indicative Relative Size of Farm Business Turnover using June Survey Holding Size as a Proxy	Adjusted Indicative Relative Size of Farm Business Turnover
<p>Farmer A 50 hectares – all land now let as seasonal grass keep to Farmer C. Farmer works off farm.</p>		
<p>Farmer B 100 hectares – share farmed with/by Farmer D who provides all machinery and makes most of the management decisions.</p>		
<p>Farmer C 100 hectares – Farms his 100 hectares supplemented by the 50 hectares grass keep from A. Also has substantial farm contracting business.</p>		
<p>Farmer D 500 hectares – Farms his 500 hectares and share-farms B's 100 hectares. Contract farms 295 hectares from E.</p>		
<p>Farmer E 500 hectares – Farms 295 hectares, using C for contracting. 200 hectares contract farmed by D. Informally lets 5 hectares to F an unregistered equine holding.</p>		
<p>Farmer F</p>		



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