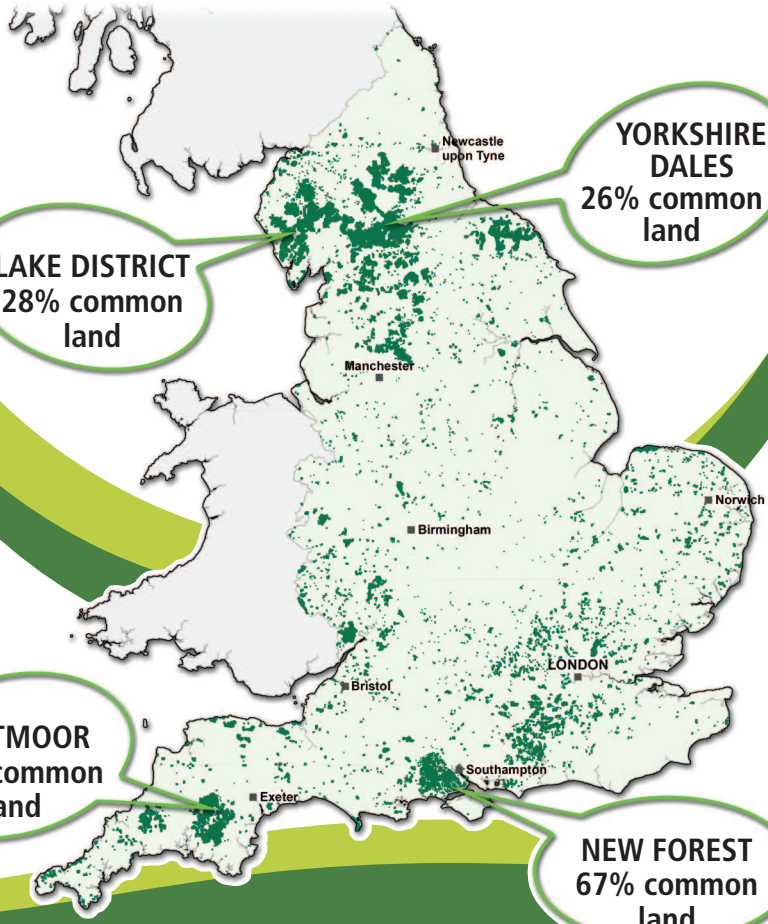


# Common Land and Commoning in England

*“Iconic People Delivering  
Iconic Places”*



Common Land is land owned by a person or organisation over which other people, commoners, have legal rights; mostly to graze livestock.

# Commons and Commoners Deliver So Much for So Many

Just 3% of England is Common Land but it is disproportionately important and requires bespoke policies to secure these benefits

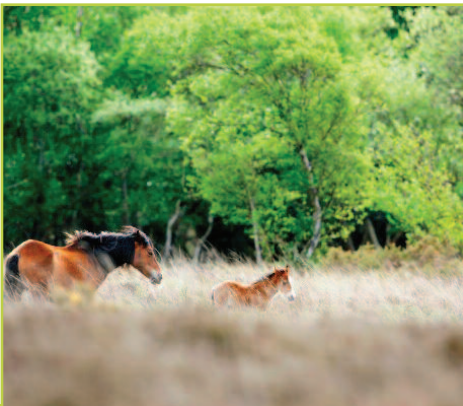
There are over 3900 Farmers who are Commoners in England



**39% OF OPEN ACCESS  
LAND IS COMMON LAND**



**11% OF SCHEDULED  
MONUMENTS ARE ON COMMONS**



**82% OF COMMONS ARE IN  
NATIONAL PARKS & AONBs**



**21% OF ALL SSSIs ARE  
COMMON LAND**

# Principles for the Future of Commons

For commons to continue to provide the impressive array of public benefits for society we urge that these Principles are adopted by all. These simple steps will “Commons Proof” policy securing future public benefits currently at risk.

## **A** Commons provide multiple benefits for society

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- Policy embraces and supports the collective delivery of multiple outcomes on common land
- A place based approach is adopted to allow the distinctive characteristics of different commons to thrive across the country

## **B** Commoning delivers these public benefits

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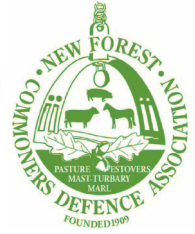
- Rights of common are valued as Cultural Heritage. Enshrined in the Charter of the Forest in 1217 they continue to underpin the viability of thousands of farm businesses
- Safeguarding commoning becomes a policy objective; recognising grazing livestock is at the heart of delivering the array of public benefits found on commons
- Future support is targeted to those farmers, common land owners and others actively participating in land management

## **C** Commoners should be properly rewarded for providing these benefits

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- Financial rewards reflect the value that society derives from commons
- Schemes on commons are collaboratively designed between all parties
- Future schemes provide for the additional costs of establishing and running commons agreements

# These Principles are Supported by...



Federation of  
Cumbria Commoners



The Cultural Heritage of Commoning Is highly valued by visitors linking People to Place  
[www.foundationforcommonland.org.uk](http://www.foundationforcommonland.org.uk)