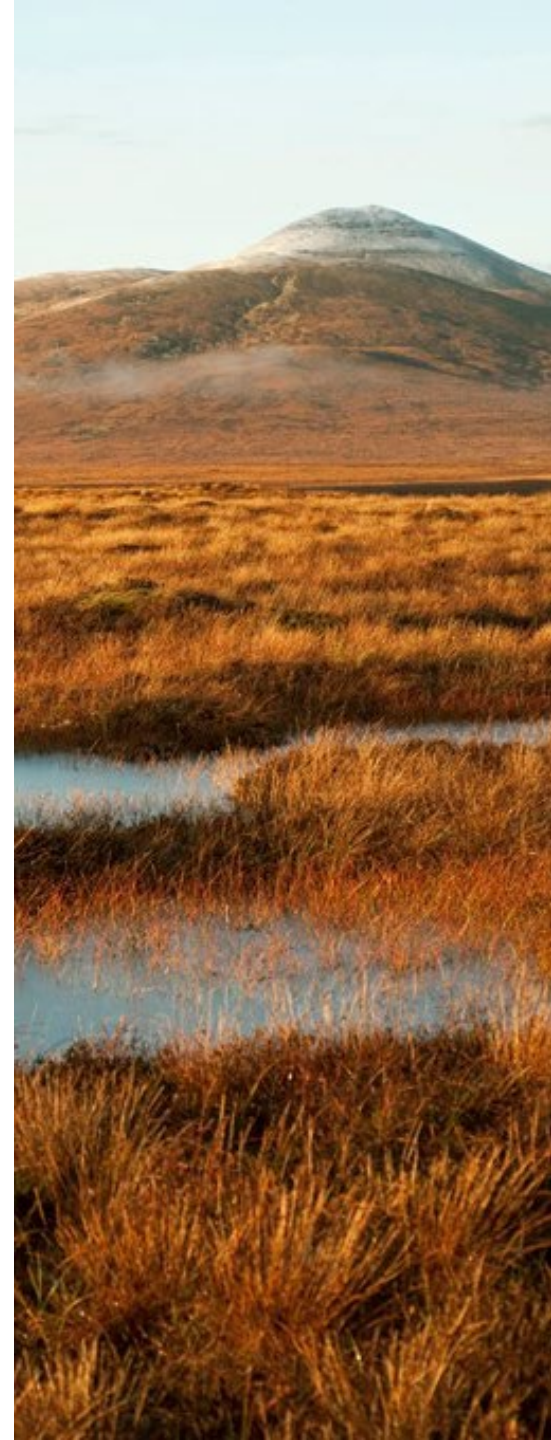# What are the policy changes required to ensure we can reward for public benefits? A focus on peatlands

2nd October 2018

Current state of play

Peatlands essential for many ecosystem services…

…but are in poor condition, for historic and current reasons

Current policy framework not up to scratch

Farming and land management payments generally ineffective and inefficient, with some notable exceptions

Failures of policy

Policy currently fails to protect, let alone restore peatlands

Failure of regulation, and poorly implemented incentives

Contradictory and incoherent drivers of land use change

Policy changes needed

Stretching targets and a more strategic, coherent approach

More effective, properly enforced regulation

Payments for genuine public goods as part of future environmental land management schemes

Advice & proper monitoring and evaluation – of policy performance and habitat condition

Development of market-based mechanisms

Benefits of restored peatlands

Climate change – 3% of worlds surface, 30% of global soil carbon

Water – 70% of British drinking water comes from upland catchments

Biodiversity – more birds (and other wildlife)!

Flood risk management – grip blocking slows instant water run-off by 75%

Farming – a more profitable approach?

Thank you

rspb

giving
nature
a home