## **Evolution of Agri-Environment Schemes in England**

Note: This is a summary of the main schemes and is not intended to be a definitive list. Other schemes/grants existed, for example for farm woodland establishment/management and for soil and water protection

**Focus** landscapes caused by post war intensification; and increasing area in environmental management. linked to specific outcomes; and maximising environmental benefits. Rapid agricultural intensification to increase production. Regulations/ schemes to protect Sites of Special Scientific 1968 **Conservation and Enhancement Scheme** SSSI management 1981 Wildlife & Countryside Act Wildlife Enhancement Scheme For management of SSSI's and other land where agreements Under \$15, Income foregone payments to Introduced payments for positive SSSI management. ES is not appropriate prevent damaging operations. including land adjacent to SSSIs. Countryside Act 1968 CROW 2000\*
Presumption in favour of conserving SSSIs 2003 Review of \*CROW: Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. Environmental Stewardship (ES) schemes Comprehensive national scheme with 2 tiers: Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) 1985 Mainstream agri-environment schemes To safeguard & enhance 5 geographical areas of landscape, biodiversity & cultural importance. Broads Grazing Marsh Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) including SSSI land **Conservation Scheme** 1988 ESA Stage 2: 5 more geographical areas Entry Level Stewardship (ELS) 'broad & shallow' To encourage farmers 1993 ESA Stage 3: 6 more geographical areas not to drain or plough Also Organic ELS / HLS variants. Halvergate Marshes. ESA Stage 4: 6 more geographical areas Countryside Multiple objectives including: biodiversity, historic Premium environment, resource protection, access, climate change. Scheme Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS) Pilot to To improve natural beauty & diversity of countryside through deliver env. management of landscape, wildlife habitats, historical features **Development of** benefits on and public access. new/revised top of setscheme(s) as aside part of 2014 CAP Reform and next 1994/1995 rural development Local farm schemes within Habitat Scheme, Arable Stewardship Pilots for programme individual National Parks from Countryside Access development of CSS & ES. mid 1980s Scheme, Moorland Scheme, and other small 2007 specialist schemes. ES Review of Progress HLS more tightly targetted: increased ELS advice and focus on priority options. Organic Aid **Organic Farming Scheme** Scheme To aid conversion & **Uplands ELS** To help cost of management. Introduction of ELS variant for hill conversion & management. farmers 2013 2001 Making Environmental Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance Hill Farm Allowance Stewardship More Compensation for extra cost of hill farming and to help maintain the social fabric of the uplands. Upland support to Effective (MESME) maintain landscapes Changes & new & rural communities. options to increase environmental outcomes. 1988 1993 Possible changes Government grants (and subsequently European grants) to increase **Five Year Set-**Integrated Administration & Control System (IACS) Single Payment Scheme For maintaining land & environment production, including drainage grants and hedgerow removal grants. due to greening of in Good Agricultural & Environmental Condition (GAEC) and Aside scheme Subsidy payments dependent on production replaced Pillar 1 of the CAP? Use of fertilisers & pesticides encouraged. by area/headage payments underpinned by quotas. meeting Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs). To reduce Included: Arable Area Payments, Beef Special Premium, production Suckler Cow Premium, Sheep Annual Premium. Campaign for the Farmed Environment (CFE) Industry initiative to retain and exceed benefits of set-aside. **1980s** 1970s 2010s 2000s 1960s 50s 1990s **Productivity** 1958 - Treaty of Rome Competitiveness established European Sustainability UK joined the European Union in 1973 **Economic Community** CAP Reform 2003 Market orientation 1992 McSharry Reform Consumer concerns 2014 CAP Reform **CAP Health Check** The crisis years The early years Reduced surpluses Agenda 2000 • Rural Development • Greening of Pillar 1? 2008 • Intervention stores leading to surpluses Food security Environmental • Deepening the Environment Reinforcing 2003 Sustainable Improving productivity • Exploding expenditure considerations Simplification reform process reform intensification? Market stabilisation • International friction Income stabilisation Competitiveness Cross compliance New challenges Budget Stabilisation Product support Structural measures and modulation Rural Development Risk Management

Growth of ecology and conservation movements. Focus on halting loss of habitats & degradation of

As knowledge and expertise developed, focus shifted to targetted funding

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