

Some of the issues raised during the presentations and discussion are presented and summarised.

It was agreed that agri food is a vibrant industry employing a round 3.7. million across the entire supply chain and three key areas arose during the day

1. People

- We acknowledged that fewer people may be needed across the supply chain
- We acknowledge that there are likely to be labour shortages in some sectors
- We believe that skill sets required in future are likely to be different from those needed now
- We recognise that sector-wide issue of attracting young entrants into the industry
- Retention was seen as a issue

2. Training

- We acknowledge that the training 'landscape' is a complex one
- There are many providers with overlapping 'products'
- There is a need to coordinate our efforts and work collaboratively

3. Possible actions and areas for future activity

- Charities (or subsets of) may wish to consider a strategic approach for a proportion of their support
- Charities may wish to consider greater sharing of good practice
- Suggestions for more immediate interventions by charities included
 - Support for 'orphan' disciplines where skills are becoming rare e.g. soil science
 - Support for a mentoring scheme for farm businesses (to complement existing schemes e.g. Nuffield)
 - Support for new or existing schools initiative
- Charities to adopt a leadership role
- A challenge was suggested to the Charities to demonstrate in 12 months what changes had been made